Florida Institute of Technology
School of Psychology
Summer 2005
Volume 15, No. 1

Alumni Get Together

Plan on attending the APA Convention in Washington, D.C., August 15-19!
While you are there, find out what is happening at your alma mater. Florida Tech’s School of Psychology is cordially inviting you to a special party for alumni and friends. It will be held at the Renaissance Washington, D.C., Hotel from 6–8 p.m. on Saturday, August 20. Bring your partners and come to our party before you go out on the town!

Message from the Dean

College of Psychology and Liberal Arts is Formed
by Mary Beth Kenkel, Ph.D.

January 1 is famous for new beginnings. On January 1, 2005, the School of Psychology began its new organizational life as an entity within the College of Psychology and Liberal Arts. As a result of an academic reorganization at Florida Tech, liberal arts and psychology, regarded as highly compatible fields of study, came together in a new college. I am pleased to be the dean of this new college. CoPLA (yes, it makes you feel like singing) consists of the School of Psychology, the Department of Humanities and Communication, and the Department of Military Science (ROTC programs). We have 46 faculty, 12 staff, 170 undergraduate students and 180 graduate students. Our first “meet and greet” (see picture) gave faculty and staff the opportunity to meet and learn more about each other. We are delighted to have these new academic partners and look forward to innovative and interesting collaborations in the years ahead.

Autism Grant and Treatment at the School of Psychology
By David Wilder Ph.D.

Faculty in the School of Psychology’s Applied Behavior Analysis program have recently secured a $1.4 million donation from a local donor. The money will be used to create an Autism Treatment and Research Center (ATRC) on the Florida Tech campus. The donation requires that the School of Psychology generate an additional $1.5 million before the money becomes available. Current plans are for the Center for Psychological Services (CPS) to move in to the new building when it is constructed.

Autism is a neurological disorder that is characterized by deficits and excesses in communication, symbolic play, and reciprocal social interaction (Maurice, Green and Luce, 1996). Children with autism may display little or no vocal communication, appear to be uninterested in social interaction, and may engage in severe tantrums, noncompliance, property destruction, aggression and self-injury. In some cases, children with autism may respond unusually to certain sensory stimuli in the environment (e.g., loud noises) or may show insensitivity to pain.

Autism is the third most common developmental disability and affects about one in every 250 children (NIH, 2001). It is more common than multiple sclerosis, cystic fibrosis and childhood cancer. In addition, autism is the fastest-growing developmental disability with a 10 to 17 percent annual growth rate (U.S. Dept. of Education, 1999). Without intervention, autism often results in individuals who need lifelong care and assistance from others to function independently. It has been estimated that costs can be reduced by two-thirds with early diagnosis and intervention. Currently, the treatment for autism that has shown to be effective is intensive, early (i.e., between the ages of two and five years) intervention using applied behavior analysis (sometimes called “ABA” or behavior therapy). Research has shown children who receive this intervention make substantial gains in social skills and communication, enroll in general education classes, and may even become indistinguishable from non-disabled peers (Lovaas, 1987). Outcomes such as this reduce the financial burden placed on local, state and federal governments to care for individuals.

ABA services are provided in the homes of the families with affected children. Parents of these children are also taught to implement the educational programs and are taught how to better manage the behavior of their children. Thus, the entire family participates in the treatment of the child. Faculty and students in the ABA program in the School of Psychology are already providing services to approximately ten families in Brevard County. ABA graduate students, under the supervision of Dr. David Wilder or Dr. Matt Normand, are teaching children basic skills such as making eye contact, complying with instruction, and matching objects, as well as more complex skills such as language and social skills. In addition, behavior problems such as self-injury and aggression are targeted for decrease.

The Psychology Building Receives a Makeover
By Ron Daugherty

Back in the woods between the softball field and the Clemente Center lies the inconspicuous Psychology (and warehouse) building. My first steps through the maze (why is it that every psych building I’ve been in reminded me of walking through a rat maze?) that is our hallway left me feeling that some work needed to be done. After discussing it with the other students in the class, it was agreed that we should follow the great student tradition of jumping the dean (Dr. Kenkel) with our demands. What a coincidence, we were soon having the ever-popular “Town Hall” meeting, I almost felt sorry for our poor dean. We wanted new desks, chairs, computers, printers, classroom media, walkways, and throw in a new building while you’re at it. Didn’t seem unreasonable at the time. Well guess what, our illustrious Dean Kenkel cornered the provost one day and worked her magic (actually it wasn’t just one day and her relentless hammering finally paid off). We received the desks and chairs, for which I am very grateful since I’ve gained a few pounds since starting school. The teaching media has been upgraded and incorporated in every classroom. We have wireless Internet access and the computers and printers are being worked on. There is a new walkway allowing us to walk from the overflow parking across the school without getting our shoes muddy and wet. Finally, rumor has it that with a few more donations we may be in the market for a new building! I may have to stay an extra year just to see it. Anyway, Thanks to Dean Kenkel for her efforts in making over the Psych building into a more comfortable learning environment.
National Conference Hosted by the Industrial/Organizational Psychology Program

