

The 11th Annual

Research Conference, Awards Luncheon, and

Lecture on the Integration of Faith & Professional Practice



Conference Guide 2013

The 11th Annual

Research Conference, Awards Luncheon, and
**Lecture on the Integration of Faith
& Professional Practice**

Today's Schedule

Upper Gwinn Commons

10–11 a.m.	Research Poster Session I
11–11:30 a.m.	Paper Presentations I
11:45 a.m.–12:45 p.m.	Awards Luncheon (<i>by reservation only</i>)
1–1:30 p.m.	Paper Presentations II

1:30–2:30 p.m.	Research Poster Session II
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Demaray Hall 150

4:30–6:00 p.m.	Lecture on the Integration of Faith and Professional Practice "The Nature and Functions of Religion and Spirituality in Childhood and Adolescence" with invited lecturer Chris J. Boyatzis, PhD Professor of Psychology, Bucknell University (<i>see back cover</i>)
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Light Refreshments will be served in the lobby at the conclusion of the lecture.

Poster Session I - 10:00-11:00 a.m.

Wall 1

Undergraduate Psychology: Completed Quantitative Research Study

Ballard, S. E.

Lever-pressing as a predictor of risk-sensitive foraging in *rattus norvegicus*.

Risk-Sensitive Foraging Theory was developed to explain a shift in choice between a constant and a variable option; if preference for one of these options is shown, subjects are said to be displaying risk-sensitivity. Few studies have examined if behaviors occurring prior to choice are predictive of risk-sensitivity. The current experiment was designed to examine subjects' risk-sensitivity and to determine if the specific foraging behavior of lever pressing was associated with subjects' overall preference. Results revealed a statistically significant risk-averse choice bias; although no relationship was observed between lever pressing and choice.

Wall 2

Undergraduate Psychology: Research in Progress

Bajema, G. & Hogue, J.

Identity formation of international adoptees raised by transracial parents.

International adoption is an area of interest due to the amount of children whom are raised in a race and culture different from their biological family. This impacts their racial relation, culture openness and emotional bonding. Our research looks at whether or not parental racial socialization affects a child's stress, the impact of cultural information provided by the family and the effect it has on the child's interest in their origin and the effect of parent-child bonding on well-being. Overall, transnational adoptees whom have been provided with racial socialization, cultural integration and stronger parental bonds have more positive identity development.

Wall 3

Undergraduate Psychology: Completed Quantitative Research Study

Boyce, M., Denney, S., Driscoll, K., Rich, E., & Brown, M. A.

The effects of bright light exposure on mood and alertness.

Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD) affects 10-30% of the population in higher latitudes. Bright light therapy has been shown to be an effective treatment that improves mood and alertness. This research investigated whether a one-time, 30 minute exposure to bright light would have an immediate effect on mood and alertness. A sample of 36 SPU students participated, and were randomly assigned to a bright or regular light condition. There were no differences between the conditions on mood or alertness. However, 52% of the sample reported having experienced the winter blues, underscoring the importance of continued research in this area.

Wall 4

Clinical Psychology: Completed Quantitative Research Study

Rudolph, M. E., Mezulis, A. H., Nicolai, K., & Laney, T.

Event-specific negative inferences mediate the relationship between trait emotional reactivity and stress-reactive rumination following a failure induction.

Integrated affective-cognitive models of depression posit that certain emotional and cognitive responses to stress increase risk for depression. The current study sought to better characterize the predictive relationships among these responses. Participants were 90 undergraduates who completed a laboratory visit in which they underwent a failure induction and reported on their responses to the stressor. Results indicated that trait emotional reactivity predicted greater rumination about the stressor and that this relationship was mediated by negative inferences about the event. Findings hold implications for understanding proximal mechanisms within integrative vulnerability-stress models of depression and help inform treatment targets for cognitive-behavioral interventions.

Wall 5

Clinical Psychology: Completed Quantitative Research Study

Rudolph, M. E., Mezulis, A. H., & Charbonneau, A. M.

The effects of an emotion regulation skills intervention on emotional reactivity, rumination, and depression among adolescent females: A randomized controlled trial.

Depression is a pressing mental health concern, particularly among adolescent females. The current study examined the effects of an 8-week manualized emotion regulation skills intervention on reductions in depressive symptoms among 135 affectively vulnerable female freshmen. Participants were randomly assigned to an intervention or control condition. Results indicated that intervention participants reported lower depressive symptoms than the control group both immediately after the intervention and at two months post-intervention. Group differences in depressive symptoms were mediated by reductions in rumination, but not emotional reactivity. Results support the use of inexpensive short-term interventions that target depression in the transition to college.

Wall 6

Undergraduate Psychology: Research in Progress

Mercuri, A., Wilson, B., Miller, H., & Murray, R.

Spontaneous mimicry: Reflection of facial expression in children with autism.

Imitation is an automatic and impulsive aspect of human nature, and has been correlated with improved emotion recognition and higher empathy (Neidenthal, Brauer, Halberstadt & Innes-Ker, 2001). Children with autism spectrum disorders (ASD) suffer deficits in emotion recognition (Rump, Giovannelli, Minshew & Strauss, 2009). We studied spontaneous emotion imitation in children aged 3-6 years (typically developing and children with ASD) while they watched a video of a face that changed from neutral to happy, sad, angry, or fearful (Children's Faces Game, Wilson, 2009). Results showed that for children with ASD, longer imitations were related to lower rates for accurate imitations.

Wall 7

Clinical Psychology: Research in Progress

Haven, E., Davis, H., Wilson, B., Miller, H., & Bluhm, J.

The relation of parenting stress to attention cues provided by parents of children with and without autism spectrum disorders.

Participants included 69 children, 3:0 to 6:11 years old (22 ASD and 47 TD). Parents' responses during a wordless picture book-reading task with their children were coded. Additionally, parents completed a measure of parenting stress. Parents of children with ASD used significantly more simultaneous attention cues and had significantly higher frequencies of parenting stress than parents of TD children. Parenting stress was a significant mediator of the relation between developmental status and attention cues. Our findings suggest frequency of parenting stress may help explain the relation between children's developmental status and parents' use of attention cues. Implications will be discussed.

