

# Counseling Psych Newsletter

*First Year Students From L to R.  
Back Row: Melissa Selem, Carol  
Fonseca, Jioni Lewis, Jason  
Soble, John Knorek, Eun Sul  
Lee. Front Row: Mrinal Rao, Liz  
Abrams, Nicole Laws-Carroll*



**This year, the Counseling Psych Program admitted one of its largest cohorts. They have all done an excellent job adjusting to graduate life.**

**Liz Abrams** – Liz is from Orlando, FL and has a bachelor's degrees in English Literature and Women Studies and a Master's degree in Mental Health Counseling. She is interested in social justice issues in international psychology, colonization issues and indigenous peoples, multicultural counseling competency training, and participant-action research. Meditation, her friends, and her new husband Sam have been helping her manage the stress of her first year of graduate school.

**Carol Fonseca** – Carol comes to us from the University of Texas at El Paso. She is interested in working with sexual and ethnic minorities (specifically Latinos), conducting couples research and therapy, and intimate partner violence. She says her cohort has been very supportive in helping her through her first year.

**Saroj Hardit** - Saroj is from Birmingham, Alabama and attended the University of Alabama at Birmingham. She graduated in 2003 with a B.S. in psychology and a chemistry minor. Her research interests include children and adolescent views on racism and how racism affects academic achievement.

**John Knorek** – John grew up in Kailua, Hawaii and attended the University of Oregon for his undergrad. His research focuses on how interests and personality shape people both socially and

vocationally. He says he has been able to survive the first year by keeping a sense of humor.

**Eun Sul Lee** – Eun Sul earned her B.A. at Sogang University, Seoul, Korea and her M.A. at Ewha Womens University, Seoul, Korea. Her research interests are career related and currently she is working on Occupational Classification System for her early research requirement. She is also interested in basic career interests and research involving Asian Americans.

**Jioni Lewis** – Jioni is originally from San Jose, CA. She received a B.A. from the University of California, Davis and received her M.A. from California State University, Sacramento. Her primary research interest is in examining the psychological effects of racism for people of color, particularly African Americans, and the ways in which minorities cope with race-related stress. She is also interested in examining factors that may promote resiliency for ethnic minority women.

**Mrinalini Rao** – Mrinal grew up in Pune, India and attended the University of Pune. Her research interests include studying the effects of large scale cultural changes such as globalization or migration on individuals and their development as well as and how such changes affect relationships. Although grad school has been challenging and stressful, it has also been enriching and she is happy to be here.

--Continued

*Nicole and her daughter**Nicole and Eun Sul*

**Melissa Selem** – Melissa is from Miami, FL. She attended Emory University where she earned her B.A. and the University of Miami where she earned a M.S. Ed. Her research focuses on how culture, health literacy, and barriers to treatment effect the Latino population.

**Jason Soble** – Jason grew in Chicago, IL and attended the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign for his undergrad. His research interests include the psychosocial costs of racism to whites, racist attitudes, aggression and bullying. He says that although grad school has been a lot of work, he has been able to manage it and leave time for fun.

**In Memoriam: Nicole Laws-Carroll** – Nicole entered the counseling psychology program in the fall of 2006 with nine other students. She was absolutely delighted to be in graduate school and really enjoyed her cohort, with whom she rapidly became good friends. She was a bit older than most of our students (34) and had a family consisting of her husband, Jeff, her step-daughter, Melissa, and her three children, Ana, Rowan, and Autumn. Nicole initially began her undergraduate studies at the University of South Alabama, but left school in the mid-1990's to start her family. She restarted her undergraduate degree at Indiana University in Bloomington in 2001 and then transferred to the University of Illinois in 2003 when she married Jeff. At UIUC, Nicole was a psychology major and did an honor's thesis on adult attachment and emotion regulation. She was a woman of many interests and many talents, working at various times as a preschool teacher, a Le Leche League teacher, a dula (labor support provider), and a dance teacher. After obtaining her BS degree, she worked with chronically mentally ill clients at the Mental Health Center in Champaign, though her work was interrupted by her diagnosis with breast cancer. At the time she began our program, she thought her cancer was in remission, but she was discovered to have a recurrence in late fall semester (2006) and reentered treatment. Nicole was honest and direct about her shortened chances for survival, yet continued to be involved in our program and teach her class this spring semester until her illness became too debilitating. She died on April 24, 2007. Nicole was a warm, energetic, outgoing, loving woman with an intense intellectual excitement and curiosity. She will be missed by all of us.

