Letter from the Chair

Dear Alumni and Friends,

Hold the presses!! The Pediatric School Psychology doctoral concentration just received Accreditation from the American Psychological Association as a School Psychology program!

Just as we were working on the final touches of this newsletter to share news about the past year in the Department of Psychology, we were notified of the accreditation. We can now say that our doctoral program is fully implemented! The 3 concentrations include:

**Clinical Health Psychology** – APA accredited as a Clinical Psychology doctoral program

**Pediatric School Psychology** – APA accredited as a School Psychology doctoral program

**Occupational Health Psychology** – accreditation not required – the first doctoral class entered this year

And at the same time we have been implementing the doctoral concentrations, our Undergraduate Psychology program continues to grow. We now have nearly 800 majors and intended majors, and the Neuroscience program (multidisciplinary program housed in Psychology) has 80 majors. Psi Chi/Psychology Club has grown in numbers and activities. And PGSA and the Privateers graduate organizations remain active.

You can read here about the faculty who joined our department this past year. New staff include Latoya Vines (Undergraduate Program Assistant), Arianna Williams (Travel Assistant), and Pam Hodges (Grants Administrator).

Please plan to visit or communicate with us this year. **Come to the Psychology Alumni Homecoming Brunch** on October 4, 2014 (look for the tent near Whichard Building, facing the parade route on Fifth Street)! Please send photos and messages for posting to psycalum@ecu.edu or facebook.com/ecu.psychology.

It’s a great day to be a Psychology Pirate!

Susan McCammon
Chair and Professor

New Psychology Faculty

♦ **Dr. Lori Curtindale**

Dr. Lori Curtindale received her PhD in Developmental Psychology from the University of Kansas. She completed her master’s degree in Cognitive Psychology at Bowling Green State University. Dr. Curtindale is primarily interested in cognitive development in infancy and early childhood. Specifically, her research focuses on the identification of environmental conditions and interactions that most effectively capture attention and enhance learning; individual differences in attention and learning as they relate to developmental outcomes; and the relationship between temporal properties and attention. She is excited to get students and families involved in research at the ECU Infant and Child Development Lab. Dr. Curtindale and her husband Jeff look forward to many new adventures in North Carolina.

♦ **Dr. Brandon Schultz**

Dr. Brandon Schultz received a doctorate in education (EdD) in School Psychology from Indiana University in Pennsylvania in 2008, as well as two master’s degrees in education—one in educational psychology and another in school counseling. Prior to his move to Greenville, Dr. Schultz was the project coordinator for the Challenging Horizons Program (CHP), a school-based mental health research project conducted by the Center for Intervention Research in Schools at Ohio University, from 2009 to 2013. He also directed the Attention and Learning Disabilities Clinic at James Madison University from 2003 to 2009, where he provided community services for children and adolescents with ADHD, and coordinated several of the preliminary clinical trials of the CHP. Dr. Schultz is interested in the developmental course of externalized behavior disorders, particularly as it relates to the academic and social impairments that emerge in adolescence. Continued on page 2.
New PSYC Faculty, continued

He is also interested in effective assessment of treatment outcomes in the secondary school setting. He hopes to continue his research at ECU by conducting trials of various modifications to traditional school consultation strategies and assessing the impact on the academic and social outcomes of secondary school students.

Dr. Alex Schoemann

Dr. Alexander Schoemann received his PhD in Social and Quantitative Psychology from the University of Kansas in 2011. Dr. Schoemann completed a master’s degree in Psychology from Wake Forest University and is happy to be back in North Carolina. Prior to coming to ECU, Dr. Schoemann completed a Postdoctoral fellowship at the University of Kansas Center for Research Methods and Data Analysis. Dr. Schoemann’s research interests are in both quantitative and social psychology. His social psychological research interests focus on intergroup relations and emotions. Dr. Schoemann is especially interested in prejudice and discrimination towards older adults and emotions related to harm-doing. His quantitative research interests focus on methods of handling missing data and using structural equation modeling in novel situations. Dr. Schoemann and his wife Stephanie Wallio enjoy watching their 8 month old daughter Bronwyn learn new skills.

