The School of Psychology, Family, and Community at Seattle Pacific University presents

The 10th Annual Research Conference, Awards Luncheon, and Lecture on the Integration of Faith & Professional Practice

Conference Guide 2012
Wall #1
Clinical Psychology: Completed Quantitative Research Study

Models of internalizing symptoms in LGBQ youth reconsidered: Mediation vs. moderation.

Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Queer (LGBQ) youth report elevated depressive symptoms compared to their peers, though few models have sought to explain this phenomenon. Meyer's minority stress theory (1995) states that minorities face additional stress, while others state that increased vulnerabilities may account for symptoms (Hatzenbuehler, 2009). Both theories hypothesize mediated models, while the current poster proposes and tests a moderated model. The models were compared and contrasted within a sample of LGBQ youth (N = 165, Age 13 to 22). Results indicated that the moderation approach fits the data better. Implications for theory and interventions are discussed.

Wall #3
Clinical Psychology: Completed Quantitative Research Study
Crystal, S., Pegram, K., Willis, S., & Mezulis, A.

Does parental invalidation moderate the relationship between negative affectivity and self-injury and disordered eating in early adolescence?

Empirical research has demonstrated that maladaptive behaviors such as Non-Suicidal Self-Injury (NSSI) and Disordered Eating (DE), onset during adolescence. Our study seeks to investigate one factor that may impact to the development of NSSI and DE among youth. Trait Negative Affectivity (trait-NA) is one risk factor for the development of NSSI and DE; youth high in trait-NA are hypothesized to be emotionally reactive to stressful events and thus more likely to employ NSSI or DE to reduce negative affect. Specifically, we hypothesized that trait-NA would be associated with more NSSI and DE among early adolescence. We further hypothesized that parents' responses to their child's NA (particularly invalidating responses) would moderate the relationship between trait-NA and NSSI/ED outcomes. To test these hypotheses, xxx adolescents (ages 10-14) were recruited. They completed measures of temperament, self-injury frequency, eating pathology and perceived parenting experiences.

Wall #5
Clinical Psychology: Completed Quantitative Research Study
Rudolph, M.E., & Mezulis, A.H.


The current study tested the relationship between event-specific measures of cognitive vulnerabilities in an 8-week diary study with 107 adolescents. Greater negative cognitive style for stressors in a given week predicted greater rumination about those stressors both one and two weeks later. These effects remained significant even after controlling for sex, trait rumination, and concurrent depressive symptoms. Results have implications for integrative cognitive vulnerability-stress models of depression. Rumination may serve as the activating mechanism through which negative cognitive style confers heightened risk for depression. Thus, the development of interventions that target rumination may be crucial to preventing depression during adolescence.
Externalizing behaviors and autism: Buffering effects of parental emotion coaching.

Children with autism often exhibit more externalizing behaviors than typically developing children. These behaviors are often associated with negative outcomes. We hypothesized the interaction of emotion coaching (EC) and developmental status would predict externalizing behaviors. Hierarchical linear regression analyses indicated EC acts as a buffer between children's status and number of externalizing behaviors. For children with autism high EC was associated with the lowest levels of externalizing behaviors, whereas, low EC was associated with the highest levels. These results indicate EC may function as a protective factor for children with autism and may inform interventions aimed at reducing these behaviors.

Observing matching law in foraging behavior of black-tailed deer (Odocoileus hemionus columbianus)

According to Matching Law, in a two-choice situation, the responses directed towards each alternative or patch should equal the proportion of reinforcers delivered. The current experiment was designed to determine whether foraging in wild black-tailed deer (Odocoileus hemionus columbianus) on Blakely Island, WA, could be described using Matching Law. In addition, this experiment examined whether foraging in deer would reflect changes that occurred in food patches across five treatments. Findings from this study suggest that deer can observe changes in foraging patches and alter their choice behavior, given ideal conditions such as length of treatment time.

The effects of caloric return on risk-sensitive foraging

Past research has shown rats to be sensitive to variability in reward (i.e., risk-sensitive) and that sensitivity to risk is influenced by the caloric return of reward. The current study examined the effects of changes in caloric return on risk-sensitive foraging in Rattus norvegicus (n=10). Subjects were predicted to develop a statistically significant choice bias contingent on caloric return, and as the caloric return from a reward changed (high to low calorie), subjects’ choice biases were expected to change. Data from the current study has been collected and is currently being analyzed such that results are yet to be determined.


Research suggests that children with autism spectrum disorders (ASD) have greater attention difficulties than their typically developing peers. The delay of gratification (DOG) task assesses attention and self-regulation by placing children in a tempting situation to wait for a reward. We evaluated whether self-regulatory behavior (gaze aversion, kinetic movement, and verbal mediation) during DOG relates to attention problems and the ability to wait. We found significant group differences for gaze aversion as a self-regulation strategy. Children with ASD employed this strategy less frequently than TD children. Gaze aversion significantly contributes to the ability to delay gratification above developmental status.
Physiological responses to emotion-eliciting task for children with ASD

Children with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) show varied cardiac functioning when compared to typically developing (TD) peers. Parasympathetic influence on the heart is associated with the ability to self-sooth and is important to self-regulation. The current study aimed to document differences in cardiac function between children with ASD and those TD during an affect decision-making task. 14 children between 3 to 7 years of age participated. Results suggest that during static arousal, children with ASD and TD preformed comparable. However, during increased arousal children with ASD were less able to self regulate and preserve on the affective decision-making task.