“Surfing the Waves of I/O Psychology”

by Liz McChrystal, Abhishek Gujjar, Carrie Harmon; Edited by Ron Daugherty

The Industrial/Organizational Psychology program faculty, staff and students hosted the 26th Annual Industrial/Organizational Organizational Behavior (IOOB) Conference on February 25–27, 2005, at the Radisson Suites Oceanfront in Indialantic, Fla., successfully “surfing the waves of I/O psychology!”

What is the IOOB Conference?

Milt Hakel is the founder of the IOOB Conference. In 1980, Ohio State University served as the first host and there unfolded a longstanding tradition for graduate students in the fields of industrial organizational (I/O) psychology, organizational behavior (OB) and human resource management (HRM).

The goals of the IOOB conference are to provide students (both graduate and undergraduate) with the opportunity to present their research and research ideas in a noncompetitive environment, interact with each other and create a professional network, and the opportunity to interact with and learn from prominent practitioners and academics in their respective fields.

So, what did we do?

• Our first step in planning the conference was identifying a theme that would fit the history of our area, the conference, our respective fields and our I/O culture at Florida Tech. “Surfing the Waves of I/O Psychology” was chosen as the theme for our conference.

• The excitement of planning involved organizational sponsorship support student, support and speaker support. Many organizations and several universities sponsored IOOB 2005, which resulted in almost $22,000 in monetary support, and many free products and services, such as gift certificates, and Web site development and maintenance. These sponsors provided us with the resources necessary to make this a very successful conference. To view the list of the sponsors, please visit the IOOB 2005 Web site at www.fit.edu/ioob2005.

• Students from universities all over the United States submitted posters, and were presented with a total of 27 speakers, from both the applied and academic setting, who accepted our invitation and held informative presentations, workshops and symposiums.

So, who gets all the credit?

Every student in the I/O psychology program worked hard to plan and execute this successful conference. In addition, the faculty and staff in the School of Psychology provided the students with the necessary support, guidance and resources to execute an exceptional conference. Their hard work, commitment and dedication were evident by the success of the 26th Annual 2005 IOOB Conference. Ψ
Undergrad Program Tips

by Bill Gabrenya, Ph.D.

In The Tipping Point, Malcolm Gladwell (2002) proposes that we often fail to perceive large scale changes without a sufficient backward-looking perspective. Now looking back nearly three years, it appears the undergrad program has tipped. The program has nearly doubled in number of students, two general psychology degrees have morphed into three degrees and two minors—including our new Forensic program, the number of faculty who are devoted mainly to undergraduate teaching and administration has increased from two to four, and the number of courses taught each semester has followed suit. More students are taking on the challenge of conducting Senior Theses and more are going on to high quality Ph.D. programs.

More students are taking on the challenge of conducting Senior Theses, and more are going on to high quality Ph.D. programs.

Faculty Kudos: A Year in Review

by Matthew Normand, Ph.D.

The 2004–2005 academic year was an exciting one in the School of Psychology. Despite Mother Nature’s repeated attempts to disrupt faculty productivity, we have come through it all in fine fashion. Our psychology faculty authored more than a dozen scholarly papers and delivered more than two-dozen conference presentations and workshops during the course of the past academic year. Not too bad for a bunch of psychologists trying to outrun hurricanes and rebuild their homes! Additionally, several faculty members were honored with appointments to prestigious positions within their field. The list is impressive:

- Dr. Mary Beth Kenkel was elected to Fellow status in APA’s Division 12 (Society of Clinical Psychology) and Division 42 (Psychologists in Independent Practice).
- Dr. Frank Webbe was elected to Fellow status in the National Academy of Neuropsychology.
- Dr. Radhika Krishnamurthy was appointed Associate Editor of the Journal of Personality Assessment.
- Dr. Matthew Normand was elected “Member-at-Large” of the Florida Association for Behavior Analysis Executive Committee.