## Alumni Corner

This Fall, alum **Thomas Seals** received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Association for University and College Counseling Center Directors at the Annual Meeting in Vail, Colorado. He was the Counseling Center Director at the University of Illinois Counseling Center from 1988 until 2004 when he retired. He graduated from the UIUC Counseling Psychology Program in 1984. Lenore Harmon was his advisor.

This Spring, alum **Barry Chung** received the College of Education Distinguished Alumni Award. Dr. Chung is a 1996 graduate of the Counseling Psychology Program. Since graduating, he has become an Associate Professor at Georgia State University and the President of the National Career Development Association. His expertise includes areas of career development, multiculturalism, and lesbian and gay issues. He has published more than 30 journal articles and book chapters and has served on the editorial boards of the *Counseling Psychologist*, *The Career Development Quarterly*, and *Journal of Multicultural Counseling and Development*.

## Alumni jobs and other news:

<b>Amanda Kim</b>	Director, Center for Multicultural and Diversity Studies, Chicago School of Professional Psychology
<b>Patrick Armstrong</b>	Assistant Prof, Department of Psychology, Iowa State University
<b>Chun-Chung Choi</b>	Clinical Assistant Professor and staff psychologist, Univ of Florida Counseling Center
<b>Chi-Ping Deng</b>	Assistant Professor at National Changhua Univeristy of Education (Taiwan)
<b>Jenni Gerlach Tome</b>	Staff psychologist at Illinois State University Counseling Center
<b>Stephen Glomb</b>	Human Relations work at Target, Inc. in Minneapolis
<b>Cara Hale Armstrong</b>	Psychologist in Counseling Center, Iowa State University
<b>Nathaniel Hopkins and Jamie Ahnberg</b>	married on May 19th and both Nathaniel and Jamie now work for the University of Kentucky Counseling Center.
<b>Anita Hund</b>	Clinical counselor position at UIUC Counseling Center
<b>Hsin-Ya Liao</b>	Post-doc, University of Illinois
<b>Molly McKenna</b>	Private Practice Psychologist, Portland, Oregon
<b>Chris Meno</b>	Coordinator of Outreach and Consultation, Counseling and Psychological Services, Indiana University
<b>Chris Moyer</b>	Assistant Professor (Psych Department) U of Wisconsin, Stout
<b>Mary Russell</b>	Clinical Counselor for the Alcohol and Other Drug Office, University of Illinois
<b>Euna Oh</b>	Assistant Director of Counseling, Counseling Services, SUNY-Buffalo
<b>Ying-Fen Wang</b>	Assistant Professor at the National Dong-Hwa University, Taiwan
<b>Suzanne Ward</b>	Psychological consultant/assessor for the ER of Alexian Brothers Behavioral Health Hospital in Chicago
<b>Vaile Wright</b>	Post-doc at Kent State University, Center for Treatment and Study of Traumatic Stress (in the psychology department)

*Do you have other information about UIUC alumni? Please send it to us!*

## Interview with Alum Barry Chung

### What were some of your most memorable experiences during your time at Illinois?

The first thing that comes to my mind is the qualifying exam. It was a very stressful experience having to write everything from memory and knowing that there was a high failure rate. I spent six months study to make sure that I pass the exam at first attempt. Looking back I am grateful that I went through that experience because I had a much better knowledge base of counseling psychology. When I lecture now I cite people's work from memory and my students wonder, "How does he do that?"

I can go on forever, but one other thing I want to mention is the university library. I spent a lot of time there looking for journal articles, xeroxing, and sometimes sleeping. At times I wished that the library didn't have some articles so that I can get free copies from inter-library loan. The electrical moving bookshelves were quite an experience that reminds me of horror movies.

### Tell us a bit about what you are doing now at Georgia State and nationally.

I am Training Director of the counseling psychology doctoral program at GSU and that means lots of administrative work. One thing I like about the position is that I get to communicate with students more frequently than other faculty members. I like to know their experience and be their advocate. Another role I play at GSU is to supervise the undergraduate career development courses. I pretty much created these courses based on the model of EDPSY 250 from Illinois. I even named the course CPS 2500. Now we offer six sections every semester plus three freshmen learning communities.

Nationally I am President of the National Career Development Association (NCDA) and that means I have to attend to NCDA business on a daily basis. The fortunate thing is that we have an executive director and her staff who handle lots of day to day operations so I can count on them to get things done. I am also serving on the Board of Educational Affairs of the American Psychological Association (APA). Through this role I get to know all major initiatives of APA, and I have the opportunity to advocate for things for which I am passionate (e.g., multicultural and international issues, social justice, sexual orientation).

### Any parting words?

In my acceptance speech for the Distinguished Alumni Award, I mentioned that I am who I am today because of the fine education at Illinois. So congratulations on your education and I am sure many of you will go on to do great things for the profession.