Wall 8

Clinical Psychology: Completed Quantitative Research Study

Peterson, J., Stinar, L., Willis, S., Siebert, E., Rodney, H., Carlile, J., & Webb, M.

Relationships between attachment style, empathy, and intrinsic religiosity.

The present study was an attempt to expand upon the literature regarding the three variables of attachment style, empathy, and intrinsic religiosity. Data was collected from a sample comprised of 347 undergraduate students. Statistical analysis indicated a significant relationship between secure and preoccupied attachment with empathy, a significant relationship between empathy and intrinsic, and a significant relationship between attachment and intrinsic religiosity. There was a significant main effect for empathy, and a non-significant main effect for attachment style on intrinsic religiosity. These results suggest the importance of further research examining the relationship between empathy and intrinsic religiosity.

Table 9

Industrial/Organizational Ph.D. Program: Completed Quantitative Research Study

Longabaugh, J. R., Mission, J. A., & Kendall, D. L.

Open space: A vehicle for adult learning and applied training.

The traditional, instructor-focused method of teaching that predominates higher education classrooms today may not be the best suited as the sole pedagogical model for training adult learners for entry into applied fields (e.g., psychology and business). This study aims to investigate the effectiveness of an alternative class structure, Open Space, in developing adult-learners' Tolerance For Ambiguity (TFA) and Self-Direct Learning (SDL), and whether their individual levels of Openness to Experience will moderate their development over a 10-week period. A mixed-ANOVA analysis suggests that both SDL and TFA significantly increased over time, and the rate of change was contingent on Openness.

Wall 10

Clinical Psychology: Completed Quantitative Research Study

Harding, K. A., Hudson, M. R., Pegram, K. L., Crystal, S. I., & Mezulis, A. H.

Affective reactivity predicts cognitive reactivity among early adolescents.

The cognitive vulnerability-stress model of adolescent depression (Abramson, Metalsky, & Alloy, 1989) suggests that high cognitive reactivity to stressful events increases risk for depression. Research suggests that high trait negative affectivity (NA) may relate to the onset of cognitive reactivity to stressful events. We hypothesized that adolescents with high trait NA would display greater cognitive reactivity to stress. Participants were 39 early adolescents who reported depressive symptoms, trait NA, and cognitions before and after a stressor task. After controlling for baseline depression and pre-stress cognitions, high trait NA significantly predicted greater post-stress negative and self-referential cognitions that suggest cognitive reactivity.

Wall 11

Clinical Psychology: Completed Quantitative Research Study

Harding, K. A., Hudson, M. R., & Mezulis, A.

Examining cognitive mediators of the relationship between positive affect and depressive symptoms.

Low trait positive affect represents an affective vulnerability to depression, but little research examines mechanisms linking trait positive affect to depressive symptoms. The current study (N=211) investigated whether the cognitive strategies of dampening and positive rumination mediate the prospective association between trait positive affect and depressive symptoms through a longitudinal online diary design. Results of Hierarchical Linear Modeling indicated that low trait positive affect significantly predicted greater depressive symptoms. Low trait positive affect also significantly predicted less positive rumination but not greater dampening, and low positive rumination partially mediated the association between low trait positive affect and greater depressive symptoms.

Wall 12

Undergraduate Psychology/Clinical Psychology: Completed Quantitative Research Study

Halawah, A., Harding, K., Hudson, M., & Mezulis, A.

Religious coping and locus of control as moderators of the effect of stress on depressive symptoms.

The current study examined how religiosity affects depressive symptoms. We hypothesized that greater perceived God locus of control and more negative religious coping strategies (ie. punishing God reappraisals) would exacerbate the effects of stress on depression, but that greater perceived internal locus of control and the use of positive religious coping strategies (ie. seeking spiritual connection) would buffer the effects of stress on depression. We also expected that effects would be strongest for those with high religious engagement. In a sample of 191 undergraduates, we found that the effect of stress on depression was moderated by negative religious coping.

Table 13

Undergraduate Psychology: Completed Quantitative Research Study

Arcieri, N., Butler, B., Choe, Y., Handsel, K., Harrison, K., Knight, J., Knorr, S., Lee, J., Murray, R., Patterson, B., Pearman, J., Riddle, A., Sandoval, A., Snyder, M., Tso, A., Valentine, M., Wallis, C., Washington, D., Young, Z., Brown, M. A.

Gender of friendships, personality, and happiness.

This research was an investigation into how gender combinations within friendships (male-male, female-female, and male-female) relate to happiness amongst students at Seattle Pacific University. We also examined personality as a mediator. We surveyed 159 students, assessing amount and satisfaction with same-sex and opposite sex-friendships, the Big Five personality dimensions, and level of happiness. We found that happiness was predicted by friendship satisfaction, not by amount of friendships, and that female-female friendships were the most satisfied. In addition, we found that extraversion and agreeableness were partial mediators of the relationship between same-sex friendship satisfaction and happiness.

Table 14

Undergraduate Psychology: Research in Progress

Caouette, B.

Driving forces behind human preference for abstract art.

Psychological research has focused on universal patterns of preference using basic color blocks and brand logos. To date, no research has utilized actual artwork in the analysis of color preferences. This study had three goals. First, we investigated whether universal patterns of color preference, and gender differences, can be replicated using abstract art as stimuli. We also investigated whether or not the use of color in artwork predicted degree of preference over and above other perceptual factors. Finally, using MLM, we explored whether there were individual differences in the predictive strength of use of color on degree of "liking." The findings indicate a preference for certain colors over others, even in abstract art. No significant gender differences were found but the use of color predicted liking above and beyond all other perceptual factors. Finally, we found that while color was the most popular factor in driving preference, individual differences still exist. Color is important to most, but not all.

Table 15

Marriage and Family Therapy: Research Proposal

Clements, A., & Smith, A.

Does using the Miracle Question to establish collaborative goals in the EFT process influence client's perception of effectiveness?