Our accomplishments were so great, even the media stood up and took notice. Dr. Tom Peake was interviewed on WSCV TV-31 (”The Arts Channel”) about his work using popular movies to understand psychological challenges and growth. Dr. David Wilder and Dr. Matthew Normand were interviewed on WFIT about their work with local children diagnosed with autism. Our national profile was heightened thanks to the folks in the I/O program, as they outdid themselves by hosting the enormously successful 2005 IOOB conference right here at Florida Tech, due in no small part to the Herculean efforts of Dr. Liz McChrystal. Suffice it to say, we have done well and look forward to bigger and better things in the coming year!
Plaque Presentation

In April, Dr. Eric Zillmer, the 1995 Outstanding Alumnus, presented the School of Psychology with a beautiful plaque naming all the recipients of the Outstanding Alumnus Award. Surrounded by two gold torches and bearing the university seal, the plaque reads Outstanding Alumnus Award. This award is given annually to graduates of the clinical psychology doctoral program who have shown exceptional achievement and/or outstanding contributions in their professional careers. Names and achievements for all past recipients have been engraved on the plaque leaving room for the next eight.

Internship Placements 2005-2006

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<td>Krisha Frasrand</td>
<td>James Locke</td>
<td>Agnieszka Waszczuk</td>
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<td>Counseling Center</td>
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<td>Gregory Waugh</td>
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Hypnosis at Florida Tech

by Richard T. Elmore, Ph.D.

The School of Psychology is pleased to announce co-sponsorship of the Advanced Workshop of the Florida Society of Clinical Hypnosis to be held on campus in the F. W. Olin Engineering Complex the weekend of October 1–2, 2005. The distinguished presenter is Max P. Shapiro, Ph.D. on the topic of “customizing hypnosis for your practice.” Dr. Shapiro will present innovative techniques to expand the skill-sets of participants in both psychotherapy and medical-dental practice.

Dr. Shapiro is a former instructor at both Harvard Medical School and Tufts University School of Medicine. He is presently the Director of Education and Research of the England Society of Clinical Hypnosis and has co-chaired two annual workshops for the American Society of Clinical Hypnosis. For further information and registration, please click onto the FSCH Web site at www.fsch.org or e-mail dianefsch@aol.com. Lodging accommodations will be provided at the Melbourne Airport Hilton.

Alumni Updates

Jim Oelschager, Psy.D.
and Mary Charbonnea, Psy.D. of Palm Bay, Florida, welcomed their son, Willem James, on December 29, 2004. Jim continues to serve as the Director of Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) at Florida Tech. In addition, Jim fills his time with private practice evaluations, Psycho-cinema, volunteer work, professional presentations, and of course, with his new role as Dad. Mary is taking a break from her private practice to be home full-time with Willem. You may e-mail the Oelschlager family at joelschl@fit.edu.

1985

Barb Feinberg, Psy.D.
Here’s the latest! Kristy is about to turn 3. I am going to attach a picture of her. She is growing so quickly. She is over 3 feet tall, and talking a mile a minute and playing tricks on her poor Mama every chance she gets. She has an infectious giggle. Other than that, my private practice is doing really well. Although I have a general practice, my specialty areas include families, infertility support, reproductive issues (potential egg donors and surrogates), and learning disabilities. I’ve been living in Tampa since 1984, and I love living here. Of course, I also miss the small-town, slower pace of Melbourne. That’s about all for now. Please send a big hello to all my buddies there at FIT.

1988

Jim Misko, Psy.D.
Jim and his wife have had their second child, Nicholas who, in the first 7 weeks of life was in the hospital first for Viral Meningitis and then another time for RSV—a nasty respiratory virus. Luckily he was finally home and healthy—between their two year old and a new troubled infant, their exhaustion level was beyond the pale.

1989

Debra Jacoby, Psy.D., BCBA
Debra remains on staff at Sea Pines Hospital in Melbourne as a consultant at this time. Her primary duties at Sea Pines include providing consultation and education to hospital staff and patients on topics of coping with traumatic injuries, psychological issues and spinal cord injury, sexuality and disability and managing chronic illnesses and disabilities. She provided training to staff and Clinical Psychology doctoral students from Florida Tech. She also provided psychological services including initial clinical interviews, individual, group, couples and family therapy. Debra is married and has two sons; her younger son has an Autism Spectrum Disorder as well as mild Cerebral Palsy. She has been very active in all aspects of his rehabilitation including Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Speech Therapy, ABA (Verbal Behavior Training) and Bio-medical interventions. She has developed a private practice as an autism resource consultant to assist in the early diagnosis of autism spectrum disorders and to provide supportive interventions to the families.

