

## Clinical Psychology Update

### Introducing

I'd like to take this opportunity to introduce our new Clinical class. I am very excited about our this year's incoming class. We were able to accept ten new students this year. Overall, they had an average undergraduate GPA of 3.44, an average GPA in Psychology of 3.66, a GRE Verbal score of 439, GRE Quantitative score of 540, and a total GRE score of 989. Six of the students have made at least one professional presentation, and three more have experience presenting research to classes. Four of the students are home-grown—they have ties to WKU, either graduating from here or attending for a while. Seven of the students graduated from other universities (one student attended WKU for a while, graduated from another university and liked us so much that she came back for graduate study). We are very excited to have such quality students begin the program and look forward to working with them over the next two years.

### 2003 Entering Clinical Class



Emily Averitt. Emily graduated from Austin Peay State University, where her advisors were Dr. Rick Grieve and Dr. Buddy Grah, and she was voted as the Outstanding May Graduate in Psychology for 2003. Emily has an extensive research background, participating for two years in the Clinical/Applied Research Program at APSU. She has made a number of presentations, including presenting at the APSU Undergraduate Research Symposium, at the Middle Tennessee Psychological Association convention, and at the Southeastern Psychological Association annual convention. Her research has focused on sport psychology, eating disorders, and perceptions of humor. Currently, she is interested in how humor is used in defense mechanisms and anxiety disorders,

especially anxiety disorders in childhood. Ultimately, Emily would like to obtain a Ph.D. and eventually hang out her own shingle. Emily has a big interest in Psi Chi and was the president of the organization at APSU.



Brian Brown. Brian graduated from Juniata College in Pennsylvania, so he is a long way from home. His undergraduate advisor was Dr. David Drews. Brian's research interests revolve around cultural differences and effectiveness of therapy with culturally diverse populations. He has experience applying these research interests as he spent a semester as an intern at an alcohol and drug counseling center. Brian is an avid sportsman, enjoying racquet sports (he'll fit in well here with our racquetball contingent), soccer, Frisbee, and hiking. He has moved around the country a bit. Originally from South Dakota, he now hails from Maine, went to school in Pennsylvania, and is currently living in Kentucky. His career goals include working as a bilingual adolescent/family counselor.



Jennifer Copen. Jennifer joins us from Otterbein College in Ohio where her advisor was dr. Laura Bennett-Murphy. Jennifer has extensive research experience, completing projects examining gender

role violations and vigilance. She also completed an internship at the James Cancer Hospital working with genetic counselors, where she also assisted on the Amish gene project. She is interested in working with families and children both in research and practice. Her research interests include continuing her work on gender roles in children; therapy interests include children's problems within the family. She is not exactly sure what she would like to do professionally, but hopes to use the next two years to find a job about which she is extremely passionate.



Stephanie Göerz. Stephanie is a proud graduate of Brescia University where her advisors were Dr. Jubemi Ogisi and Dr. Vicki Tinsley. She has research experience in the areas of false memories, using verbalization cues, and obstacles to learning. She has made a number of presentations, including presenting at the annual convention of the Kentucky Psychological Association. Currently, her research interests include substance abuse and counseling techniques. She describes herself as an outspoken, Dead Head hippie. She would like to eventually become a counselor/therapist in either Kentucky or Indiana.



Sheena Reneé Moyers. Sheena matriculated from Emery and Henry College in Virginia, where her advisor was Dr. Celese Gaia. Sheena has conducted research examining obesity and gender issues, and body esteem and self-concept. She has presented a number of times, including at the Emory and Henry

College Research Forum and at the annual convention of the Southeastern Psychological Association. Her clinical experience includes working as a case manager at Mount Rogers Mental Health. Sheena would like to eventually obtain her doctoral degree—she is undecided right now whether she would like to go the Ph.D. or the Psy.D. route—and become a practicing clinical psychologist. Sheena is working on adjusting to life at Western, as she graduated from a 1,000 student rural college, and this is a big change.



Melissa Sewell. Melissa is a graduate of Cumberland College, where her advisor was Dr. Charles Huffman. Melissa has completed research examining the effects of sleep deprivation on cognitive performance and is interested in a continuing evaluation of how both sleep deprivation and physical exhaustion affect cognitive performance. She has clinical experience working as a child/family interventionist for Comp Care this past summer, and her current therapy interests include providing treatment for emotionally and mentally disturbed adults. Her career goals include becoming a practicing clinical psychologist and working in a mental health center in addition to having her own private practice.



Sarah Wickman. Sarah attended WKU for a while but ended up matriculating from Western State College of Colorado. Her advisor was Dr. Suzy Coykendall. She has completed research in the area

of personality factors and how they contribute to both school performance and examining personality factors in a cross-cultural context. She has presented at the annual meeting of the Rocky Mountain Psychological Association as well as a teaching conference in Atlanta, GA. Her clinical interests include working with maladjusted adolescents, college students (who may not differ too much from the first population), and drug abuse. Her long-term career goals include obtaining her doctoral degree and working as a faculty member at a 4-year institution.



Catherine Williams. Catherine is a graduate of WKU and she had Dr. Retta Poe as her advisor. She has performed research examining eyewitness accounts and psychopathology. While she does not have any professional presentations to her credit, she has presented her research in her undergraduate courses. Catherine has extensive applied experience. She has worked with spouse abuse victims and people with drug abuse issues, performed geriatric counseling with a home health agency, and has done crisis counseling at a spouse abuse center. Her current clinical interests include counseling for those with severe mental illness. Catherine's career goals include to become involved with the criminal justice system and also to perform mental health counseling in a hospital setting. However, her life does not revolve solely around psychology; Catherine is a soloist and loves to perform and listen to music. She is a huge science fiction fan (one of her guilty pleasures along with chocolate). And, if you think you see two of her sometimes, well, it's because you actually do. Catherine has a twin sister.



Cori (Clymer) Williams. Cori attended WKU, where her advisors were Dr. Patty Randolph and Dr. Kelly Madole. Cori recently got married and has changed her name from Clymer (which everyone knew) to Williams (which makes it confusing), but she says she is still the same person that you have come to know. Her current research interests include addictive and self-harm behaviors and the etiology of depression. She is interested clinically in treatment for drug addiction and eating disorders, as well as family and speech therapy. She has recently accepted a position at Rivendell of Bowling Green and absolutely loves it there. In fact, she would like for her career to involve working as a therapist in an inpatient psychiatric facility. She really enjoys working with children and thinks that she would love a job that allowed her to do therapy with children and adolescents. However, she also indicated that she would like to work at a counseling center at a major university. Finally, in her spare (?) time, Cori teaches dance lessons at Dance Arts of Bowling Green.

Please join me in welcoming our new to Western Kentucky University. I am sure that they are as excited to be here as we are to have them join us.

Rick Grieve, Ph.D.  
Coordinator, Clinical Psychology Master's Program