Research shows when collaborative goal making is used in therapy, client outcomes and satisfaction increase. When the Miracle Question is used during the second stage of Emotionally Focused Couple's Therapy (EFT), it is possible that it could contribute to increased satisfaction with progress. To test this, two groups will be given the ORS at the end of each session. One group will receive EFT without the Miracle Question, and one group will receive EFT with the Miracle Question. We hypothesize that the group receiving the Miracle Question to form collaborative goals would have increased satisfaction with therapy and goal progress.

Table 16

Marriage and Family Therapy: Research Proposal

Anderson, K., & Bauermeister, C.

The effects of canine Animal-Assisted Therapy on attachment in children.

This study explores the question: Does canine animal-assisted therapy (AAT) aid in increasing secure attachments between parents and caregivers? AAT has gained momentum as a powerful therapeutic intervention, involving a range of approaches utilizing horses, cats, or dogs while working with issues from emotional regulation to therapeutic alliances. More specific research is needed on how the presence of a certified therapy dog in conjunction with attachment work affects the clients' attachment to appropriate figures. Based on previous research, we anticipate that Canine AAT will have a positive impact on a child's ability to securely attach to attachment figures.

Wall 17

Clinical Psychology: Completed Quantitative Research Study

Kupper, A. E., Koenig, A. L., & Skidmore, J. R.

Disentangling the relationship between pain quality and depression in a multi-disciplinary treatment program of chronic low back pain.

The aim of this study was to examine the relationship between depression and different qualities of pain in individuals with chronic low back pain (CLBP) at admission and discharge from a four-week multi-disciplinary treatment program. Eighty-nine CLBP patients participated in this study, and completed measures of depression and sensory, affective, and evaluative pain. Results indicated significant pre- to post-treatment changes in depression, sensory pain, affective pain and evaluative pain. Changes in depression were positively correlated with changes in sensory pain and with changes in affective pain. Interestingly, changes in depression were not significantly related to changes in evaluative pain.

Wall 18

Clinical Psychology: Completed Quantitative Research Study

Koenig, A. L., Kupper, A. E., & Skidmore, J. R.

Examining the relationship between depression and catastrophizing in a multi-disciplinary treatment program of chronic low back pain.

The aim of this study was to examine the relationship between catastrophizing and depression in individuals with chronic low back pain (CLBP) from a multi-disciplinary treatment program. Forty-seven CLBP patients participated in this study, and completed measures of depression and catastrophizing at admission, and four weeks later at discharge. We found significant pre-treatment to post-treatment changes in depression and catastrophizing. Changes in depression were positively correlated with changes in catastrophizing. Our findings suggest that multi-disciplinary treatment programs for CLBP are effective in reducing levels of depression and catastrophizing, and the relationship between the two variables offers important implications for treatment.

Wall 19

Clinical Psychology: Completed Quantitative Research Study

Burpee, A., Ta, M., Chinn, J., Green, K., & Stewart, D.G.

Influence of gender and ethnicity on depression and risky substance use in adolescents in a national and local clinical sample.

While studies have investigated the effects of gender and ethnicity as predictors of substance use, depression, and peer influence, little research addresses gender and ethnicity as moderators. Our study investigates how depression and peer influence, as well as gender and ethnicity, impact risky substance use within a broad national sample and local clinical sample. We hypothesize that peer influence along with attitudes toward peer substance use mediate the relationship between depression and substance use. We also anticipate that gender and ethnicity work to moderate the relationship between depression and peer influence and the relationship between peer influence and substance use.

Table 20

Marriage and Family Therapy: Research Proposal

Schneider, M., & Thomas, M.

Effective parent-mediated groups for families with children with autism spectrum disorders.

Adjusting to life in the midst of discovering a child has been diagnosed with autism can be overwhelming for families. Growing resources for families are Parent-Mediated Groups, training families to conduct interventions. This study will look at two parent-mediated group methods and assess the effectiveness of the approaches. The sample will include families with young children with autism. Families will be divided into two groups, each employing a different method of parent-mediated group treatment. Families will complete self-report surveys measuring family functioning before and after treatment, also evaluating their overall experience. Results will be analyzed using a two-way ANOVA measure.

Table 21

Marriage and Family Therapy: Research Proposal

Calm, R.

Impressions of inpatient: The self-report experiences of institutionalized adolescents around perceived abuse.

This is a pilot study consisting of qualitative methods. It is a conversational analysis used to assess adults who believe they have experienced some form of maltreatment or abuse while in inpatient treatment as adolescents. These methods have the purpose of collecting a language and definition around those experiences. Through a sample pool of 40 this study will collect data and information around family, relationships and the perceptions of the participant's experiences. This information will be used for further study around adolescent institutions.

Table 22

Marriage and Family Therapy: Research Proposal

Nielsen, K.

Who's on top?: Sexual satisfaction among newly married couples who choose to bear children and those who voluntarily choose to remain childfree.

Current research has investigated many aspects of sexual satisfaction among partners who have children and those that struggle with infertility but very few studies investigate the dynamics of couples who voluntarily choose not to bear children. In an effort to deepen our understanding of couples who choose not to bear children, this study seeks to answer the question: Are there notable differences in sexual satisfaction among newly married couples who choose to bear children and those who voluntarily choose to remain childfree?

Table 23

Marriage and Family Therapy: Research Proposal

Chavez-Gonzalez, D., & De Leon, E.

The effectiveness of psychoeducation for low-income fathers of pre-K to fifth grade in improving parenting skills.

This research proposal is asking if psychoeducation on parenting skills will help low-income fathers bond better with their children. Proposed methods for this study are the Parental Bonding Interview (PBI) and the Parental Stress Interview (PSI). Our sample will be 50 low-income fathers. Psychoeducation will be provided to the participants. The psychoeducation provided will focus on age appropriate child development and effective discipline skills. Psychoeducation will be provided throughout five weeks in two hour group sessions, with ten participants per group, and two facilitators. Data analysis procedures include the Analysis of Covariance ANCOVA, and the Analysis of Variance ANOVA.

Table 24

Marriage and Family Therapy: Research Proposal

Hawkins, M., & Callahan, A,

The effectiveness of Narrative Therapy versus Solution Focused Brief Therapy on the treatment of cancer patients undergoing chemotherapy.