Jay J. Chrostowski, Psy.D., ABPP (Outstanding Alumnus 2001)
Jay continues to be the coordinator of the psychology intern-ship program (APA accredited) at Aurora Behavioral Health Care in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. He is now developing a formal post-doctoral training program scheduled to begin in 2006. His clinical practice centers mainly on adult and geriatric neuropsychological assessment, with particular interests in dementing disorders and adult attention-deficit disorder. His wife Sandy is the senior pastor at Galilee Lutheran Church (ELCA) in Pewaukee Wisconsin. They have two daughters, both
of whom play the violin. Rachel is a freshman in high school and Sarah is in the 4th grade, and both are doing very well in school (must take after their mother). They share their house with their cats, Smokey and Shadow.

Daniel Kearns, Psy.D.
I haven’t been able to get back since graduation in 1989, I miss the beach! I’ve been out of touch with my classmates with the exception of Eleanor Fulton (now Eleanor Fulton Psy.D. ’99). She’s married and living in Virginia. I’m doing well here in Nashville. I am a staff psychologist at the Nashville VA Hospital, working in Behavioral Medicine with an emphasis on chronic pain management. I was recently elected president of the Nashville Psychological Association for 2005. I will be assisting members of the Tennessee Psychological Association Board to have the Prescription Privileges initiative passed in the legislature.

Kelly Blair (outstanding Alumnus 2004), Psy.D.

Thought you might be interested. Also, Bob Ruchinskas (Psy.D. 1993) and I have written a chapter. Will let you know when that comes out if you’d like to put it in Journey. Was really great to see everyone at commencement last September. Hope you have nice, boring weather this Fall!!

Kari Mottarella (Johnson), Psy.D.
Kari is currently a full time faculty member at the University of Central Florida’s psychology department, Palm Bay campus. She resides in Melbourne with her husband, David (B.S. in Software Engineering ’94), whom she met at Florida Tech while in the Psy.D. program, and with their adorable four-year-old son, Anthony.

Delbert Marsh, B.S.
Daughter Milana continues to be a combination of weed and sponge, growing and absorbing everything. She quickly expanded her understanding of Russian to being fully able to speak it as well. The family took a trip to the mountains where they stayed at “Santa’s House” (as Milana called their cabin) she had an absolute ball making snowmen and sledding. Delbert and family are pleased to announce the impending arrival of their second child, a boy, due at the end of April.

Kirk Stucky, Psy.D.
Hope all is well with you and the program. Mary and I have moved to Fenton Michigan. I was recently promoted, new title(s) are rather tedious but here they are: Kirk Jeffrey Stucky, Psy.D. ABPP (Rp, Cn) Diplomate, Rehabilitation Psychology Diplomate, Clinical Neuropsychology, Hurley Medical Center Chair, Department of Psychology

Director of Rehabilitation Psychology and Neuropsychology Director Postdoctoral Fellowship Program, Clinical Health Psychology, Assistant Adjunct Professor, Michigan State University College of Human Medicine.

Michelle Neumann Carroll, Psy.D.
I enjoyed reading the latest edition of Journey, and am glad that you all survived the hurricanes. I thought I’d send a synopsis of what I’m doing these days for the next issue. I have been employed as the Clinical Director of Region One Mental Health Center in Clarksdale, MS from 1998 through 2004, and was recently promoted to Executive Director in July, 04. I have been married to Sean for the past eight years, and we have two beautiful daughters, Reagan (age 5 1/2) in kindergarten, and Emma (age 9 months). I currently serve as the Communications Officer of the Mississippi Psychological Association, and serve on the St. Elizabeth School school board. In my spare time, I play pat-a-cake with Emma, play school with Reagan, have a date with Sean, or visit family in the New Orleans area. Hello to my classmates! I think of you often.

Rhonda Lindsey, Psy.D.
I am still working at Kaiser Permanente Department of Psychiatry at Santa Rosa, California. I work on the Child and Family Team and am the Co-Training Director for our postdoctoral residency program. We are applying for APA accreditation. I have learned to mountain bike and snow ski while living in California. It’s a good thing I moved here nine years ago because I couldn’t afford a house now. The wine country is lovely. I’ve learned the difference between a Merlot and Cabernet. I still miss an ocean warm enough for swimming! All the best to the faculty and students.

Allison Waterworth, Psy.D., ABPP
Rhonda Lindsey (Psy.D. ’96) told me that you all are doing an “update” on alums, so I thought I’d give you a shout. I am now living in San Francisco and working part-time in a private practice. My private practice is mainly for assessment of learning disabilities. I am on the board for the American Board of Prof. Psych. In Family Psych. I will be teaching this fall, most likely at the U. of San Francisco. I am still married to Robert and we have two beautiful boys, Jack, five years old, and Collin, three years old. We love San Francisco and plan to stay here as long as we can afford it!!! Ha! Hope you’re well. Ciao

Christine Cauffield (outstanding alumna ’03), Psy.D.
Dr. Christine Cauffield is President and CEO of Coastal Behavioral Healthcare Inc., a provider of mental health and substance abuse services in southwest Florida and is quite proud of Coastal’s APA approved psychology doctoral internship program. She is pleased to announce that she was married to Gordon “Skip” Jolly last summer. Dr. Cauffield has written a book chapter on senior grief and loss issues which is part of the recently released book titled “Optimal Aging Manual.”
Fabi Lufschanowski Laby, Psy.D.

