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Four new faculty members join EdPsych

Hua-Hua Chang (Queries)

Dr. Chang most recently taught at the University of Texas in Austin and brings a strong and innovative background in computer adaptive testing to his shared EdPsych/Psychology appointment. He was attracted to UIUC because it's "one of the top ranking public schools," offers "more financial support for grad students; more opportunity of collaborations," and is "my alma mater" (1992 Statistics Ph.D.). Dr. Chang still remembers "the good old days of fishing on Clinton Lake." His long-term goal is "to make our program the best in the nation." Besides fishing, he and his wife, Jialing, enjoy gardening and classic music.

Brendesha Tynes (Developmental)

A former high school history teacher, Dr. Tynes recently completed her doctorate in Psychological Studies in Education at UCLA and now has a joint appointment with the African American Studies Research Program. She was initially attracted to our department because of its "wonderful reputation." When she came here to meet UIUC faculty in person, everyone in both departments "was very warm in addition to doing fascinating research. You can't ask for much more in your colleagues." During her first year, Dr. Tynes is "hoping to get to know more of the faculty and students in the department," to "get at least 2 more articles submitted ... and to submit proposals for funding." She also has a long-range goal to "travel around the world by the time I'm 35." She also likes "QiGong, yoga, shopping at Trader Joes and reading African American history books."

Jose Mestre (CLLIC)

The "excellent opportunities to pursue various different lines of research, the superb quality of the EdPsych and Physics programs, and lastly the warm, welcoming midwestern ways!" helped Dr. Mestre decide to accept a joint appointment. Dr. Mestre comes to UIUC from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst, where he served on the faculty for more than two decades. He is recognized as the leading expert in the U.S. and as an international leader in the field of Physics Education Research, with specialization in student cognition and misunderstanding of physics concepts. His goals for the coming year are to "establish new research programs, teach graduate seminars in learning and transfer, and forge collaborations with other interested researchers and graduate students."

Adrienne Lo (CLLIC)

While completing her Ph.D. from UCLA with research that addresses how language is used for socialization and instruction of children within and across different cultural subgroups, Ms. Lo feels fortunate that both she and her husband received offers from UIUC. In fact, her husband "is in the same division and dept [Physics, condensed matter experiment] that my father was in when he was here." Ms. Lo is "particularly excited about her opportunity for interdisciplinary collaboration ... with Anthropology and Asian American Studies," and looks forward to "designing courses that will reach across the university." Besides finishing the final revisions on her dissertation and planning to get some of the chapters submitted as journal articles by the end of the year, she is co-editing a book on the linguistic anthropology of Asian Pacific Americans and writing up research conducted on college-aged Korean heritage language patterns.

Dates & Deadlines

Oct. degree conferral:
Sat., Oct. 15

Office closed:
Thurs. and Fri.,
Nov. 24-25

Fall Term ends:
Fri., Dec. 9

Dec. degree conferral:
Mon., Dec. 19

Office closed:
Mon. and Tues.,
Dec. 26-27
Friday, Dec. 30
Mon., Jan. 2
Mon., Jan. 16

Spring Term begins:
Tues., Jan. 17

For December Master's degree

Last day to add name to Dec. degree list:
Fri., Nov. 11

Last day to submit thesis to College thesis office for format review:
Fri., Nov. 18

Last day to take exam:
Fri., Nov. 18

Last day to deposit thesis at Graduate College:
Fri., Dec. 9

For December Doctoral degree

Last day to add name to Dec. degree list:
Fri., Nov. 11

Last day to submit thesis to College thesis office for format review:
Fri., Dec. 2

Last day to take exam for Dec. degree:
Fri., Dec. 2

Last day to deposit thesis at Graduate College:
Fri., Dec. 16

The current academic calendar can be found on the web at:
www.grad.uiuc.edu/thesis/thesisGC.html

Grants, Honors and Awards

Lydia Buki (Counseling faculty) received a \$149,854 grant (over two years) from the National Institutes of Health for a proposal entitled “Culture and Cancer Literacy Among Immigrant Women.”

Elizabeth Stine-Morrow (CLLIC faculty) has received a \$2,500 Distinguished Senior Scholar Award.

Two EdPsych students will be honored at a College of Education awards banquet on October 15 for winning COE scholarships – **Euna Oh** (Counseling) for the \$500 Mendelson Scholarship and **Jacob Marszalek** (Queries) for the \$1,000 Maurice Tasouka Scholarship.

Scholar’s Travel Awards

Allison Ryan (Developmental faculty) visited Montreal, Canada, to present “Implications of Social Goals for the Development of Academic Motivation and Achievement” at the American Educational Research Association conference.

Phil Rodkin (Developmental faculty) presented “Multiple Dimensions of Peer Status; Methodological Advances in the Identification and Study of Children’s Friendships and Social Groups,” “Childhood Aggression Within the Social Ecology of the School,” and “Popular or Liked? Implications for the Study of Victimization”, all at the Society for Research in Child Development Biennial Conference in Atlanta, Georgia.