Patients undergoing chemotherapy cancer treatment, experience impacts to their mental health. Narrative and Solution-Focused Therapy have both been shown to be effective with this population. This study aims to evaluate which treatment mode is more impactful to the overall well being of the patient during therapy and at follow up at one month according to the Outcome Rating Scale (ORS). Participants include men and women between the ages of 18 and 50 receiving chemotherapy at Seattle Cancer Care Alliance. The data will be reconciled using a three-way ANOVA as well as T-tests comparing the effect of each individual's treatment.

Table 25

Marriage and Family Therapy: Research Proposal

Loewy, M.

Family therapy for childhood anxiety: The impact of a parent's presence in sessions.

This study investigates the impact of having a parent attending play therapy sessions with 7 year old children diagnosed with depression. Pre and post tests will be conducted in this blind randomized control study using quantitative data. The first hypothesis is that parents who attend sessions with their child will report significantly greater levels of satisfaction with therapy and significantly greater symptom reduction compared to parents who do not attend play therapy sessions with their child. Second, children whose parent attends the sessions will report significant improvement compared to the experience of children whose parents do not attend the sessions.

Table 26

Marriage and Family Therapy: Research Proposal

Garcia, R. & Truong, C.

Are you fur real?: The effects of Animal-Assisted Therapy with dogs on adolescents and young adults trying to maintain sobriety.

The purpose of this mixed-method study is to examine animal-assisted therapy with dogs, and the effects it has on adolescents and young adults between the ages of 18 and 25. The sample will consist of individuals who have experienced addiction and are trying to maintain sobriety. Each participant will be randomly selected to work with a human therapist and therapy dog, or a human therapist without a therapy dog. Participants will undergo six weeks of therapy, and report their experiences before and after treatment by means of a face-to-face interview.

Table 27

Marriage and Family Therapy: Research Proposal

White, T., & Myers, A.

What affect do pro-social video games have on adolescent boys with Oppositional Defiant Disorder.

Participants will be researched based on how pro-social video games affect the individual and familial experience of their Oppositional Defiant Disorder (ODD). Pro-Social video games are defined as having low amounts of aggression and increased levels of empathic interactions as well as positive social situations (i.e. token economy, civic responsibility quests). We hypothesize that participants playing games will have a higher self-report of their treatment outcomes as well as a higher sense of self-satisfaction in their family. Both the participant and the family will be tested on a Likert-type scale for efficacy of treatment with pro-social video games.

Table 28

Undergraduate Psychology

Maissen, A., & Moore, S.

Art Therapy: The efficacy of art therapy at treating anxiety and depression in individuals with PTSD, victims of sexual abuse, and cancer patients.

We will explore the research on Art Therapy and its efficacy in reducing anxiety and depression. Specifically, we researched the effects of Art Therapy intervention on participants with cancer, PTSD, and sexual abuse. The studies use drawing, painting, or visual imagery as their method of Art Therapy intervention and presented questionnaires to measure anxiety and depression in participants. The results of self-reports were used to calculate the effect of the intervention on the anxiety and depression levels in participants. Results demonstrate that Art Therapy has a significant effect on reducing anxiety and depression and should be studied further.



**2012-13 was a busy academic year for
SPFC student scholars:**

Thirty-eight SPFC undergraduate and eighty-one graduate students participated in research projects alongside their faculty mentors.

Six doctoral students successfully presented dissertation proposals, and thirteen successfully defended their completed dissertation research.

Three SPFC graduate students received external awards. Megan Zurawski and Jessica Berg were awarded training scholarships from the Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental and Related Disabilities program (LEND) of the University of Washington. Ellen Geib received a fellowship from the ARC of Washington's Trust Fund.

One hundred and four SPFC undergraduate and graduate students and alumni co-authored with faculty eighty-eight research papers or posters presented at state, regional, national, or international professional conferences.

Forty-four SPFC undergraduate and graduate students and alumni co-authored with faculty thirty-seven scholarly publications.

Paper Presentations

PP 1 - 11:00 a.m.

Undergraduate Psychology: Completed Quantitative Research Study

Reaves, D. L., Stanton, P., Ballard, S. E., Maddox, A., Lustyk, M. K. B.

The effects of age of abuse on the interrelationship between perceived stress and premenstrual symptom reports

The current study assessed the effects of type and age of abuse on the interrelationship between perceived stress (Stress) and premenstrual symptom reports (PMSR) in women (N = 91) between 18 – 25 years. On the Abuse Questionnaire, participants indicated whether abuse events occurred < 14 years of age, or as an adult (> 14) and whether the abuse type was physical or sexual. Abuse history was noted in 43% of the sample. Both PMSR and STRESS were greater in women with an abuse history, however, results indicated that age of abuse significantly predicted both STRESS and PMSR above abuse type.

PP 2 - 11:00 a.m.

Clinical Psychology: Completed Quantitative Research Study

Koenig, A. L., Kupper, A., & Skidmore, J. R.

Pain self-efficacy and biopsychosocial functioning in chronic low back pain patients.

The present study examined the indirect effects of pain-self efficacy (PSE) on the relationship between biopsychosocial functioning and pain severity. We used archival data from a multidisciplinary treatment program for individuals with CLBP in Surrey, England. Participants were 99 CLBP sufferers who completed measures at admission. Structural equation modeling was used to test the mediated model. Lower biological and social functioning significantly predicted higher pain severity, and lower social functioning significantly predicted lower PSE. PSE did not mediate the relationship between biopsychosocial functioning and pain severity. These findings suggest that social functioning is a key contributor to pain severity.

PP 1 - 1:30 p.m.

Industrial/Organizational Ph.D. Program: Completed Quantitative Research Study

Pelosi, E., Terrill, J., & Hallak, D., Yost, P.R.

Proactive development intentions: Predicting on-the-job development beyond personality.

This study examines the relationship between proactive development intentions (PDIs) and participation in on-the-job developmental activities. PDIs are plans to engage in future actions that are both grounded in present attitudes and focused on future self-development behaviors. This longitudinal research design was conducted with a sample of (N = 129) of full-time working adults. Results demonstrated a positive relationship between openness to experience and on-the-job development behaviors. PDIs significantly predicted engagement in development behaviors above and beyond openness to experience ($R^2 = .14$). Results did not support a moderating effect of organizational support on the PDI—developmental activity relationship.