I am writing this mass e-mail because there is major change brewing in the Laby household (all happy and exciting, I promise). I am pregnant with our third child, so the reality is that I have been either too hungry or too tired to e-mail or pick up the phone to call anyone to inform them of all of our news! Ron and I (to Dahlia’s dismay) want to be surprised with the gender of this one the way we were with Dahlia and Eli. I have really been lucky (as with the other two pregnancies) to feel great and healthy throughout this pregnancy. Because of my age (39) I had an amnio done and was waiting to share this news until we had confirmation (I knew all along) that everything was fine. The more recent news is that Ron has accepted a great job in Austin and we will be moving there sometime in July. Ron starts his new job with a law firm on June 15th. We have listed our house and have been house hunting. I am closing my private practice in Houston (so some of you may be getting referrals) and will resume practice after the baby is born (oh, forgot to mention that my due date is Sept 17). I might try and sublet some space before then, but really expect to have my hands full managing the kids’ adjustment to the change. We are very excited about the change. If any of you have professional contacts for me I would greatly appreciate the information as I will be looking for office space and colleagues with whom I can establish relationships.

Bruce Moyer, Psy.D.

I have been the Director of the Psychology department at Cherry Hospital, which is a state psychiatric hospital in eastern North Carolina, since 1997 and I am an adjunct faculty member for both East Carolina University and Central Michigan University. I am currently on active duty with the U.S. Army, as I was mobilized from the reserves in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. I am serving as a Captain in Special Operations Command (Airborne), and I am currently stationed at Fort Bragg, N.C. Fellow alumni can reach me at bruce64@earthlink.net.

Stacey Lange, M.S. Industrial/Organizational Psychology

I graduated from the I/O program in May 1998 as Stacey Confer. Since then I got married and now have two children, a girl named Sydney who is 2-1/2 years old and a boy named Aidan who is 5 months old. I am still trying to finish my Ph.D. from Central Michigan University and for the last year and a half I have been working as a Senior Assessment and Development Specialist for the Personnel Board of Jefferson County in Birmingham, Alabama.

Elizabeth Huddleston, Psy.D.

In an update sent to Dr. Juanita Baker, Elizabeth says: I hope this finds you well. I wanted to let you know that I just hired Dr. Chuck Flagler (Psy.D. ‘02)... so I wanted to let you know that I hired not only a fellow FIT graduate, but also a former FLP-er! We spoke at length about what a great experience FLP was and how you influenced us so positively. Anyway, Chuck just accepted this week and we decided to let you know! Now there are two reasons to visit North Carolina (bring the kayaks—great lakes and rivers here!).

2000

Hayley Bauman, Psy.D.

I am working full time in private practice. I split my time between a group practice in Plantation and my own office in Miami. Although I remember my cognitive behavioral roots, I have branched into the area of Jungian/Depth psychology. I find that it is a great fit for my clients and me. Personally, I have undergone many changes! I am happily divorced and in a wonderful relationship with my boyfriend, Diego. He and I live together with our dog and two cats (same cats I had in Melbourne!). We just spent the weekend swimming with manatees. Well, that’s it for me. Hope everyone is doing well.

Jodi Owen-Sabatino, Psy.D.

I have been Clinical Director of Capital Area Counseling (CMHC) in Pierre, SD for the past three years. I do a very broad array of clinical work and some forensic work as well. I recently was asked by the Director of Special Education for the school district to become part of a local team developed to do autism and related disorders evaluations. I start my first evaluation next week. I testified in this year’s Legislative session to the Senate Health and Human Services Committee as a proponent of a bill that related to psychologists conducting insanity evaluations and have been in contact with the Attorney General, who supports this, and one Senator, who will hopefully sponsor the bill next year. This will basically be a yearlong process to prepare for the next Legislative session so I have suddenly become way more politically involved than I ever thought I would be. I recently agreed to join with two colleagues in doing some research to cross-validate PTSD instruments to include the clinical population at my agency. This research is in its infancy so can’t say much more about it yet. Maybe by the next issue it will be in press. I play my sax and am in a three-piece band called “Randy Love” and recently completed the studio work on a CD with a friend, who wrote and sang the songs. Not sure it’ve reached “rock star” status yet, but am working on it (ok not really). And the best news, I have a new baby nephew. Kyle James Owen was born Dec. 31st. Being an auntie is wonderful! That’s all for now. Spring is almost here and there’s no snow, so life is good!