“Exploring Animated Narrative Vignette Technology to Understand Empathy, Aggression, and Racial Ideologies with Middle School Youth” was **Helen Neville’s** (Counseling faculty) presentation in Basel, Switzerland at the CyberPsychology: A Decade of Virtual Reality conference.

Andreas Klein’s (Queries faculty) presentation at the Society for Prevention Research Annual Meeting in Washington D.C. was “Modeling Heterogeneity of Growth and Evaluating Fit in a Nonlinear SEM Framework.”

Lisa Spanierman (Counseling faculty) presented “The Psychosocial Costs of Racism to Whites: A Cluster Analysis” at the Annual Convention of the American Psychological Association conference in Washington D.C.

At the annual meeting of the American Psychological Association in Washington D.C., **Dorothy Espelage** (Counseling faculty) was second author on three student posters and also presented “Taxometric Analysis of Disordered Eating” and “Homophobia and Psychological Outcomes.”

“Learning Not to Impose Upon Others: Narrating Hierarchy and Affect in a Korean American Heritage Language Classroom” will be **Adrienne Lo’s** (CLLIC faculty) presentation at the American Anthropological Association annual meeting in Washington D.C.

APA Honors for Counseling Faculty and Students

At this year’s APA convention, **Patrick Armstrong** received the Barbara A. Kirk Award for outstanding student initiated research (Society of Counseling Psychology - Division 17); **Michelle Birkett** won the Outstanding Student Submission to the Division of School Psychology Scholarship (Division 16); and **Dorothy Espelage** and **Helen Neville** each achieved Fellow in the Society of Counseling Psychology. **Lydia Buki** won both the Committee on Women in Psychology’s Emerging Leader Award for her scholarship on Latinas, and the Society of Counseling Psychology’s Section on Ethnic and Racial Diversity’s Community Service Award for her outstanding contribution to the promotion of mental health of people of color. In addition, Counseling faculty and students contributed 22 poster/symposium presentations, with 19 students serving as (co)authors.

Distinguished Alumni

Three EdPsych graduates--**Sandra J. Savignon** (1971), **Paul M. Lerner** (1964), and **George M. Gazda** (1959)--were honored as Distinguished Alumni by the Bureau of Educational Research and the Educational Alumni Association at their roundtable discussion last April.

Conference Travel Grants

Student winners for Spring 2005 were **Michelle Birkett** (Counseling), **Zhushan Li** (Queries), and **Paul Poteat** (Counseling). Ten other students were each awarded \$100 toward the cost of their planned presentations.

New students are a diverse group

Eighteen new EdPsych students joined us this Fall—hailing from Korea, Brazil, China, Puerto Rico, Taiwan, Moldova, India, Japan and Argentina, as well as various parts of the U.S.—and some of them were brave enough to give PsychEd! a few tidbits of personal information.

Valene Whittaker (Counseling) left Baltimore, MD—"the Greatest City in America" —to come to UIUC. When she's not in the classroom, Valene enjoys traveling, learning to cook (West Indian food in particular), and shopping, and boasts an unhealthy obsession with Target and Super Wal-Mart!

Joshua Kingsbury's (Counseling) recent trip to Korea included a tour of the Demilitarized Zone, the opportunity to hear the South Korean's view on the divide between North and South Korea, and a day teaching English at a local high school. New England bred, Josh is looking forward to exploring this area, while acknowledging that his hobbies—hiking, biking and kayaking—might not be the easiest activities to pursue in central Illinois.

A native of Moldova, **Anastasia Gusicova** (CLLIC) comes from a long line of teachers, beginning with her great-grandparents, who taught French in pre-revolutionary Russia at the end of the 19th century. Anastasia came to the U.S. for the first time in 1996 as an exchange student at Roosevelt University in Chicago, later taught ESL in Bulgaria and worked as a lecturer at Moldova State. Her second masters is in Technical Communication from Texas Tech University. Hobbies include playing cello and piano, painting water colors, swimming, and dancing.

Zully Rivera-Ramos (Counseling), who comes to us from Aguada, Puerto Rico, likes to sing "even though I am not a singer" and likes to go to movies.

Melanie Marklein (Counseling), her husband, Omran, from the United Arab Emirates, and "a big fat cat" named Homer "are one happy family!"

Originally from Indonesia, **Tysza Gandha** (Queries) grew up in Singapore before becoming a Permanent Resident in the U.S. She is married to her college sweetheart and they plan to adopt a mutt one day soon. In her spare time, she enjoys reading novels about Southern women.

Another canine lover, **Jeri Newlin** (Counseling) is the proud parent of "a sweet little Maltese named Teddy" and definitely wants "more dogs someday," as well as lots of travel. But for now, she's busy as a single mom supporting her son's varied high school activities.

Get WHOSE signature????

Due to sabbaticals and other faculty schedule events, you may need a score card this year to keep track of the who, what and when in our department.