Internalizing and externalizing behaviors in children with ASD

This study investigated manifestations of internalizing and externalizing behavioral symptoms in children with ASD, children with ASD + ADHD, and typically developing (TD) children. Parents completed the Conner's to assess children's ADHD symptoms and teachers completed the BASC-2 to evaluate externalizing and internalizing behaviors. Group means for depressive symptoms in children with ASD + ADHD were significantly greater than the other group means. We also found that children with ASD with and without ADHD had higher ratings of hyperactivity. Overall both internalizing and externalizing behavior means for the ASD + ADHD group were significantly greater than the TD group.

Religious people show unconditional love unless they disagree with you

My study seeks the general feelings towards the LGBT population of SPU students in relation to faith. It aims to see if liberal Seattle will promote a higher acceptance of LGBT persons than past studies showed in Bible Belt areas with similar populations. I predict subjects who read a gay Christian couple scenario will be rated lower on homophobia than subjects who are read a neutral scenario. Practical applications would be that living in a liberal versus a conservative location can have the largest effect on one's homophobia, rather than a person being “Christian.”

Strategic coaching: A change management strategy applied to mergers and acquisitions.

The traditional concept of executive coaching is expanded to make the case for strategic coaching (SC)—organizationally focused coaching of key influential leaders throughout an organization. We review the research on executive coaching and apply SC to the context of a merger and acquisition (M&A) to illustrate its utility as an organizational development intervention. Specifically, we discuss key characteristics of an M&A that can contribute to rich developmental opportunities for leaders. The use of SC under these circumstances can provide leaders with resources to positively impact the organizational transition and increase the efficiency of an M&A.
A conceptual model of courage, shame, attachment, and perceived quality of interpersonal relationships.

The purpose of this presentation is to propose a theoretical model illustrating the effect of courage on the relationship between adult attachment style, shame, and perceived quality of interpersonal relationships. A recent qualitative study on shame resiliency completed by Brown (2007) found that courage positively affected interpersonal relationships in the presence of shame. Additionally, recent research indicates that attachment style predicts shame (Akbağ & Erden Imamoğlu, 2010; Wei et al., 2005). Therefore, I propose a theoretical model in which courage moderates the indirect effect of shame on adult attachment style and perceived quality of interpersonal relationships.

Evaluating the effectiveness of a Positive Psychology re-entry intervention for prisoners in Washington State Correctional Facilities

We evaluated the Positive Re-entry in Corrections Project, which is based upon positive psychology principles and teaches offenders skills that facilitate re-entry into the community to reduce recidivism rates. Two groups of inmates housed in a medium-security Washington State corrections facility (n = 30 for 8-weeks, n = 30 for 12-weeks) met weekly to listen to psycho-educational lectures, participate in group discussions, and review homework assignments. There were statistically significant gains in gratitude, satisfaction with life, hope, and subscales of meaning in life and transgression-related interpersonal motivations from pre to post testing irrespective of the length of the treatment condition.

Comparison of two statistical methods for a positive psychology career intervention for at risk youth living in residential treatment

Adolescents in residential treatment typically receive pathology-focused interventions. Equally important must be nurturing positive psychological development. The purpose of our project was to examine sequential studies of a career development intervention for youth living in community-based group homes. Preliminary analysis was conducted using ANOVA. We found a significant main effect within the Domain Specific Hope Scale for work. Due to the unique differences among group homes we chose to analyze the data using HLM. Results indicated some significant differences in Domain Specific Hope. The non-significant results may reflect difficulties with treatment fidelity, career maturity, selection of outcomes and their measures.
Investigating relationships among stretch assignments and mentoring in predicting career employability

This study examined if there is an interaction between job stretch and amount of mentoring received in predicting the extent to which the individual perceives that s/he is employable in the current job market. Specifically, we predicted that the relationship between job stretch and employability perceptions would be positive and have a steeper slope for those who reported high levels of mentoring than for those with low levels of mentoring. Results indicated significant main effects but no interaction. These findings suggest engaging in job stretch and having a mentor who provides career development functions is positively related to employability.

Research proposal: Parenting a child through trauma.

Participants will be recruited through community mental health agencies to answer the question: What parenting practices individually impact adjustment in a child sequel to trauma? Adopting the research model used by Brenner and Fox (1999), this study uses cluster analysis to identify four clusters of parenting practices. A multivariate analysis of variance is then used between the four clusters and children's scores on two measures of adjustment. The author hypothesizes that the four clusters will show consistent patterns that correspond to Baumrind's (1966) parenting styles, and that the clusters will diverge in their effects on child post-trauma adjustment.

The relationship of fear of negative evaluation and moral elevation in normal and clinical samples.