Lisa Potash Psy.D.

I am probably still best remembered as Harry’s mom and to quote Harry, “My mom’s crazy, but in a good way.” Life is great in Miami. Ken and I are married almost fifteen years and going strong. His midlife crisis involved buying an American Iron Horse Chopper, which is a lot of fun. I’ll probably have to get my own in a few years so we can take Harry on road trips. We also bought a camping trailer and have been camping all over South Florida and the Keys. Harry begins middle school next year. He’s fluent in Hebrew, a great student albeit a little hyper and very mischievous (wonder where that comes from?) His latest look is a bleached buzz cut kind of like his music idol Eminem. As long as he stays on the honor roll and is respectful, he can do what he wants with his hair. We still have our golden retriever mix, Bob, Buckwheat and Mittens, who just turned nineteen. Ken’s mom died last
year which was very hard on us, but drew us even closer as we are totally without parents now. My career has taken an unexpected turn toward forensics. Eighty percent of my private practice involves psychological evaluations for juvenile and adult courts, competency, mitigation, NGRI, etc. I also have numerous immigration attorneys who have been sending me political asylum and extreme hardship cases. Testifying in court still scares me, but it’s a lot like acting, which those who know me can see me being drawn to. This June, I’ll be presenting to the Florida Bar in Orlando at their annual conference. Keeping the attention of a room full of lawyers should be a challenge. For the past four years, I’ve been teaching addictions at the Psychology Masters Program at the University of Miami. This year I began supervising Master’s-level students at the counseling center. I continue to be amazed by the superior level of training I received from FIT and the Miami VA. I frequently quote former supervisors who have graced me with their wisdom. I’d love to hear from my old pals; lpotash13@aol.com. I’ve been very lax keeping in touch with my old friends, as we always seem besieged with medical crises related to one of us or family. Please forgive me for dropping out of touch.

2001

Jane Irby Allen, Psy.D.
I am still employed at Linn County Mental Health with the Child and Family unit. I do therapy with children and their families, do risk assessments for the local schools, some cognitive and personality assessment within the agency and work as a co-therapist with my supervisor doing group work with juvenile sex offenders. A healthy sense of humor is essential. I recently passed the EPPP and will be taking my orals on April 16. In about 24 hours I will be traveling to Santa Fe, NM, to attend a conference on “The Family in Stress and Crisis.” Hooray...a break from the ever increasing deluge of paperwork. My family is healthy and happy, and I hope that all of you folks at Florida Tech are doing well, and are also happy and healthy.

2002

Stacy Baron, Psy.D.
Nothing new here and I have to say I was disappointed that I was one of the few people to send something in last time...we have a lot of pregnant people...I will mention something on our list serve!! Hope all is well and especially hope you are doing well!

Katie Billiot, Psy.D.
Kevin and I had a baby girl on January 31st—her name is Kireina Thai Billiot. I’m currently working as the department head for the substance abuse program at Naval Hospital Yokosuka Japan. I’ll be getting out of the Navy in November and taking over my dad’s practice in Ormond Beach. That’s about all that’s happening here. Hope you’re doing well.

Anne Marie DePaul-Haddock MS Industrial/Organizational Psychology
I’m happy to know that you are still running the show. I live in Fullerton, CA (Orange County) with my husband Greg. I am the Director of Organizational Development for Ready Pac, a $1 billion processor of bagged salads, vegetables and cut fruit. Ready Pac has six locations in the U.S. and Canada and 4,000 employees. I use the skills and knowledge I gained at Florida Tech every day. Drs. Griffith, Steelman and Gutman truly prepared me for my position. I think of them often and wish them all the best.

Kristy Miller Forare, Psy.D.
I hope everyone is doing well at FIT! It has been a good year so far and it’s just getting started. My husband, Josh, and I have been getting settled in our new home in DeLand for the past year. We have a 2-year-old daughter, Emma, who is growing more beautiful and mischievous by the day. Our family is also expecting a new addition this year—a little sister or brother for Emma! On the professional front, I recently became licensed in November. What a relief to finally “arrive” in this profession! I began my new job in January as an affiliate clinical staff member with the University of Central Florida counseling center. This was a very exciting step for me because I have always loved working with a college student population. Currently, I spend three days at UCF and have started with one day of private practice in my hometown. It has been wonderful to do work I love, while having more free time to spend with Emma. Well, this is my update for now and I look forward to hearing how everyone else is doing. Please take care!