In Memoriam: Kathleen A. Lawler Row

Kathleen A. Lawler Row, formerly the Chair of the Department of Psychology at East Carolina University, died on Sept. 21, 2013, in Greenville, N.C., of complications from cancer. Dr. Row was born in Pittsburgh, Pa., on May 30, 1947, and lived in Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Oklahoma as a child and adolescent. She earned a bachelor’s degree from Oklahoma City University in 1967, a master’s degree at the University of Iowa in 1969, and a doctorate from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 1974. Dr. Row spent more than 30 years of her career at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville (UTK), where she became nationally known for her research on forgiveness and health. At UTK, she received the University Studies Award for outstanding contribution to interdisciplinary studies and a university citation for research and creative achievement, among other honors.

Dr. Row came to East Carolina University (ECU) in June 2006 to head the Department of Psychology. In 2007, Dr. Row’s work on forgiveness was featured in a public television documentary, "The Power of Forgiveness," and in 2008, she was the university’s nominee for the O. Max Gardner Award, the top faculty award in the University of North Carolina system. During her six-year tenure at ECU, she also strengthened the department’s focus on both undergraduate and graduate programs and presided over the startup of a new doctoral program in health psychology. Dr. Row authored dozens of research articles and mentored many doctoral candidates. She was a member and fellow in both the American Psychological Association and the Association of Psychological Science and was much beloved by the students, faculty, and staff in the department.

Dr. Row retired in May 2012. Upon her retirement the psychology department named its annual graduate student research award in her honor. "Kathleen was the right person at the right time when she came to the department," said Dr. Susan McCammon, who succeeded Dr. Row as Chair of the Psychology Department. "Her quiet style of leadership benefited the department in so many ways.”
Dr. Cathy Hall Retires

Dr. Cathy Hall retired from ECU this spring to begin a new journey, after 27 years as a Pirate. Dr. Hall has been a wonderful mentor and professional advocate for many newer faculty and students at ECU. Dr. Christy Walcott states that Dr. Hall was generous with her time and wisdom, discussing "issues surrounding professional practice of psychology, work-life balance, and implications of new research for practice. Cathy always had a careful and wise perspective on handling various professional issues, and I have always appreciated her sage advice." Dr. Amy Lynden also says "Cathy has been a true mentor and friend and is someone I always turn to for support and advice." Dr. Hall says she learned her mentoring skills from her mentors: Drs. Walter Isaac, Jerry Allen, Dorothy Campbell and Stephen Nowicki. "I have been amazingly blessed to have had some incredible people in my professional life, and I am most grateful to all of them." Dr. Hall is also an advocate for women in science, as she has served on University committees promoting advancement of women, including a grant investigating what factors influence students to consider careers in the STEM fields. Dr. Hall has worked with NASA to assess workforce skills of high school, community college, and college graduates, and their workforce readiness.

Dr. Hall completed her PhD degree at the University of Georgia in Educational Psychology in 1982. As a school psychologist working with children with learning disabilities, she had noticed that many of their classroom difficulties seemed tied to inaccurate perception of nonverbal cues. The students lacked an understanding of the subtle cues that were important in navigating social situations effectively, such as knowing when a teacher was becoming upset with certain behaviors. This insight led to her research on emotional intelligence. Her research has assessed emotional intelligence with children diagnosed with Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), children with learning disabilities, and individuals with adjustment issues such as adult children of alcoholics.

Dr. Hall notes points of achievement that brought deep satisfaction and joy in her professional career – seeing her first journal article in print, getting a notice that a manuscript has been accepted for publication, the arduous process of getting tenure and promotion, and promotion to full professor. However, she states that the one thing that gave her the strongest feeling of professional achievement was seeing her research cited in an article by one of her mentors. At a reception honoring Dr. Hall, she concluded her remarks by saying, "I wish you all the best as you sail life’s course. May red skies gently fill the heavens at night and may all your mornings be crystal clear. Wishing you a safe journey." We wish the same for her.

In Memoriam: Dr. Charles Mitchell

Dr. Charles C. Mitchell, a long-time contributor to the Department of Psychology and to ECU, passed away in October, 2013. Dr. Mitchell came to ECU in 1965 and served as Director of the Psychology General program from 1967 until 1971, at which time he became Acting Chair of the Psychology Department. In 1965, Dr. William F. Grossnickle and Dr. Mitchell established an East Carolina Chapter of the Psi Chi National Honor Society in Psychology, which has continued with excellence.