Social anxiety is characterized by heightened fear of negative evaluation (FNE), pervasive attention to the threat of being negatively judged by others. People high in FNE show heightened self-focus and fear, avoiding social interactions (Rapee & Heidman, 1997). In contrast, moral elevation is the warm, uplifting feeling experienced when someone witnesses kindness, goodness, or generosity (Haidt, 2000). Moral elevation triggers prosocial desires to affiliate with others outside the self (Algoe & Haidt, 2009), the opposite action tendency to FNE. As a result, people high in FNE may be less likely to experience moral elevation and the prosocial goals it triggers.

Face, mouth, and eyes: A comparison of emotion recognition in children with ASD and typical development.

This study aims to assess differences in emotion recognition ability in children with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) and typically developing (TD) children and to investigate ability to recognize emotions shown only in the eyes or mouth. The study consists of 36 TD children and 20 with ASD. When viewing full faces, children with ASD were less likely to recognize sad expressions. When viewing just mouths, children with ASD were slower to identify happiness. Children with ASD were less successful in identifying angry eyes and fearful eyes than TD children. The study suggests children with ASD have deficits in emotion recognition.
Cardiac vagal control during stress in substance abusers treated with Mindfulness-Based Relapse Prevention

High-frequency heart rate variability (HF-HRV) is a marker of inhibitory vagal input to the heart. This vagal braking (VB) increases during mindfulness meditation. We assessed HF-HRV and self-reported anxiety and craving during stress provocation among substance abusers treated with Mindfulness Based Relapse Prevention (MBRP), Relapse Prevention (RP), and Treatment As Usual (TAU). Questionnaires were completed pre- and post-stressor while electrocardiography was continuously monitored. Results revealed stressor-induced increases in HF-HRV and less anxiety and craving with MBRP than RP and TAU. MBRP associated VB during stress suggests a more adaptive response to stressors following MBRP treatment for substance abuse.

Technology and social avoidance.

This study was designed to examine how social media use affects social avoidance behaviors. We hypothesized that using Facebook would decrease subsequent in-person conversations and increase cell phone use, as a means of avoiding conversation. Additionally, we examined how social anxiety moderates this effect.

Perception of racial microaggressions, and racism at SPU.

Despite the changes that have occurred in the United States as a result of the civil rights movement, racial discrimination on college campuses is still experienced today (Marcus et. al, 2003). This study is an investigation of approximately 100 students at Seattle Pacific University and their ability to perceive racial microaggressions in written scenarios. We investigated two factors that might influence the perception of microaggressions: the racial/ethnic background of the student, and salience of racial/ethnic identity. We also investigated self-reports of racism witnessed or experienced at SPU.

Hanging out, dating, and attitudes about marriage at a Christian university.

This research was an investigation of dating attitudes and behaviors amongst college students at Seattle Pacific University. Patterns for romantic relationships in young adults have changed significantly from the traditional one-on-one “date” script that was prevalent in American culture for decades (Bogle, 2007); however, the scholarly literature has lagged behind in understanding them. We surveyed 292 SPU students, and found that 88% of them reported hanging out more often than dating. Furthermore, 64% felt that the dating culture at SPU is unique, and only 5% perceived it as very healthy. Explanations for these findings are considered.
Evaluation of long-term parenting effectiveness.

When looking for a parental education program parents want to learn new techniques for parenting their children as well as build a positive relationship with their children. Cognitive behavioral and Adlerian parenting programs have both been shown to be effective. Our study aims to evaluate if cognitive behavioral or Adlerian education programs are more effective long term. We want to measure reported children’s behaviors at home and school before, after, and 6 months following the parenting class. By comparing a cognitive behavioral program, an Adlerian program, and a control group a parent can make the best program choice.


Low sexual desire is a common complaint in therapy presented by women in romantic relationships. Research suggests that an influential factor upon women's low sexual desire is relational conflict with their partners. Emotion-Focused Therapy (EFT) has shown to successfully resolve presenting issues in 70-73% of couples; the hypothesis for this study is that female partners receiving EFT interventions will report higher rates of increased sexual desire than female partners receiving Cognitive-Behavioral Therapy (CBT) interventions. A discussion of clinical implications will be included.

When is the right time to have a baby: Impact of transitional markers on marital satisfaction during the transition to parenthood.

Previous research indicates that marital satisfaction declines across the transition to parenthood. This prospective study hypothesizes that the timing of pregnancy, relative to other life events, impacts postpartum marital satisfaction in first-time parents. We aim to evaluate preconception transitional markers' correlation with marital satisfaction before and after birth, using quantitative measures and a 2-way ANOVA. Couples will be recruited from local primary care and obstetric physicians within the first trimester of their pregnancies. In identifying the implications of the transitional markers on marital satisfaction, couples may be able to make more informed choices about their optimal time to conceive.
The effectiveness of equine assisted psychotherapy in treating symptoms of autism spectrum disorders in children.

Some studies and anecdotal reports have shown that equine assisted psychotherapy has been beneficial in treating symptoms of autism spectrum disorders. In this study, 35 children between the ages of 8 and 18 will participate in equine assisted psychotherapy for a 3-month period. Utilizing these methods may specifically improve language skills, relational dynamics, and sensory processing. The study will utilize the CARS (Childhood Autism Rating Scale) and will collect data at the start, mid-point, and at the end of the group.

Perceived family functioning and adolescent suicidal behavior.