Janice Pimentel, Psy.D.
In a holiday update from December, Janice wrote that the Pimentel family has expanded yet again. This time God has seen fit to bless them with three beautiful, wonderful, smart, sweet, incredible children, instead of more pets. After all the years of trying to expand the family, hey finally found them— they were hiding in Idaho of all places—Emma 15, Jesse 13, Dylan .
2003

Jay Flicker, Psy.D.
I’m still here at Hope and Help Center, working in HIV land. Today, as matter of fact, marks my one-year anniversary. The Ides of March! Ben and I continue to do well. On Christmas we added a little girl to our family. Her name is Zoee and she is a Weimaraner. Beautiful gray coat with blue eyes. I’ve attached a photo of her and I. She’s a good girl, but stubborn as the day is long. She only likes to sleep with us in our bed. She’s not real fond of her crate. I think we are going to have to trade in our queen size bed for a king as monster baby grows. Her sisters, Cleo (the psychotic cat) and Luna (the ever-faithful five pound Chihuahua), are finally starting to get used to their larger yet younger sister. A few scratches across the nose and Zoee is learning to leave Cleo alone! Oh the joys of parenthood!

Daniel Comeau, M.S. Industrial/Organizational Psychology
Thanks for the opportunity to provide an update. As of right now, I am finishing my second year of law school at Gonzaga University School of Law in Spokane, WA. While at school, I have been keeping busy with studies and extra-curricular activities. I am a member of the Gonzaga Law Review, and was awarded “Best Editorial Staff Member” for ’04–’05. I have also participated in the school Client Counseling Competition both first and second year. This year, my team-partner and I reached the quarterfinals, just missing a chance to be sent to Regionals. This summer, I will be interning with Egan, Lev, and Siwica, a labor law firm in Orlando, FL. Aside from studies, I have been able to travel and see the northwest, including Seattle, Portland, northern Idaho/Schweitzer Mountain, and Coeur D’Alene, ID. I would also like to say that I was excited to see in the last issue of Journey the success of all of my peers who have recently graduated or that are still working toward their degrees. It brought back so many memories.

Angela SLEEP, Psy.D.
Randy and I moved to Eastern, TN, in January, of 2005. We live in the beautiful foothills of the Smoky Mountains, in Sevierville, TN (15 minutes outside of Knoxville). I am working with Cherokee Health Systems as a Behavioral Health Consultant in primary care. The pace is fast and exciting, and the people are innovative and kind! I am really enjoying my job and it is nice to be back in the southern states...nothing like southern hospitality. Cherokee has an APA internship, so I’m looking forward to supervising interns in primary care and hopefully have some opportunities to work with practicum students from UT. For students at TITI interested in integrated care, Cherokee is one of the most innovative Health Systems around. This summer should be a lot of fun, I’ll be going out to Boston to give a presentation on Motivational Interviewing in a Medical Setting (with the faculty from fellowship...I hope to connect with—Heather Wong) and then I’m headed to Solvang, CA, (outside Santa Barbara) for a TNT (train the trainer) workshop in Motivational Interviewing. Randy is busy and enjoying his computer networking job from the comforts of our home, as well as studying for his national exam in massage therapy. Our dog Diesel (bull mastiff) is still growing and weighs in at approximately 112 lbs. We feel grateful and lucky to be where we are...I hope this newsletter finds everybody well. Would love to hear how others are doing and where they have landed after fellowship and licensing. Thanks for keeping us connected.

Heather Wong, Psy.D.
I feel very fortunate in that my first job is what I would have envisioned as my dream job. I see university students (my favorite population to work with) in a private practice setting. I completed my post-doc at Harvard’s student counseling center last year and from this, a steady referral base evolved. Two of the other psychologists and I share a suite in Harvard Square and I am proud to say that in just a little under a year, I almost have a full caseload! I have been enjoying the culture Boston has to offer and must admit that the (chilly) northeast has even grown on me some.

Michelle (Cholewa) Niazi, M.S. Applied Behavior Analysis
Just wanted to let you all know that Wasim and I now have a beautiful daughter added to our family on February 26, named Hanah Kiran Niazi, born 6 lbs. 1 oz., 19-1/2 inches long. I’ll try to get pictures out soon. Mom and baby are both home and doing great! I hope that this announcement finds each of you doing well.

2004

Ashton Anderson, Psy.D.
I am currently completing a one year postdoctoral fellowship in neuropsychology at the University of Arkansas for Medical Science in the department of geriatrics. Barry and I got a new puppy, Sadie, who is absolutely wonderful. Although I love Little Rock, I am currently looking for a job/postdoc closer to my friends and family.

