

PSYCH NEWS NETWORK

Connecting Clarion's Psychology Department with Pennsylvania teachers, guidance counselors and students

WELCOME FROM THE EDITOR

Clarion University Psych News Network shares information about us, our program and our students with guidance counselors, high school psychology instructors and prospective students.

We hope you find this newsletter informative and also that you will contact us with any questions or concerns, as well as teaching tips that you would like to share. Email psychology@clarion.edu or call 814-393-2295.

Donna M. Ashcraft, Ph.D.

STUDENT STRESSORS

Students in Dr. Jeanne Slattery's Senior Seminar class conduct research and present their findings to the rest of the class. Psychology majors Jennifer Lucas, Nicole Morine and Nicolas Plante used SurveyMonkey to learn about stress among Clarion University students.

The survey revealed that students who rely on the expectations, evaluations and judgments of other people to make important decisions tend to have higher levels of anxiety and stress and a reduced sense of control. In contrast, students with lower levels of stress and anxiety were more independent, had a greater sense of control and a greater ability to resist social pressure. Lucas, Morine and Plante also found that women reported higher levels of stress than men.

Although correlational in nature, their research has implications for managing stress, indicating a need for programs such as the Clarion psychology program that encourage independence and a sense of control.

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*Senior Seminar students
Nicolas Plante, Nicole Morine
and Jennifer Lucas*

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FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

Marité Haynes, Ph.D.

Marité Rodriguez Haynes, Ph.D., is in our faculty spotlight for her work with service learning. She has served as an interpreter for six years as part of a medical and educational team that travels annually to Sabaneta de Yasica in the Dominican Republic.

Haynes, a graduate of the University of Florida and faculty member at Clarion University since 1987, recently visited the Dominican Republic with two of her students, Kristen Arlet and Sara Dickson, both class of 2014. Psychology majors accompanied Haynes in 2012 and 2014 and earned credit in independent study for their work there.

In 2012, the students were fluent in Spanish and served as interpreters throughout the week. Other psychology students have helped with counting pills, assisting in the pharmacy, entertaining children while waiting to see a doctor, and helping with the scholarship and youth education program.

Since 2010, students in several of Haynes' classes have also contributed to the team's work through service learning projects for the school in Sabaneta de Yasica.

Clarion University students have created educational games, short videos and music CDs.

The students apply what they are learning in Cross-Cultural Psychology, Developmental Psychology and Child Psychology classes to develop projects that are culturally and age-appropriate and that benefit children in their daily lives. Applying concepts such as those learned in Haynes' classes strengthens their understanding of course content.



Marite' Rodriguez Haynes, Ph.D., (in orange) working at a clinic in the Dominican Republic, counting pills along with other volunteers.

Are you interested in having your class mentored by Clarion University students?
SOME OF OUR STUDENTS ARE WILLING TO TAKE ON INDIVIDUAL MENTEES.
If your students are interested in this opportunity, let us know!

BRAIN CHANGERS:

Improving Student Performance

Many students use flashcards, but few use them effectively. To help students, CU professors Janina Jolley, Ph.D., and Dr. Mark Mitchell, Ph.D., have produced the only interactive PowerPoint tutorial that teaches students how to make and use

flashcards in a way that is based on modern psychological research. To learn more about this study/learning tool and to download it, visit www.mariannemiserandino.org/personality-pedagogy or www.jolley-mitchell.com/flashcards.htm

USEFUL LINKS FOR PSYCHOLOGY TEACHERS

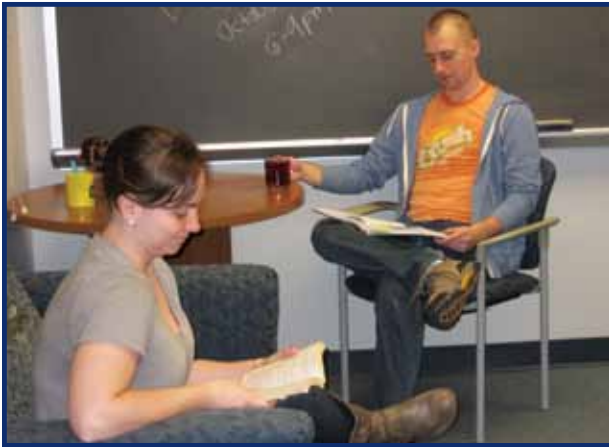
Teaching High School Psychology is a resource, originally started by a CU professor, that is useful for any teacher of high school psychology, whether AP, IB or Introduction to Psychology. You can find it at www.teachinghighschoolpsychology.blogspot.com

Do you have any useful links you want to share? Please contact us!

Social Psychology Teaching Resources is a site from the Social Psychology Network. It contains links to a variety of teaching resources specifically geared toward teaching social psychological topics, including textbooks, course syllabi, lecture notes, classroom activities, demonstrations and assignments. It can be found at www.socialpsychology.org/teaching.htm#generalresources

WOULD YOU LIKE A FACULTY MEMBER TO VISIT YOU AND YOUR CLASS?

Our dean has graciously provided travel funds for faculty to visit local schools. If you are a high school teacher in western Pennsylvania, let us know if you would like to visit with us!



STUDENT LOUNGE

Students can now relax, study and socialize in the Clarion University Psychology Department student lounge.

Recently redecorated, the lounge features tables and chairs for individual or group work, beanbags and a couch for relaxing and socializing, a Keurig and supplies for coffee, hot chocolate and other warm drinks. We also offer occasional snacks, free of charge.

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THE REQUEST LINE IS OPEN!

We want to tailor this newsletter to your needs. Send us your requests, suggestions, comments and resources! Teaching tips are particularly welcome.

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2014 grads going on to graduate, law and medical school!