Our current Department Chair, **Michelle Perry** (Developmental), is on sabbatical for the full academic year, so meanwhile Acting Chairs will be **Tom Schwandt** (Queries) in Fall 2005, **Jenny Singleton** (Developmental) in Spring 2006 and **Lizanne DeStefano** (Queries) in Summer 2006.

While Jenny Singleton is busy with Acting Chair duties, **Phil Rodkin** will assume Developmental division chair responsibilities during Spring 2006.

Meanwhile in Queries, current division chair **Carolyn Anderson** will continue to serve through Fall and **Katherine Ryan** will chair the division in Spring and also in the 2006-7 academic year.

In other words, if you're not sure who to see about what, come to room 226 and ask the staff!

Department Social Events Bring People Together

EdPsych people love to eat, and if the Spring luncheon and Fall picnic are any indication, they love to eat together. Socializing happens across divisional boundaries, students and faculty actively interact over sandwiches and brownies, and pictures of the events overflow with smiles and laughs.

Next on the department-wide social calendar will be the End-of-Semester/Holiday Open House, planned this year for Thursday, December 8 from noon to 1:30 pm in room 210A Education. RSVPs won't be necessary, just show up any time and enjoy!

Did you know? A news round-up for EdPsych

Weddings and babies and babies and weddings and more weddings and more babies ... that seems to be a major theme in EdPsych lately. Second son Evan was born to **Cynthia Carter Ching** (CLLIC faculty) on July 7, Josephine Sing-Yu joined the **Douglas Kai-Sang Low** (Counseling) household on August 24, and **Wonsuk Lee's** (Queries) first child, a daughter who will be named by her grandparents according to Korean custom, was born on September 23. **Adrienne Lo's** (CLLIC faculty) baby, Chloe Jia-Wen, arrived on September 16, Alexander Nikolai Kwasinski (Alex for short) was born to **Veronica Sardegna** (CLLIC) on July 18, **Anastasia Gusicova's** (CLLIC) daughter, Yeva, came along on March 15, and Genesis Andrea, daughter of **Zully Rivera-Ramos** (Counseling), celebrated her first birthday on September 18. Then there's **Jake Marszalek** (Queries), who might hold a record for number of children born during one doctoral program. His first baby arrived in August 2000, just one year after he joined the department, and baby #4, Matthew, came along March 31, 2005.

Plus we have news of some former students' new offspring: **Michael Williams** (Developmental, EDM, 2003) had twin girls, Aidan and Alison, on May 7, and a son, Micah, was born to **Wendy Troop** (Developmental, PHD, 2002) on July 18.

At least one baby is on the way. New CLLIC student **Tomomi Kumai** is expecting a son on February 7.

Moving on to the weddings ... **Shumin Lin** (CLLIC) married Tzu-Kai Liu, a UIUC anthropology student, on June 5. Seems they both happened to be in Taiwan at the same time and decided to take advantage of that situation! Other weddings to note: **Anita Hund** (Counseling) to Ross Wantland on August 13, **Beth DiGello** (Developmental) to Steve Day on the 24th of September, and **Lucia Flevares** (2004 Developmental alumni and former faculty) to Ed Kieser on July 30. An October 22 wedding day is planned for **Julie Emkes** (staff) and Kevin Kellogg.

Do you have contact with past EdPsych graduates?

As time permits, the staff has been trying to locate alumni via the web. So far we have looked for 540 alumni who graduated as early as 1989. Of these, we were able to find an email address for 306, or 57% of the grads! You have to love technology! If you hear about the whereabouts of any EdPsych grads, please pass the information on to a staff member so we can keep in touch with them.

Staff Profile: Martha Wilkins

If it weren't for a basketball victory, Martha Wilkins wouldn't be part of our EdPsych staff.

Seems that Martha, a Southside Chicagoan and 2003 graduate of Lane Tech College Prep, was trying to decide between applying to undergrad programs in Virginia or somewhere closer to home. She'd been accepted at UIUC but her father was rooting for Michigan. Flipping channels one day, she came across a UI-Michigan game and decided to go with the winner. "The Illini won and the next Monday I sent back my intent to attend letter."

So Martha was ready and willing last year when EdPsych started looking for part-time clerical help, and the staff has been delighted with the able assistance she provides – distributing mail, copying, filing, database updating, and handling other tasks as needed.

You say you haven't met Martha, but have noticed a blur racing through the building from class to work to meetings and back again? Yup, that's Martha! She's currently serving on the Illini Union Board as the chair for African-American Homecoming, one of the highest funded committees, and says she spent her "ENTIRE summer trying to prepare for our upcoming events," hit the new semester running and hasn't stopped since.

A junior in Education, Martha plans to work in the Chicago Public School System after graduation, then pursue a Ph.D. in Educational Organization and Leadership. Her goals? "I want to be a classroom teacher and affect students' life on a local level for a few years then move up to an administrative position and have more 'global' impact on the education of young Chicago school children. I've seen many people fall through the cracks and never got the kind of education I received. In the inner city there are a lot of parents that don't really understand the value of education for themselves, so they don't make it a priority for their children. That's where I want to help, I want EVERYONE to at least have a chance at a better life."