Family problems increase the risk of adolescent suicidal behavior. Specific dimensions of family functioning related to adolescent suicidal ideation and suicide attempts have not been clearly identified. Research suggests both fatal and nonfatal suicidal behaviors have been linked consistently to negative parent-child relationships (high conflict, low closeness). Parental separation/divorces, family history of suicidal behavior and substance abuse are more strongly associated with completed suicide than with other suicidal symptoms. Family systems problems such as low cohesion and adaptability are more consistently associated with non-fatal suicidal symptoms. Future research should benefit from exploring familial risk factors and suicidal symptoms of adolescents.

Wilderness Therapy: Effects on the relationship between adolescents and their guardians

A review of literature indicates that wilderness therapy programs in which participants engage in experiential-based physical activities within a wilderness setting may be successful with acting out adolescents in areas of alcohol abuse and school delinquency. Such activities may also be used with families to increase communication and trust. In this study, we attempt to show that participating in wilderness therapy programs alongside a parent/guardian may improve self-reported parent-adolescent relationship satisfaction and dyadic conflict with the same-sex parent/guardian. Measures of relationship satisfaction and conflict would include the Parent Environment Questionnaire, as well as written client reflections.

Educational collaboration: A valuable addition to family systems therapy in the treatment of children with ADHD

Current research shows that the most effective form of treatment for children with ADHD is a combination of parent training, behavioral modification, and stimulant medication. The systemic approach to family therapy includes working with other social systems associated with the family. One key area of challenge for children with ADHD is behavior management and academic performance in school. This study will explore the effectiveness of including collaboration with educational systems to the current treatment combination of parent training, behavior modification, and stimulant medication, for children diagnosed with ADHD.
**Family therapy with Third Culture Kids: Identifying needs, barriers, and treatment options.**

Third Culture Kids (TCKs) and their families have been found to both possess unique strengths and also face significant mental health and relationship challenges, including depression, anxiety, trauma, and marital issues, while having limited access to support services. While some studies have examined the mental health issues of TCKs, expatriate family system issues have yet to be examined in the context of marriage and family therapy. This mixed methods study will collect information from both missionary and foreign services families to define specific needs, identify primary barriers to accessing services, and explore the feasibility of some potential treatment delivery options.

**Alcoholism: Benefits of Marriage and Family Therapy**

Alcoholism intrudes with the daily functioning of individuals, couples and families. Marriage and Family Therapists are known for working with individuals and their families and are highly useful in aiding and preventing alcoholism. After sampling approximately 20 random Alcohol Anonymous groups, studies show people in family therapy in addition to involvement in AA have fewer relapses and stay sober longer than if they just went to AA. Marriage and Family therapy has been proven to be a widely used tool toward longevity and sobriety with individuals, couples and families.

**The Relational Impacts of Breast Cancer Treatment: Implications for Intimacy and Sexuality**

Breast cancer treatment has numerous biopsychosocial spiritual impacts on both the individual woman who is diagnosed and her intimate partner. This paper explores the affects of breast cancer treatment on couples’ relationships. Specifically, the implications of breast cancer treatment on the ways heterosexual couples between the ages of fifty and sixty-five conceptualize intimacy and sexuality and engage in intimate, sexual behaviors. The Cancer Rehabilitation Evaluation System will be distributed to the diagnosed partner to measure individual psychosocial issues directly related to the illness. Couples will also provide written responses to open-ended questions addressing issues related to intimacy and sexuality.

**Teaching mindful awareness to kids in schools**

Pre-teen, specifically, 5th and 6th grade students are having more and more difficulties being able to be present and manage daily stress, especially at school. By teaching kids mindfulness techniques they may learn basic behavioral and emotional awareness strategies to better self-regulate and attend to specific academic and social situation. Exploring mindfulness in schools provides students the possibility of lowering stress levels through informative material related to mindfulness, experiential belly breathing and the “body scan,” and group related experiential discussion. This will be a mix methods study using various group qualitative feedback, along with several individual quantitative surveys.
Paper Presentations - Session I
11:00 - 11:30 a.m.

11:00 - 11:15
Paper Presentation
Completed Quantitative Research Study
Moody, E., & Brown, M. A.

Does Jesus love me, and does the Bible tell me so? Enhancing state self-esteem through an intervention of Biblical encouragement.

This study investigated factors that influence state self-esteem in a population of Christian college students. Ninety-nine SPU students participated in this study with a 2 (Biblical Encouragement) X 2 (Self-Affirmation) between-subjects factorial design. Some participants received Biblical encouragement, consisting of a selection of Bible verses that emphasized God's love, some received a self-affirmation exercise where they reflected on their positive qualities, some received both, and some received neither. Participants who scored high on a measure that indicated their self-worth was contingent on God's love had higher state self-esteem after receiving the Biblical encouragement materials than after the self-affirmation exercise.

11:15 - 11:30
Paper Presentation
Steffen, B.

Same-sex domestic violence: Research and implications for clinicians.

A review of the literature shows that same-sex domestic violence is underreported, underserved by community resources, and treated as less serious than stereotypical male-to-female domestic violence by law enforcement. While same-sex domestic violence occurs at a rate that is comparable to rates found in opposite sex couples, same-sex couples face a variety of community specific challenges that clinicians should be aware of when thinking about treatment approaches. Citing research on same-sex domestic violence and community specific risk factors, suggestions for future research and for clinicians working with this population are discussed.