*Barry Chung next to the Education Alumni Association Distinguished Alumni Award Wall Plaque*



*Barry Chung with his mentor Helen Farmer*

## Incomplete List of Teachers Ranked as Excellent: Spring 2006, Summer 2006, Fall 2006

- \* Michelle Birkett, TA EDPSY 220, EPS 427
- Michael Bilton, TA PSYCH 201
- \* Dorothy Espelage, EDPSY 406, 420, 490, 513
- Jim Hannum, EDPSY 520, 590
- Jeremy Henn, TA EDPSY 201
- Josh Kingsbury, TA EDPSY 201
- \*John Knorek, TA EDPSY 201
- Nicole Laws-Carol, TA EDPSY 201
- Megan Mayberry, TA EDPSY 220
- \* Tiffany McCaughey, TA EDPSY 220
- Chris Moyer, TA PSYCH 100
- \* Helen Neville, AFRO 411, EDPSY 510
- \* Jeri Newlin, TA EDPSY 220, 430
- Jason Soble, TA EDPSY 420
- Lisa Spanierman, EDPSY 520

\* The Instructor Ratings were Outstanding

## 188 Improvements

The 188 Suite received a makeover this fall. Students worked to clean, patch holes, and redo the 188 entranceway as well as several rooms within the suite. Faculty and students also donated artwork, rugs, painting supplies, other decorations to make 188 feel a little bit more like home. Keep a look out for more changes over the next year.

The two interview rooms in the 188 suite have also been equipped with digital cameras, flat screen monitors, and wireless keyboards. Students can now film their work with pre-prac clients digitally. Other uses for the technology include video conferencing over the internet and research studies which can benefit from recorded interviews.



*Technology in the newly designed interview rooms*



*Another view of the newly designed interview rooms*

## Internship Successes!

Six of our students participated in the internship match this year and all were placed in great internship sites.

**Amanda Beer** will be going to the *Counseling Center at the University of Southern California (Los Angeles, CA)*

**Megan Mayberry** was accepted at the *Yale University Department of Psychiatry, Young Adult Service (New Haven, CT)*

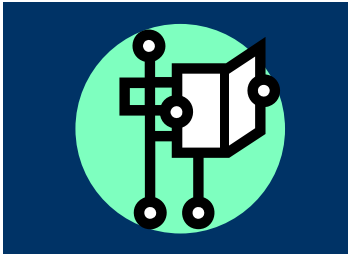
**Tiffany McCaughey** is headed to the *Counseling Center at Northern Illinois University (DeKalb, IL)*

**Paul Poteat** will be working at the *Counseling Center at Florida State University (Tallahassee, FL)*

**Xuhua Qin** was matched at the *University of Pittsburgh (Pittsburgh, PA)*

**Tiffany Schiffner** was offered a position at *Duke University Counseling Center (Durham, NC)*

Nationally, over 32% of the candidates in the internship process were not matched in 2007. Contrast that figure with the one from our program: Since the year 2000, 41 students have participated in the internship match program with only 1 not placed in the initial match (this student was successful the next year). Congratulations to this year's internship group!

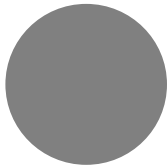


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*We're on the Web!*

*See us at:*

[http://www.ed.uiuc.edu/edpsy/  
divisions/counseling/](http://www.ed.uiuc.edu/edpsy/divisions/counseling/)

## Note from the outgoing Division Chair

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome Dr. James Hannum as the new Chair and Training Director of the Division of Counseling Psychology. I have enjoyed my service to the program over the past three years; it has been a wonderful experience to be part of our program's development. I look forward to working with Jim as we further refine our vision and our mission.

A Luta Continua,  
*Helen Neville*

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## Want to find out more about students in our program?

A new addition to our website is the student perspective section where you can get to know more about the students in our program.

<http://www.ed.uiuc.edu/edpsy/divisions/counseling/counselstudents.html>

## Invitation To APA 2007

Are you going to APA in San Francisco this August? If so, please come to the Division 17 social hour on Friday, August 17th from 4-6 at the San Francisco Marriott. Many of us will be there and hope to see some of you, too!

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## Keep in contact with us...

We love hearing from alumni from our program and would love to know what you're up to. Please email us with any updates on where you are and what you're doing. We want to keep in contact with you!

If you would like to share your news, please email the Newsletter Editor and the Counseling Psychology Graduate Assistant, Michelle Birkett, at [birkett@uiuc.edu](mailto:birkett@uiuc.edu).