Poster Session - 1:30-2:30

Wall 1

Undergraduate Psychology: Completed Quantitative Research Study

Wilson, B., Fisher, S., Davis, H., Crain, A., & Kloes, K.

Emotional competence predicts self-regulation skills in children with and without autism spectrum disorders.

This study examined how emotional competence predicts self-regulation in children with typical development (TD) and autism spectrum disorders (ASD). Emotional competence was measured by how quickly the child could identify emotion faces as they morphed from a flat affect, while self-regulation was measured by the child's ability to wait without peeking as a gift was wrapped noisily behind them. Children with ASD were less able to resist peeking than children with TD. Waiting longer before peeking was related to greater emotional competence for children with TD, but not for children with ASD.

Wall 2

Undergraduate Psychology/Clinical Psychology: Research in Progress

Berg, J., Wilson, B., Zurawski, M., Sparrow, J., Hamilton, K., & Reynolds, K.

The relation between parental emotion coaching and empathy in children with autism.

Parental emotion coaching is a predictor of children's ability to empathize (Valiente et al., 2004). This study examines the relationship between emotion coaching and empathy, especially in children with Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD). Participants included 68 children (ASD = 24, TD = 44) between 3:1 to 6:11 years, and their parents. Parents completed the Autism Behavior Checklist, Parent Report of Child Sympathy/Empathy, and a Meta Emotion Interview. Children completed the Differential Abilities Scale – Version III. Results demonstrated that children with ASD had significantly lower empathy ratings. A significant relationship was found between developmental status and emotion coaching for sadness.

Wall 3

Undergraduate Psychology/Clinical Psychology: Completed Quantitative Research Study

Manangan, C.N., Wilson, B.J., & Maher, S.

The interactive effects of parent stress and children's diagnostic status on children's social outcomes.

Parents of children with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) report higher rates of stress than parents of typically developing (TD) children. This study examines if parent stress is related to children's social-emotional functioning in the domains of social skills and withdrawal behaviors. Participants included 88 children between 3:0 and 6:11 years, and their parents and teachers. Parents completed the Parenting Daily Hassles questionnaire. Teachers completed the Behavior Assessment Scale for Children, Second Edition. Children with ASD demonstrated lower social skills and higher withdrawal behavior, which are related to parent stress. However, stress does not differ significantly between the groups, (TD, ASD).

Wall 4

Clinical Psychology: Completed Quantitative Research Study

Fergoda, J. D., Siebert, E. C., Carlile, J. A., Rodney, H., Stinar, L., Willis, S., Peterson, J., & Webb, M.

Individuals with severe mental illness have overly nurturant interpersonal styles.

Interpersonal style and severity of mental illness was examined in non-offending adults with severe mental illnesses attending adult day treatment. We utilized the interpersonal circumplex model – a circle with two dimensions: affiliation and agency. We hypothesized that these individuals would present as Socially Avoidant and Nonassertive, and that the severity of psychiatric illness would be associated with higher total scores. The group's interpersonal style fell in the Overly Nurturant (LM) octant, and interpersonal functioning and treatment did not predict severity of mental illness. Findings provide an alternative conceptualization of interpersonal style and functioning of persons with severe mental illness.

Wall 5

Clinical Psychology: Completed Quantitative Research Study

De Paul Chism, N. F.

Modeling effectiveness among expatriate professionals working for non-governmental organizations.

This study examined a model of work performance among expatriates. Recruitment used snowball techniques. Just over half of participants (N = 159) were female (59.1%), 62.9% were U.S. nationals, 88.7% intended to complete their assignment. Structural equation modeling was used to assess model fit. The final model displayed a good fit ($\chi^2 [163; N = 159] = 280.258, p < .01, NFI = 0.884, CFI = 0.947, \text{ and } RMSEA = 0.067$) and supports the inclusion of perceived organizational support (host and parent organizations), affective commitment (host organization), and sociocultural adaptation (host culture) within a model of expatriate work performance.

Wall 6

Undergraduate Psychology: Completed Quantitative Research Study

McNutt, B., Scarsella, G., McGuire, A., Erickson, T., & Wilson, E. (2013)

Depression predicts self-references: But the link depends on social goals and gender.

Past research has revealed a connection between depression and self-focused attention as indexed by the use of spoken self-references (e.g., I, me, my), but has not examined reasons for this link. The present study examined the effect of social motives (self-image goals and compassionate goals) on number of self-references during a stressful mock interview. As hypothesized, depression correlated most strongly with self-references when participants promoted and defended their self-image. However, the correlation was stronger for female participants. Implications for social cognition and depression will be discussed.

Wall 7

Clinical Psychology: Completed Quantitative Research Study

Siebert, E., Carlile, J., & Scarsella, G.

Differentiating depression, social anxiety, and worry using the Interpersonal Circumplex.

Depression, social anxiety, and worry are characterized by high levels of problematic interpersonal behavior. However, given high rates of comorbidity among these symptoms, the specificity of the links remains uncertain. Interpersonal models of psychopathology suggest that interpersonal behaviors and problems maintain or perpetuate distress (Gurtman, 2009). Interpersonal behaviors relevant to distress are typically related to agency and affiliation on the Interpersonal Circumplex (IPC; Leary, 1957). Based on theories about the function of particular interpersonal behaviors, we expect that depression will negatively predict agency and affiliation, social anxiety will negatively predict agency, and worry will positively predict affiliation.

Wall 8

Clinical Psychology: Completed Quantitative Research Study

Crystal, S., Laney, T., Pegram, K., Nicolai, K., & Mezulis, A.

Patterns of physiological and affective stress reactivity among young adolescents.

Negative Affectivity (NA) is one individual difference factor related to the development of psychological problems and maladaptive behaviors. Individuals high in trait-NA are hypothesized to display high affective and physiological stress reactivity, which may predispose them to developing psychopathology. We hypothesized that individual differences in trait-NA would predict affective reactivity to stress, as well as measured physiological reactivity. Participants were 37 adolescents. Repeated measures ANOVAs were used to examine between groups differences of physiological and affective reactivity. Youth with high trait-NA displayed patterns of suppressed physiology at stress. Low physiological reactivity has been consistently linked to maladaptive mental health outcomes.