11:45 - 12:45
School of Psychology, Family, & Community Awards Luncheon & Psi Chi Induction Ceremony
By Reservation Only
Paper Presentations - Session II
1:00 - 1:30 p.m.

1:00 - 1:15
Paper Presentation
Industrial/Organizational Ph.D. Program: Completed Quantitative Research Study
Haney, D. M. & Wenzel, K. K., & McKenna, R. B.
Assessing structural validity of differentiation among leaders: A comparison of factor structures

The focus of the research study was to test for structural validity of a differentiation scale using a sample of leaders. Part of a larger battery of scales called the Leading Under Pressure Inventory (LUPI), the differentiation scale is a self-report measure designed to assess a leader's level of differentiation when leading in high pressure situations. The aim of this study was threefold, to: (a) test the structural validity of the differentiation scale, (b) compare fit indices for one factor and two factor structures, and (c) propose an alternative factor structure in the event of inadequate model fit.

1:15 - 1:30
Paper Presentation
Clinical Psychology: Completed Quantitative Research Study
Zurawski, M., Berg, J., King, K. & Wilson, B.J.
Externalizing behaviors and autism: Buffering effects of parental emotion coaching.

Children with autism often exhibit more externalizing behaviors than typically developing children. These behaviors are often associated with negative outcomes. We hypothesized the interaction of emotion coaching (EC) and developmental status would predict externalizing behaviors. Hierarchical linear regression analyses indicated EC acts as a buffer between children’s status and number of externalizing behaviors. For children with autism high EC was associated with the lowest levels of externalizing behaviors, whereas, low EC was associated with the highest levels. These results indicate EC may function as a protective factor for children with autism and may inform interventions aimed at reducing these behaviors.

Research Poster Session II
1:30 - 2:30 p.m.

Wall#1
Industrial/Organizational Ph.D. Program: Research in Progress
Weaver, J., Bullock, R., & Kendall, D.L.
Differential mentoring experiences of protégés with trait negative affectivity.

We will examine the extent that trait negative affectivity (TNA) affects protégés perceptions of their mentor’s effectiveness. TNA is defined as a relatively stable disposition to experience aversive emotional states such as anger, anxiety, and distress. We hypothesize that when a mentor pushes a protégé out of their comfort zone, high TNA protégés will perceive this as a threatening and anxiety provoking situation, thus reducing ratings of mentor effectiveness. TNA as a moderator of perceived mentor effectiveness is important for explaining more of the variance in perceived mentor effectiveness and in developing ways to effectively mentor protégés with high TNA.
Wall #3
Clinical Psychology: Completed Quantitative Research Study
Serafini, K., Welton, S. R., Burpee, A., Shipley, L. J., Stewart, D. G., & Ta, M.

_Affect dysregulation as a mediator of problematic substance use among adolescent girls in school-based treatment._

This project examined a model of problem substance use among girls enrolled in a school-based substance abuse intervention. We hypothesized that affect dysregulation would mediate the effect of gender on increased problem substance use.

Wall #5
Clinical Psychology: Completed Quantitative Research Study
Harris, J., Stewart, D. G., & Felleman, B.

_Surfing the urge to use alcohol: An adolescent treatment study._

This study examines the outcome of a 4 week intervention to enhance mindful coping skills in adolescents enrolled in a school-based intervention.

Wall #7
Clinical Psychology: Completed Quantitative Research Study
Serafini, K., Hall, B., Chapman, M., Stewart, D. G., & Geers, M.

_The relationship of age of onset of substance use to problem severity: Implications for school-based screening._

This study examines the role of age of first onset of substance use in determining relative risk at intake into a school-based substance abuse treatment program.

Wall #9
Clinical Psychology: Completed Quantitative Research Study
Chinn, J., Green, K., Ta, Mindhan & Stewart, D.G.

_Influence of gender and ethnicity on depression and risky substance use in adolescents._

The present study investigates influences on depression and risky substance use. We hypothesize that peer influence along with attitudes toward peer substance use mediates 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. Using the 2010 National Survey on Drug Use and Health, with data from thousands of participants over the age of 12, we ran regression analyses to determine mediation of peer influence and attitudes toward peer substance use and mediation of gender and ethnicity.

Wall #11
Psychology: Research in Progress
Culver, K., Fisher, S., Hokama, C., & White, N.

_ Stress responses in rats (Rattus norvegicus) exposed to white noise. _

Past research indicates that stress affects learning and memory. This study investigates the stressful effects of white noise on rats’ performance accuracy using a within-subjects design. Subjects were placed in an eight-arm radial maze without white noise exposure (50 dB), with a moderate white noise exposure (70 dB), and with a high white noise exposure (90 dB). Research is still in progress, and data has yet to be analyzed. In accordance with past research, we hypothesize that subjects’ performance will improve with moderate exposure and be impaired with high exposure in comparison to the control condition.
Wall #13
Psychology: Research in Progress
Ballard, S., Peviani, N., & Hardy, A.