Dr. Mitchell was Acting Chair of the Psychology Department from 1971 until 1973, when he was named Chair and held that position until 1980. During his tenure, the three graduate specialties (clinical, general, and school) evolved in organization and productivity. He worked part-time for 26 years from 1967 to 1993 at the Wayne County Mental Health Center. He served twice as the interim director and a board member of the Pitt County Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities and Substance Abuse Center. He also served for a time as president of the Pitt County Mental Health Association. In 1993 he was awarded the Order of the Longleaf Pine by Governor James B. Hunt, Jr. Our department benefitted from his leadership, and those who knew him were enriched by his friendship and collegiality.

The Charlie and Lucille Mitchell Fund for Access to Mental Health Services was created, through which individuals can make a donation to our Psychology Assessment and Specialty Services (PASS) Clinic (our departmental clinic which provides practicum training for our doctoral Health Psychology students). This fund helps us provides services to those who otherwise could not afford care.
WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Eric Lester (MA in Research Psychology, 2005) earned his PhD in Counseling Psychology with a cognate in Health Psychology from Ball State University (Munice, IN) in 2012. He had the privilege of being a part-time stay-at-home dad for his young son in late 2012 and 2013. Eric lives with his family in suburban Chicago, IL where he is an adjunct professor at two local colleges. Currently, he teaches undergraduate statistics and tests and measurement. Eric is also pursuing research in the areas of behavior change, adherence, and exercise. He also has clinical and research interests in obesity and psychosocial oncology.

Ashley Barbee (MA in I/O Psychology, 2012) is currently a Research Analyst for Fors Marsh Group (FMG) in Arlington, VA, where she primarily works on projects related to advertising and market research for federal government clients. Ashley recently traveled to San Diego, CA for focus group research and to Lihue, HI to administer field intercept surveys for the USDA. She will present her belief analysis research at the annual APA conference in August and has co-authored other conference presentations for American Association for Public Opinion Research (AAPOR) and the National Conference on Health Communication, Marketing, and Media. Ashley loves her current job and being able to work on a diverse set of projects.

Melissa Bishop (BA in Psychology, 2012) works as a psychiatric evaluator at a local psychiatric outpatient office. Her job entails talking to patients and giving providers diagnostic information. She also works with a telemedicine project that coordinates with 20 hospitals in Eastern NC without access to psychiatric care, in which they see patients over an interactive system where they interview and determine the best patient care. She now has two puppies, Lexi and Sophie, and is looking forward to returning to school for her Physician's Assistant license.

Vanessa Buonopane (BS in Neuroscience & BA in Psychology, 2012) is currently pursuing her MA in Clinical Psychology at The American School of Professional Psychology (ASPP) at Argosy University – Washington, DC. She starts her practicum in September at Fairfax-Falls Church Community Services Board with the Adult Partial Hospitalization program, a community readiness and support program for people with serious mental illness and/or co-occurring disorders who need help with daily living, social skills training, and other aspects of integrating with the community. In her spare time, she volunteers at Crisis Link, a 24/7 crisis and suicide prevention hotline.

Regina Herpin (MA in I/O Psychology, 2013) lives and works in New York City for JetBlue Airways. Regina does analytics and selection work for their crewmember insight team and loves every minute of it.

Psychology Advising Center

A new Psychology Advising Center opened in 2013 within the Martoccia Library in 302 Rawl Building. The purpose of the Advising Center is to address several departmental needs related to the ever-increasing number of undergraduate students majoring in psychology (currently 550 declared majors). Dr. Jon Reed, the outgoing Director of Undergraduate Studies, and Dr. Marion Eppler coordinate Advising Center activities and serve as co-advisors for more than 150 students. Dr. Michael Baker took over for Dr. Reed in Summer 2014. The Advising Center is additionally staffed by Ms. Latoya Vines, our new Undergraduate Program Assistant, and two graduate students. Last year’s students were: Josh Jones, M.A. candidate in the Industrial/Organizational (I/O) concentration, and Allison Meyers, M.A. candidate in the School Psychology (MA/CAS) program. The Psychology Advising Center is open to anyone who has questions about the psychology major or minor, psychology courses, careers in psychology, and relevant volunteer experiences and internships. The staff have books about the psychology major, graduate programs in psychology, applying to graduate school, writing research reports, and other topics of interest to psychology majors. Additional materials are being posted on a new Blackboard site for majors.
Thank you to all our donors for the 2013–2014 academic year

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Kristen Alston (MA), Dr. Norman Anderson (CEO of APA), Dr. Lisa Campbell, Dr. Cecilia Valrie, and Kay Exum (MA) at the NC Psychology Association's 20th Annual Undergraduate Psychology Conference.