Tracy Palm, M.S. Applied Behavior Analysis
I am now working for The Columbus Organization in Memphis, TN. I am working with individuals with varying disabilities including autism, schizophrenia, mental retardation, etc. I am really enjoying my work and I love being back home in TN. I actually got to see snow again this Christmas. Everything been great!

Susan A. Martin, Psy.D.
I am currently completing a two-year postdoctoral fellowship in Primary Care Health Psychology and Medical Education at Michigan State University/Consortium for Advanced Psychology Training. My position as a psychology fellow at McLaren Regional Medical Center in Flint, Michigan, includes specialization in Clinical Health Psychology as well as academic instruction and clinical precepting of Behavioral Medicine to Family Practice residents, Internal Medicine residents, and medical students. I am also an adjunct instructor for both the Family Practice and Psychiatry Departments at Michigan State University–College of Human Medicine. My primary professional interests include medical education, treatment of sleep disorders, consultation-liaison, and pain management.
Deborah Wilmouth, Psy.D., Class of 1985

Alumni Spotlight

Twenty years post Florida Tech

It’s hard to believe that it has been 20 years since I received my doctorate in clinical psychology from Florida Tech. It has been a very interesting 20 years and, I think, demonstrates well the quality of the clinical psychology program at Florida Tech.

When I received my doctorate in August 1985, I went to work for the Lakeview Center in Pensacola, Florida, as a child psychologist. I was licensed as a psychologist in 1987 and retained my Florida license until 1999 when I relinquished it because of my move overseas—more about that later. In 1989, I became the director of the Outpatient Department of Lakeview Center and served in that position until 1991. During my time at Lakeview Center, I had the opportunity to initiate many new programs including a program for families affected by domestic violence, therapy program for men convicted of sexual abuse, comprehensive treatment program for families with children with ADHD—just to name a few. I also had the opportunity to present at regional and national conferences on the work we were doing at Lakeview Center. I also had the unique experience of hosting a call-in TV show, focusing on mental health issues, on the local cable channel.

I then decided to go into private practice, and because of a non-compete agreement I had with Lakeview Center, I had the opportunity to do work with the mental health programs in Walton and Bay Counties and also to do private practice in Panama City. Over the years, I had developed a particular interest in forensic issues and was able to focus my private practice years into that area. So, I began providing evaluations for child custody cases, workers comp, disability determination, personal injury and criminal proceedings. I also became a surveyor for the Correctional Medical Authority, which gave me a chance to review mental health services provided within the Florida prison system.

Throughout these years, I was also teaching as an adjunct instructor at the University of West Florida and providing supervision for master’s and doctoral students in psychology and clinical social work. I also was very fortunate to be appointed to the Florida Board of Psychology and served as Chair of the Board. After my term on the Board, I continued on as a member of the Board’s Probable Cause Panel.

Then, in 1997, my professional (and private) life took an interesting turn. I was employed by King Edward Memorial Hospital in Perth, Western Australia, to be head of its Department of Clinical Psychology. During my tenure there, the Department of Clinical Psychology merged with the Department of Psychiatry to become the Department of Psychological Medicine for Women and I became the associate head of that department. I also was appointed as an adjunct lecturer to the School of Psychology at Edith Cowan University.

In 2000, I became the service manager for the State (Western Australia) Forensic Mental Health Service and, for the first time, administered a hospital (maximum-secure) as well as community and prison based services. This has been a very demanding but rewarding position and given me opportunities to do research, present at national and international conferences and to provide clinical leadership in very innovative ways. I also have become a surveyor for the Australian Council for Healthcare Standards, which gives me a chance to review mental health services across the country. Recently, I’ve gone back into a limited private practice, doing child custody and criminal cases. I am also now serving on the Psychologists’ Board of Western Australia and serve on its Complaints Subcommittee. I also have the honor of serving as the secretary for the National College of Clinical Psychologists of the Australian Psychological Society.

So, as you can see, I’ve had a very varied and interesting life as a psychologist. I genuinely believe that the training I received at Florida Tech played a significant role in allowing me to take on these challenges and to succeed at them. Areas such as clinical leadership, cross-cultural issues, professional identity, therapeutic intervention (both clinical and organizational), ethics, and psychological assessments which have been central to achieving what I have, all came from my years at Florida Tech. I want to thank the faculty and staff in the department for their support of me through the years and wish all the best to those students currently enrolled.

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 new children and pets...after all...we went to school with you!
Please renew my support for the coming year.
I continue to fully support the Florida Tech School of Psychology’s goal of providing graduate research assistantships and resource support for training and research in the department’s important programs.

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