Interim and terminal patterns of risk-sensitivity in Rattus norvegicus

Previous research (e.g., Matthews, Bordi, & Depollo, 1990) has observed a difference in behaviors occurring at the being of a trial, when reinforcement is in the distant future (interim-link behaviors), compared to the end of a trial, when reinforcement is soon (terminal-link behaviors). While studies have examined interim and terminal-link behaviors in classical and operant conditioning procedures, few studies have examined this in choice behavior, specifically risk-sensitivity. Therefore, the current experiment was designed to determine if differences in risk-sensitive foraging in Rattus norvegicus exist within interim and terminal-links. Results are yet to be determined as data is currently being analyzed.

Wall #15
Clinical Psychology: Completed Quantitative Research Study

Virtuous well-being: Examining the relationship between virtue, religiosity, and psychological well-being

Our study examined whether a higher presence of virtue (courage or temperance) predicted greater psychological well-being. The study hypothesized that these relationships would be moderated by religiosity. Undergraduate students (N = 107) completed the following measures: Values in Action-Inventory of Strength (VIA-IS), Santa Clara Strength of Religious Faith Questionnaire (SCSORF), and Ryff's Psychological Well-Being Scale. Preliminary results indicate that there is a significant relationship between courage and psychological well-being, such that higher levels of courage predict higher levels of psychological well-being. There was not a significant predictive relationship between temperance and psychological well-being. Religiosity did not significantly moderate these relationships.

Wall #17
Industrial/Organizational Ph.D. Program: Research in Progress

Coaching modality: Effects of face-to-face vs. virtual coaching on alliance.

Previous research has established that alliance contributes to coaching outcomes. We hypothesized that coaching modality (face-to-face or virtual) would influence the strength of the client perceived working alliance. We anticipated that the face-to-face (F2F) alliance, over time, would result in a significantly higher alliance than the virtual condition. Using an experimental design, 30 graduate students were assessed after each of the three sessions using the Working Alliance Inventory-Short Revised version (Hatcher & Gillaspy, 2006). Hypothetical results support our hypotheses that the alliance increases over time, such that the F2F condition results in a significantly higher alliance than the virtual condition.

Wall #19
Clinical Psychology: Research Proposal
Siessger, M. B., Carlile, J. A., Thoburn, J.

Body frame, BMI and body dissatisfaction: A gender moderated model

In recent years, researchers have indicated both similarities and differences in features associated with male and female body dissatisfaction. Body frame, that is, the body's skeletal size, is associated with obtainable lean muscle mass and weight. Research using anthropologic measurements, a reflection of body frame, suggests a relationship between male muscle mass and body dissatisfaction. Alternatively, BMI, an estimate of body fat, is considered one of the most important factors contributing to body dissatisfaction in women. Therefore, we propose a moderation model to illustrate the differences in features related to body dissatisfaction based on gender (i.e., body frame vs. BMI).
Male body frame, self-objectification, and body dissatisfaction of men.

Current body image research has begun to devote greater investigation into male body dissatisfaction. Research has found that male self-objectification is related to male body dissatisfaction. Evolutionary theory and social comparison theory suggest the vulnerabilities leading to male self-objectification are related to men’s capabilities to increase body size. Male body frame is associated with obtainable lean muscle mass and weight. Research using measurements similar to body frame suggests that there is a relationship between male muscle mass and body dissatisfaction. Therefore, we propose a moderation model to illustrate the effects of male body frame and self-objectification on body dissatisfaction.

Assessing the role of specific body awareness components on cardiovascular stress responses in women

Lustyk, Douglas, Bentley and Gerrish’s (2011) Cardiovascular Responses to a Laboratory Stressor in Women: Assessing the Role of Body Awareness demonstrated that body awareness (BA) is a significant predictor of haemodynamic reactivity in women. BA was determined using the Body Awareness Questionnaire (BAQ), which assessed reported attentiveness to non-emotive bodily processes. Since this study was published, additional BA assessments have been developed. We propose to integrate more dimensions of body awareness by including questionnaires that incorporate perceived body sensations, quality of attention, attitude of body awareness, awareness of mind-body integration, as well as physiological methods using a heart-beat detection task.
Development of international interests as a function of study abroad.

Our longitudinal, mixed-methods study explored undergraduate students' development of international interests as a function of study abroad (SA; n = 38) or short-term mission-based (STM; n = 48) programs. Students completed global learning outcome measures 3 months pre-departure, 2 weeks, 6 weeks, 3 months, 6 months, 9 months, and 12 months after re-entry. Controls (n = 105) completed surveys at pre-test, 6 months, and 12 months. Results indicated students who traveled had higher international interests than controls, which increased over time as a function of host country GDP. STM students experienced greater increase in international interests than SA students.

Calling, the caller, and being called: A multidimensional and holistic model of calling

While attention has been given to the concepts of calling and purpose in life and work, these terms are often used interchangeably. Our purpose was to focus on the concept of calling as a related, but different concept. The goals of this study were to (a) understand perceptions of calling in relationship to a transcendent caller and (b) to develop a model that includes the possible dimensions of what it means to be called. Fifty-eight participants responded to a questionnaire identifying perceptions of calling in their lives. Responses resulted in a multi-dimensional model of calling and taxonomy of common themes.

