

## Clinical Psychology Update

### Introducing

I'd like to take this opportunity to introduce our new Clinical class. I am very excited about this year's incoming class. We were able to accept ten new students this year. Overall, they had an average undergraduate GPA of 3.48, an average GPA in Psychology of 3.51, a GRE Verbal score of 452, GRE Quantitative score of 584, a GRE Written score of 5.0, and a total GRE score of 1042. Five of the students have made at least one professional presentation, and together averaged almost three presentations. Two students have manuscripts under review for publication. Seven of the students have applied clinical experience, ranging from working with autistic children to working at battered women's shelters to working with a geriatric population. This year five of the students are home-grown, having graduated from Western Kentucky University. The other five students are truly nationally (and internationally) recruited: one comes from Northern Michigan University, one from the College of William and Mary, one from Kent State University, one from Southwest Missouri State University, and one from the University of Pretoria in South Africa. We are very excited to have such quality students begin the program and look forward to working with them over the next two years.

### 2005 Entering Clinical Class



Sana Ayub. Sana is a graduate of the College of William and Mary, where her advisor was Dr. Neill Watson. She has research experience with Dr. Adam Rubenstein, examining infants' attractiveness preferences. Sana says that she is still up in the air

about what she would like to research. Her future goals include obtaining a Psy.D. in clinical psychology. She is excited to be at Western and is looking forward to the experience.



Amy Baird. Amy is the first of our home-grown (inbred?) students, matriculating from Western Kentucky University. Her advisor was Dr. Elizabeth Lemerise. She worked in both Dr. Lemerise's and Dr. Rick Grieve's research labs. She completed an Honor's Thesis examining the effect of exposure to muscular male models from magazine advertisements on men's body satisfaction. Her current research interests lie in the same general area: body image issues, effects of the media, and eating disorders. Clinically, Amy has volunteered at Hope Harbor, working with abused women. She was also the WKU Psi Chi President, and is still active with the organization. Professionally, Amy would like to, eventually, someday, work with adolescents. She has two cats, likes to read, and will be getting married (finally, after seven years of being with the bum) this May.



Chris Chandler. Chris is the only male admitted this year to the clinical program (lucky guy!). He also graduated from WKU, where his advisor was Dr. Rick Grieve. He has been working in Dr. Grieve's research lab, examining male body image issues. He has presented that research at local and national conferences. Chris' long-term goals include becoming a practicing psychologist with an emphasis on anxiety disorders, and treating them in both adults and children.



Lisa Gardner. Lisa has made the long trek down south from Northern Michigan University, where her advisor was Dr. Cynthia Prosen. Lisa worked with Dr. Prosen as an undergraduate examining activity-based self-starvation. She presented this research at the Michigan Undergraduate Research Conference. Lisa is interested in neurologically-based research, especially degenerative disorders, though she finds sport psychology and motivation "interesting." Ultimately, Lisa would like to obtain a Ph.D. in clinical psychology and work with patients who have degenerative disorders (e.g., Parkinson's, Alzheimers, Multiple Sclerosis). In her free time,

Lisa likes doing outdoor activities, such as hiking, golf, and softball.



Angela Hillegass. Angie is another of our WKU graduates. Her advisor here was Ginny Pfohl. Angie has worked with a local psychiatrist as an office assistant, so, while she has knowledge of what goes on in a clinical setting, she has not truly experienced clinical work. Her current research interests fall in the areas of eating disorders, mood disorders, and substance abuse. She would like to eventually work as a therapist.



Jennifer Jonda. Jennifer is the second student in as many years to come to us from Kent State University, where her advisor was Dr. Janis Crowther. Jennifer also attended Youngstown State University for a brief period of time. Jennifer has quiet a bit of research experience. She completed her Honor's Thesis with Dr. Crowther examining how family environment, body image, and perfectionism interact. She also has participated in research examining social comparison of body composition, speech distortions in schizophrenia, and childhood attachment. Jennifer presented her Honor's Thesis at

the Kent State Celebration of Scholarship and the Mid-East Honors Association. She is currently working on publishing her Honor's Thesis. At Kent State, Jennifer was a Peer Mentor, meaning she tutored students, helped improve their academic skills, and helped them adjust to college life. Her long term goals include working in a position that allows her to perform both research and therapy in a medical setting. She would like to work with individuals with Eating Disorders.



Ilze Nix. Ilze graduated from the University of Pretoria in South Africa, where her advisor was Dr. Maria Marchetti-Mercer. Ilze also attended Bond University in Australia, and has a semester of graduate work at Troy State University under her belt. Ilze has research experience examining a peer support project under the supervision of Dr. Visser from the University of Pretoria. She has presented this research at the University of South Africa. Ilze has volunteered at an out-patient geriatric facility, and supervised the peer support project. Ilze would like to eventually obtain a doctoral degree, become licensed as a play therapist, and teach undergraduate psychology.



Amber Rickard. Amber is yet another WKU grad; her advisor here was Dr. Carl Myers. Amber has worked with youth who have behavioral problems through the Mary Kendall Home in Owensboro, KY. She would like to have a career working in a hospital setting or in a counseling office.



Audrey Roach. Audrey is our final Western grad. Her advisor at WKU was Dr. Melissa Hakman. Audrey obtained research experience in Dr. Hakman's laboratory examining parent-child interactions. Audrey is currently interested in examining aspects of schizophrenia, eating disorders, and other psychopathology. Audrey indicated that she is not sure what she wants to do when she grows up. She is considering many things, including private practice and becoming a psychology professor at a college or university.



Cheri Stephenson. Cheri matriculated from Southwest Missouri State University, where her advisor was Dr. Carol Shoptaugh. Cheri has research experience working with patients with Parkinson's Disease and Alzheimer's Dementia. She also has worked in a motivation laboratory and on a project examining stigma associated with mental illness. Clinically, Cheri has worked with children who had autism and has experience working in a retirement village. Cheri's current research interests lie in the area of examining successful therapies for Borderline Personality Disorder and finding ways to reduce the stigma associated with mental illness. Eventually, she would like to earn a doctoral degree, have a private practice, and teach.

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