Wall 11

Clinical Psychology: Completed Quantitative Research Study

Bikos, L. H., Ecker, D., Edwards, R., Haney, D., McClellan, J., North, M., & Quint, M.

A CQR exploration of career development in repatriated, missionary kids.

Grounded social cognitive theory, we conducted a qualitative investigation of career development needs with 11 repatriated, young-adult, children of international missionaries (MKs; missionary kids). Participants ranged in age from 19 to 23 (58% female; 67% Caucasian) who repatriated to the U.S. between the ages of 14 and 19. We propose a context-specific revision to Bandura's social cognitive model of triadic reciprocity: faith intersects environmental variables, personal attributes, and overt behaviors in ways that are unexpected and multidimensional. Recommendations include (a) attending to sociocultural adaptation, (b) offering traditional career services, (c) addressing career adaptability, and (d) inquiring about faith/calling.

Wall 12

Clinical Psychology: Research in Progress

Dykhouse, E., Boutin, S., & Bikos, L. H.

Returning home: Global learning development as a function of self-efficacy for sociocultural adaptation and post-trip debriefing.

Undergraduate students (N = 45; 84% female) who participated in international short-term missions trips (STM) completed online measures assessing international interests (at pre-departure, 2 weeks, 6 months, and 9 months after reentry) and self-efficacy for sociocultural adaptation (at pre-departure). Students were offered group and individual debriefing resources upon reentry. Using hierarchical linear modeling (HLM), we found that students' international interests increased significantly as a result of the STM and are significantly positively correlated to pre-departure levels of self-efficacy for sociocultural adaptation. The impact of debriefing resources on the development of students' international interests over time was non-significant.

Wall 13

Undergraduate Psychology/Clinical Psychology: Research in Progress

Dauterman, H., Manangan, C., Wilson, B. J., & Discolo, E.

The effect of ADHD symptoms on adaptive behaviors in children with ASD and typical development.

Introduction This research is examining the relation between developmental status (i.e. TD and ASD) and deficits in adaptability as explained by children's ADHD symptomatology. **Method** Seventy-five children between the ages of 3:0 and 6:11 years old, and their parents (completed Connors' Parent Rating Scale – Revised) and teachers (completed BASC-2) **Results** We found a significant relation between developmental status and adaptability whereby children with ASD had lower adaptability scores as compared to typically developing children. **Conclusion** These findings suggest that the relation between developmental status and adaptability deficits is partially and significantly mediated by children's ADHD symptoms.

Table 14

Clinical Psychology: Completed Quantitative Research Study

Wilson, B., Geib, E., Haven, E., Krentz, U.

Is parent awareness of child emotion a protective factor for the social skills deficits and problem behaviors in children with autism spectrum disorders?

Research suggests that parents' awareness of children's emotions is associated with positive outcomes for children with typical development (TD). However, no studies have investigated the influence of parent awareness of emotion in children with autism spectrum disorders (ASD). We examined how parents' awareness of children's emotions may be related to social skills and problem behaviors. Children with ASD whose parents had high levels of awareness of their child's emotions had higher social skills. Parents' awareness of their children's emotions may serve as a protective factor for social skills in children with ASD. Parents may also benefit from emotion recognition training.

Table 15

Clinical Psychology: Completed Quantitative Research Study

Dauterman, H. & Davis, H.

Self-regulation strategies and externalizing behavior problems in young children with ASD.

Children with autism spectrum disorders (ASD) exhibit fewer and more primitive self-regulation strategies as well as increased externalizing behavior problems compared to children with typical development (TD). The current study examined whether children with ASD exhibited a distinct pattern of self-regulation strategies compared to children with TD and whether these differences were related to their externalizing behavior problems. Participants included 77 children between 3:0 – 6:11 years. Hierarchical regression analyses were conducted to evaluate the hypothesized relations. Total time engaged in self-regulation strategies as well as the strategy, gaze aversion, functioned as significant mediators in the model. Clinical implications are discussed.

Table 16

Clinical Psychology: Completed Quantitative Research Study

Chapman, M. K., Arlt, V. K., Felleman, B. I., Stewart, D. G., & Arger, C.

Examining regrettable sex behavior among adolescents in a school-based drug and alcohol intervention.

Substance use (SU), regrettable sexual behavior (RSB), and their consequences are prevalent among adolescents. This study investigated the effects of gender, depression, and alcohol consumption on adolescent RSB. We hypothesized: 1) a significant relationship between RSB and gender; 2) depression associated with higher instances of RSB; 3) alcohol consumption positively associated with RSB. Participants were referred to a school-based intervention for SU (N=205); data was collected via questionnaires. Data was analyzed using hierarchical regression. Results indicate that depression predicted RSB and the model remained significant when gender and alcohol consumption were included. Future studies should draw from more diverse paradigms.

Table 17

Clinical Psychology: Completed Quantitative Research Study

Arlt, V. K., Chapman, M. K., & Stewart, D. G.

Psychological dysregulation predicting risky sexual behavior for substance using adolescents.

Risky sexual behavior (RSB) is a major health problem among adolescents. In this study, we hypothesized that substance use (SU) would mediate the relationship between dysregulation and RSB in a sample of substance using adolescents. Data was collected using questionnaires. Participants were referred to a school-based intervention for SU; N = 61, mean age = 15 years, males = 45. Data was analyzed using step-wise regression. Results do not indicate significance for dysregulation predicting RSB as mediated by SU. Post-hoc analyses indicate significance for a relationship from depression to RSB, mediated by problematic SU. Topography of risky behaviors is discussed.

Wall 18

Clinical Psychology: Theoretical Paper

Lucas, H. L., & Thoburn, J. W.

Evidence-based practice in couple and family psychology.

Evidence-based practice utilizes treatment protocols originating out of empirical data grounded in a history of effectiveness through outcome-based research. The field of couple and family psychology arises out of a systems epistemology understood as an ecology of nested reciprocal interactions. Division 43 of APA created a task force on evidence-based couple and family psychology, determining the best approach to be a four tier "level-of-evidence" model, matching clinical questions with the appropriate level of research evidence. Currently, two models of couples therapy meet criteria for Level III: Behavioral Couples Therapy modified by Integrative Behavioral Couples Therapy and Emotionally Focused Couples Therapy.