The mediating role of Asian cultural values between model minority myth internalization and attitudes toward seeking psychological help among Asian American college students.

This study examines predictors of help seeking attitudes among Asian American college students. Internalization of the model minority myth (IMM), which refers to the idea that Asian Americans are more successful relative to other groups, predicts attitudes toward seeking professional psychological help (ATSPPH). However, the mechanism by which IMM and ATSPPH are related remains unaddressed. Therefore, this study investigates Asian values as a mediator between IMM and ATSPPH. This poster reports on preliminary analysis based on ongoing data collection (current N = 122). Using bootstrapping procedures, we will report direct and indirect effects. Implications for theory, research, and practice will be discussed.
Impacts of study abroad on vocational identity

We conducted a longitudinal, mixed-methods investigation of undergraduate students' vocational identity development as a result of study abroad (SA; n = 38) or short-term mission-based (STM; n = 48) programs. Students completed measures of global learning outcomes at 3 months pre-departure, 2 weeks, 6 weeks, 3 months, 6 months, 9 months, and 12 months after re-entry. Controls (n = 105) completed surveys at pre-test, 6 months, and 12 months. Results indicated that vocational identity strength significantly changed over time for all groups. However, students in the STM group experienced a greater increase in vocational identity, compared to SA and controls.


The current study examined parental attention cues during a parent-child reading task with children with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) and typically developing children (TD). Participants included 36 children, 3:0 to 6:11 years old. Parental attention cues were coded as verbal, nonverbal, and simultaneous to determine how that relates to child behavior. The findings supported the hypothesis that parents of children with ASD provided more attention cues than did parents of TD children. Children with ASD also had higher ratings of behavioral problems and lower ratings of adaptive behavior. Future research should examine how scaffolding influences children's adaptive functioning longitudinally.

Spontaneous mimicry: Reflection of facial expression in children with autism

Previous research suggests children with Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD) have trouble understanding emotion and imitating behavior. We propose to study spontaneous imitation of emotion in children (typically developing and those with ASD) while they watch a video of a man displaying facial expressions that slowly change from neutral to happy, sad, angry, or fearful. (Wilson, 2009). Participants are children ages 3-6 previously recruited for Dr. Wilson's self-regulation study. This study is unique because the literature lacks data on preschool aged children. We expect children with autism to imitate emotions significantly less often than typically developing peers.

The effects of cognitive and physical depletion on self-regulation

The ego-depletion model describes self-regulation as being dependent on a reserve of energy or ego. As an individual's ego becomes depleted, due to performing stressful or self-regulatory behaviors, future self-regulation becomes less likely. The current experiment examined the effects of cognitively and physically stressful (i.e., depletion) tasks on cognitive and physical self-regulation tasks as a means by which to better understand how depletion and self-regulation are related. It was hypothesized that depletion tasks would alter participants' abilities to self-regulate relative to the type of tasks completed. All data has been collected for this study and is being analyzed.
Clinical Psychology: Completed Qualitative Research Study
Athenour, D., Felleman, B., & Ta, M., & Stewart, D.

Behavioral health services influence medical treatment utilization

The aim of the present study is to determine how behavioral health services affect medical treatment utilization (MTU) in individuals with comorbid disorders. We hypothesize that individuals with a comorbid substance use disorder-depression diagnosis are associated with greater MTU than individuals with a single diagnosis. Secondly, we hypothesize that individuals with a comorbid diagnosis, and without a chronic medical condition (i.e., diabetes, hypertension), will show a decrease in future MTU after receiving evidence based behavioral health services (BHS). We analyzed archival data from local integrative primary care clinics to determine the impact of BHS on future MTU.

Psychology: Completed Qualitative Research Study
Bravo, C., Gonzalez-Ramos, L., Langkow, E., Maddox, A., & Erickson, T. M.

What makes the seven deadly sins so deadly?: Moral valence as a unique aspect of social behavior.

Past research suggests two primary dimensions of interpersonal behavior: dominant/submissive and warm/cold. Morality has previously been considered to be a part of the warm/cold dimension, but we argue that morality is an independent dimension known as elevation/disgust. The present research tested whether morality varied independently in students' written essays of ethical/unethical events, as well as in perceptions of speakers in a stressful speech task. We also report descriptive ratings of the "seven deadly sins" as coded in students' essays to show moral valence as a unique dimension of social cognition. Results and implications for future research will be discussed.

Psychology: Research in Progress
Lake, M., Phelan, T., & Erickson, T.

Perceptions of clean vs. dirty behaviors in students and homeless men

Social cognition research suggests that people interpret behavior in terms of morally disgusting versus uplifting qualities. However, despite theories about triggers for these perceptions, no studies have explored the behaviors most often associated with such moral "dirtiness" or "purity." Students (Study 1) and homeless men in a shelter (Study 2) were asked to freely generate behaviors perceived as clean or dirty. We predict that physical contaminants, sexual content, and interpersonal behaviors directed toward others to disproportionality contribute to feeling dirty and clean. Results and implications for social and psychological well-being will be discussed.

Industrial/Organizational Ph.D. Program: Research in Progress
Kirce, R.D., Hawkinson, C.A., & McKenna, R.B.

Differentiation as a predictor of psychological well-being in emerging leaders.

This non-experimental investigation examines the relationship between leadership differentiation, posited by McKenna and Yost (2004), and psychological well-being (PWB; Ryff, 1989). Leadership differentiation influences leaders' ability to maintain personal convictions and connection to stakeholders while under pressure and may improve ability to handle adversity. 70 emerging leaders are partaking in a comprehensive study of leadership development by completing web based surveys assessing leadership differentiation and an adaptation of a PWB assessment (Ryff & Essex, 1992). Preliminary results of the moderated multiple regression show that, while not yet significant, leadership differentiation accounts for approximately 11% of the variance in PWB.
**Table #16**
Marriage and Family Therapy: Research Proposal
Brown, E. & Herndon, B.

**The impact of the law enforcement culture on attachment within families.**

Research indicates ambivalent or disorganized attachment between parents in law enforcement and their child(ren) due to the culture of law enforcement personnel. This study aims to identify the usefulness of specific Symbolic Experiential Family Therapy interventions in establishing or reestablishing secure attachment between a child and parent working in law enforcement. Our sample will consist of volunteers from police departments in 10 metropolitan cities. Surveys pre and post interventions, and interviews with the therapist, parent, child and other immediate family members involved in family therapy will be used to determine usefulness of interventions in improving attachment related to client goals.

**Table #18**
Marriage and Family Therapy: Research Proposal
Piedmonte, B.

**Balance: The effects of group psychotherapy on collegiate athlete team cohesion and performance.**

In collegiate athletics balancing team dynamics, mental focus, and the ability to perform under high pressure is essential to athlete performance and overall mental and physical health. In this study a college gymnastics team will participate in a yearlong group consisting of mindfulness training, cognitive behavioral therapy, and various family therapy techniques. Applying psychotherapeutic techniques to the team process may enhance performance under pressure, reframe negative thinking that hinders performance, and increase team cohesiveness. The study will be mixed methods and data will be collected at the start, mid-point, and at the end of the group through questionnaires and athlete reflections.

**Table #20**
Marriage and Family Therapy: Research Proposal
Margolese, Yona

**What is the effectiveness of "strong social groups" versus Marriage and Family Therapy on "healthy decision making" for teens?**

Research indicates that Teens with "strong social groups" thrive developmentally. However, research also suggests that a teen having an adult role model greatly decreases their risk for dangerous behaviors. Is it better to encourage their parents to get their kids into therapy or to create strong social groups? This study will compare how effective "strong social groups" are versus MFT specifically in their ability to lower their risk in dangerous behaviors. A qualitative survey will be conducted on both groups and then an ANOVA test will explain the findings between the two groups. The findings may offer parents more effective solutions to guiding their kids away from risky behavior.

**Table #22**
Psychology: Completed Quantitative Research Study
McBrudge, C., Tsuyuki, B., Altenberg, H. and Krentz, U.

**Natural beauty: An exploration of humans’ preference for scenes of nature over manmade scenes.**

A well-known and robust finding in the experimental aesthetics literature is that adults tend to prefer scenes of nature over scenes that are manmade, or “built.” Unfortunately, past studies have not made a rigorous attempt to control for perceptual inconsistencies between the types of stimuli. Thus, a preference for nature scenes per se has not definitively established. For this project, we attempted to create a set of well-matched natural and manmade scenes that differ only by degree of “naturalness.” Ratings of preference, naturalness, complexity, color, mystery, and coherence of 50 photographs from 55 undergraduates are analyzed and discussed.
Lecture on the Integration of Faith and Professional Practice
4:30 p.m.–6 p.m. | Demaray Hall

"The Burdens of the Church in Pursuing the Unachievable"

with invited lecturer
Matthew A. Thomas
Bishop of the Free Methodist Church North America

Pursuing the unachievable: This is perhaps one of the greatest faith challenges a church leader faces. We are pursuing something with vigor that will likely never be achieved in this part of life.

For example, the mandate of Jesus was to "make disciples of all nations," while the admission of Jesus was that persecution will always be with us. Another mandate of Jesus was to serve the poor and provide justice, while the admission of Jesus was "the poor you will always have with you." How, then, do we go forward?

ABOUT OUR SPEAKER

Since 1979, Matthew A. Thomas has been an active part of the Free Methodist church in a variety of roles that include pastor, church planter, missionary, and superintendent. He has served throughout the Columbia River Conference, the Northern Philippine Conference, and on many denominational boards, committees, and task forces. He was consecrated as bishop of the FMCNA on July 13, 2007.

A passionate commitment to evangelism, discipleship, and leadership development has been foundational for his life in ministry. He has been actively engaged in leading people to Christ and helping them grow to maturity.

Bishop Thomas has degrees from Aldersgate College, Western Evangelical Seminary, and Northwest Graduate School of the Ministry. He has served as an adjunct faculty member or visiting professor at eight academic institutions in the U.S.A. and Asia. He held the position of president of John Wesley College in Manila, Philippines, and Light and Life Graduate School in Butuan, Philippines, in the 1990s. Bishop Thomas also served as executive director of two mission agencies abroad.