Wall 19

Clinical Psychology: Completed Quantitative Research Study

Dal Maso, M., Carlile, J. A., Clark, N., & Thoburn, J. W.

Courage and perceived quality of interpersonal relationships.

The purpose of our study was to test the moderating effect of courage on the indirect relationship between adult attachment style, shame, and perceived family social support. Results indicated that the cross-product terms between courage and shame for secure, avoidant, and anxious attachment styles were significant ($p < .01$). The indirect effect of shame on perceived family social support was not significant in the presence of courage for secure and avoidant attachment styles, and for anxious attachment at high and low levels of courage. Thus, courage decreases the effect of shame on perceived family social support across attach styles.

Wall 20

Clinical Psychology: Theoretical Paper

Carlile, J. A., Dal Maso, M., & Thoburn, J. W.

Global climate change, disasters, and family psychology: A family systems resilience model.

The purpose of this project is to propose a family systems model focused on resiliency in the face of increasing disasters related to continual global climate change. Our model of disaster family therapy establishes resiliency by building reciprocity between communal systems—the family, community, businesses, and government—as a means to provide psychological relief to families while minimizing future damage to their surrounding community. Additionally, we focus on encouraging a broader, more sustainable approach to prevention and disaster recovery to help develop resilience in families by focusing on the community as a primary resource for prevention and relief.

Table 21

Marriage and Family Therapy: Research Proposal

Tracy, J., & Stevens, C.

The mental health diagnosis: What it means to clients and their families.

Research suggests psychotherapy can have negative effects on the client's self-perception. Further, the meaning a client makes from an assigned diagnosis may pathologize what they once believed to be normal human behavior. While studies have considered the negative effects of the diagnostic label on the client, further research needs to consider the meaning clients and their families make from the assigned diagnosis.

Table 22

Marriage and Family Therapy: Research Proposal

Hanson, C., & Simmons, M.

Adolescent experience of a parent's cancer diagnosis: Anxiety after initial diagnosis and reoccurrence.

This proposed study will evaluate how adolescents experience anxiety after a parent's initial diagnosis or reoccurrence of cancer. At least 50 adolescents, each with a parent who was diagnosed with cancer or a reoccurrence of cancer within the last month, will be sampled. We hypothesize adolescents with parents who are experiencing a reoccurrence of cancer will have higher levels of anxiety than those receiving an initial diagnosis. Adolescents and their families will receive brief therapy and data will be gathered through individual interviews. This research is intended to provide insight into how to better serve adolescents and families experiencing cancer.

Wall 23

Undergraduate Psychology: Completed Quantitative Research Study

Beisheim, T. & Liang, H.

Describing risk-sensitive foraging in rats using Behavior Systems.

Behavior Systems Approach (BSA) describes forager behavior as resulting from temporal and spatial proximity to food (Timberlake, 2001). The current experiment investigated risk-sensitivity in rats, use of BSA to explain behaviors occurring in intertrial interval (ITI) segments, and finally if behaviors occurring throughout the ITI could predict risk-sensitivity in rats. Subjects chose between variable or constant reward choices; actions between choices were recorded, operationalized and coded. Results indicated a risk-averse choice bias. Furthermore, although ITI behaviors were not predictive of choice, foraging behaviors varied significantly relative to ITI segment, supporting BSA as a suitable theory for describing behaviors surrounding choice.

Wall 24

Undergraduate Psychology: Completed Quantitative Research Study

Stutts, K. L., Teel, C. L., & Kim, P. Y.

Collectivism and loss of face as correlates of academic help-seeking attitudes among Asian American college students.

This study examined culture-specific correlates of academic help seeking among Asian American college students (n=106). We hypothesized that collectivism would predict academic help seeking attitudes. Collectivism would be a predictor of academic help seeking attitudes and the relationship would be mediated by loss of face. Online survey was utilized to collect data from Asian American college students from a private liberal arts college in the Pacific Northwest. The results indicated that collectivism was not a statistically significant predictor of academic help seeking attitudes. The results indicated that collectivism significantly predicts loss of face which in turn predicts academic help-seeking attitudes.

Wall 25

Undergraduate Psychology: Research in Progress

Murray, R., & Knorr, S.

The effect of social media use on social comparison and life satisfaction.

Social media use among people of all ages has grown tremendously over the past several years. Research has shown both positive and negative long-term effects on social comparison and individual satisfaction (Yang & Oliver, 2010; Jordan et al., 2011) Our experimental research investigates the effects of various social media use (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, newspaper, online journals, face-to-face interactions) on social comparison and life satisfaction amongst college students at Seattle Pacific University (SPU). We hypothesize that social media will produce negative effects on social comparison and life satisfaction.

Table 26

Undergraduate Psychology: Completed Quantitative Research Study

Michell, A. & Garcia, J. K.

Conditioned stimuli elicit behavioral modes during risk-sensitive foraging in rats.

Risk-Sensitive Foraging Theory (RSFT) studies factors influencing preferences for constant or variable options. Research in RSFT has demonstrated that behaviors, prior to choice, aren't predictive of choice, but fit within a system of behaviors. Behavior Systems organizes foraging behaviors into three search modes: General, Focal, and Handle/Consume. Classically conditioned stimuli associated with specific modes have been shown to elicit behavioral modes and thus, behaviors within each mode. The present study investigated whether such conditioned stimuli could elicit handle/consume behavior within a choice procedure. Results revealed significant increases in handle/consume behaviors with the presence of conditioned stimuli.

Table 27

Undergraduate Psychology: Completed Quantitative Research Study

Fenn, E. & Rooklidge, M.

The effects of downshift in reward amount on risk-sensitivity in rats.

Risk-sensitive Foraging Theory was developed to explain a forager's shift between a constant and a variable reward. However, few studies have addressed whether past experience or sudden downshifts in reward amount results in a change in choice or lever pressing (i.e., a negative contrast effect). Therefore, the present experiment was designed to determine if sudden downshifts in reward amount cause rats to display changes in both choice bias and frequency of lever pressing. Results revealed a statistically significant difference in lever pressing but not choice after a downshift in reward.

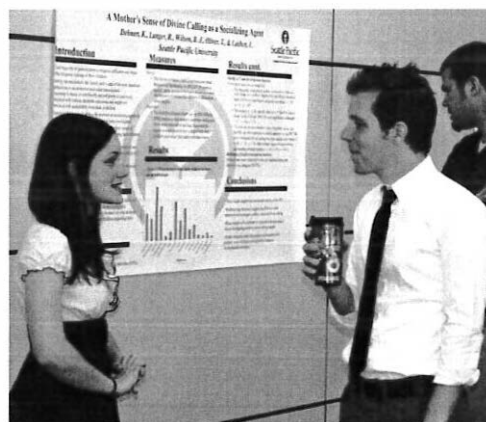
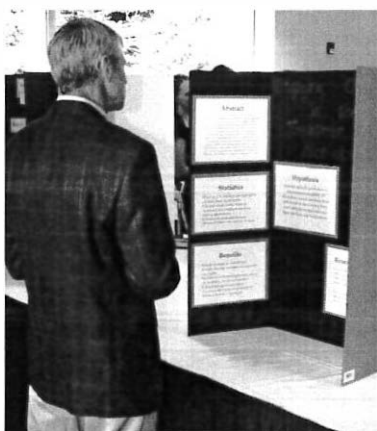
Table 28

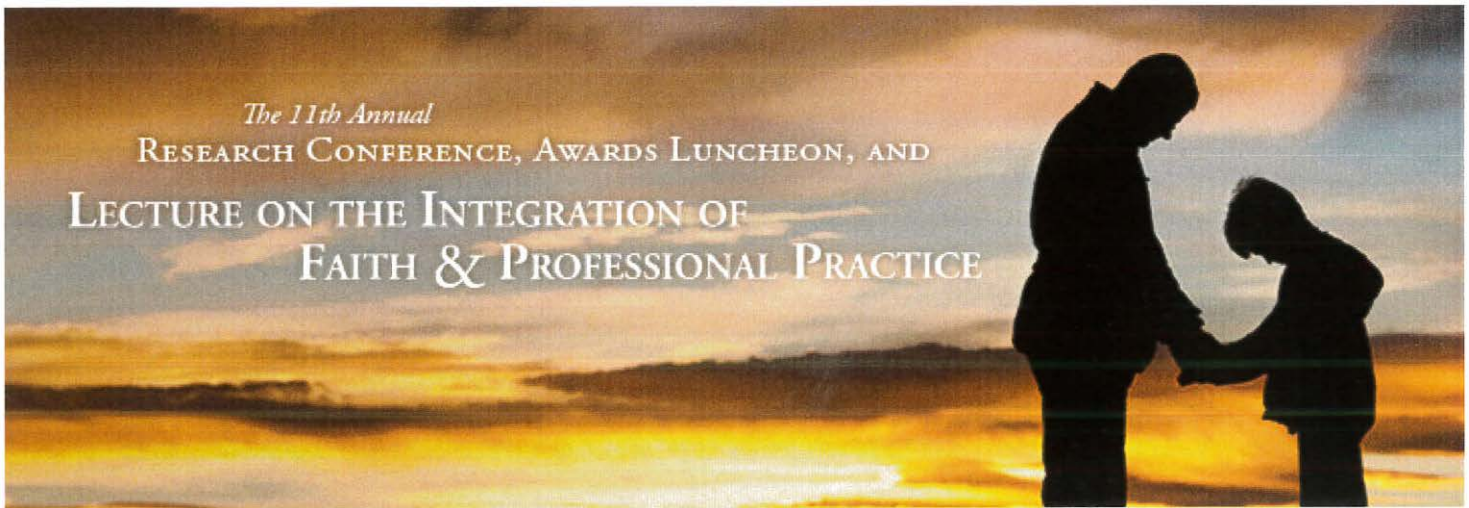
Undergraduate Psychology: Research in Progress

Maissen, A., & Moore, S.

Art Therapy: The efficacy of art therapy at treating anxiety and depression in individuals with PTSD, victims of sexual abuse, and cancer patients.

We will explore the research on Art Therapy and its efficacy in reducing anxiety and depression. Specifically, we researched the effects of Art Therapy intervention on participants with cancer, PTSD, and sexual abuse. The studies use drawing, painting, or visual imagery as their method of Art Therapy intervention and presented questionnaires to measure anxiety and depression in participants. The results of self-reports were used to calculate the effect of the intervention on the anxiety and depression levels in participants. Results demonstrate that Art Therapy has a significant effect on reducing anxiety and depression and should be studied further.





The 11th Annual
RESEARCH CONFERENCE, AWARDS LUNCHEON, AND
LECTURE ON THE INTEGRATION OF
FAITH & PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE

Lecture on the Integration of Faith
and Professional Practice

4:30 p.m.–6 p.m. | Demaray Hall 150

"The Nature and Functions of Religion and Spirituality in Childhood and Adolescence"

with invited lecturer

Chris J. Boyatzis, PhD

Professor of Psychology, Bucknell University

In many societies, adults believe that religion and spirituality are important for children and adolescents. But how do we measure religion and spirituality in young people, and when did psychologists start to care? What methodologies and theoretical frameworks will help us understand these issues? Is there empirical evidence that religion and spirituality is "good" for children? How must our field grow and change for a more genuine knowledge of religion and spirituality early in life? Dr. Boyatzis will address these questions and make suggestions for future research.

ABOUT OUR SPEAKER



Chris J. Boyatzis, PhD, is a developmental psychologist with research interests in religious and spiritual development. He is currently a professor of psychology at Bucknell University in Lewisburg, Pennsylvania, and also an associate editor for *Psychology of Religion and Spirituality*, a journal of the American Psychological Association. In the past he served as president of APA Division 36/Society for the Psychology of Religion & Spirituality, and chairman of the Episcopal Diocese of Central Pennsylvania Commission on Children's Ministry. Dr. Boyatzis and his wife, the Rev. Robin Jarrell, an Episcopal priest, have two daughters.