Research Awards

Stephen Bennett, a fourth year undergraduate student, received a NSERC USRA scholarship for the summer of 2010. (Project supervisor: Dr. Paul Siakaluk)

Erin Browne and Todd Pryor, who completed their BSc degrees at UNBC in 2010, received research awards from the Canadian Psychological Association. (Project Supervisor: Dr. Sherry Beaumont)

Dr. Han Z. Li’s research paper won a Highly Commended Paper award by Emerald Group Publishing (Nov. 2009). The paper is entitled “Interruption and patient satisfaction in resident-patient consultations.”

Publications (Peer-reviewed) Note: student authors are indicated by *


Publication (Invited)


Conference Presentations


**Appointment**

Dr. Sherry Beaumont has been appointed to the Board of Directors for the Prince George Hospice Society.

**Psychology Department Colloquium Series**

**Winter 2010**

Dr. Bruce Alexander, Department of Psychology, Simon Fraser University: The role of psychologists in the coming paradigm shift in the theory of addiction

Dr. Christine Chamberse, Canada Research Chair in Pain and Child Health, Dalhousie University: Families and pediatric pain: Lessons from the lab

Dr. Robert Gifford, Department of Psychology, University of Victoria: Living and working on the International Space Station: Insights toward the design of a future Mars spacecraft

Dr. Chris Westbury, Department of Psychology, University of Alberta: Sense & sound: Frontal lobe interactions between semantics and phonology

Dr. Malinda Desjarlais, UNBC: Variation in novice’s learning: Internet navigations, learner characteristics and task involvement
Tammy Klassen-Ross (PhD Candidate), UNBC: Pain perception in Alzheimer's disease: Can cognitive training make a difference? (Supervisors: Dr. Ken Prkachin and Dr. William Tippett)

Kathy Deyo (PhD Candidate), UNBC: Dancing to delay dementia. (Supervisors: Dr. Sherry Beaumont and Dr. Henry Harder).

Lynda Struthers (PhD Candidate), UNBC: Writing research in Psychology: A critical review of methodology (Supervisor: Dr. William Owen)

Sherri Tillotson (PhD Candidate), UNBC: Social competence: Cardiovascular activity, and humour as mediating mechanisms (Supervisor: Dr. Ken Prkachin)

Welcome New Graduate Students

Marilyn J. Cudmore (PhD student) (Supervisor: Dr. Sherry Beaumont)
Marilyn has just moved from Abbotsford, BC to attend UNBC, but is originally from Toronto, Ontario. Between first years of university and moving to the West Coast, she and her husband lived in Baden-Baden, Germany, where she worked as a radio host for the overseas Canadian Forces Network. She started her B.A. at the University of Waterloo, but finished at Trinity Western University, Langley BC. One spectacular semester was spent in Northern Ireland, completing courses on Conflict Resolution special studies. She completed her Masters of Counselling Psychology at Trinity Western University. From that time she has worked with the Mental Health team as a Clinician with the Ministry of Children and Families in Mission and Chilliwack. For the last three years she joined the Oakhill Counselling Group, a private clinic in Langley, as a psychotherapist specializing in marriage and family counselling. This spring she completed the Master Gardener certification, to expand another passion - gardening, and hopes to eventually volunteer at PG's historic Experimental Garden. Most importantly, she values being the mother of five, mother-in-law to three, and grandmother to nine little ones all under the age of seven! She received the Pacific Century Graduate Scholarship which added to the excitement of commencing her doctoral studies at UNBC.

Fall 2010

Dr. Philip Jackson, Université Laval: A cognitive neuroscience approach to pain observation

Dr Malinda Desjarlais, UNBC: Learning from the Internet

Dr Ken Prkachin, UNBC: Perceiving suffering

Erica Clark (PhD Candidate), UNBC: Impact of a school based intervention for elementary school students diagnosed with fetal alcohol spectrum disorder
Mitch Verde (PhD student) (Supervisor: Dr. Han Li) I am 44 years old, a father of four and a member of the Nisga’a First Nation whose traditional lands are found in the Nass Valley. I graduated with a Bachelors Degree and Masters Degree in Psychology from UNBC, the latter in 1999. I am now working towards a PhD in Psychology with Dr. Han Li as my supervisor. My Masters Thesis looked at gender differences in health care use in a First Nation population. For my PhD, I am proposing to examine stress and decision making in a post-secondary environment among a North-coast First Nation population. Recently I have been involved in researching barriers to palliative care in First Nations populations, a project that was funded by BC Cancer Agency through a grant from CIHR. Since my last convocation, I have worked in the field as a Family Therapist, Mental Health Manager, and also held two positions in Executive Health Management. I have also taught a number of UNBC transfer courses for the Wilp Wilxo’oskwhl Nisga’a Institute over the past ten years. Currently, I am on leave from my position as a College Professor at Northwest Community College where I have worked for the past three years. I look forward to my educational challenges at UNBC as well as continuing to support First Nation health and education through research and future employment.

Christine Kennedy (MSc Student) (Supervisor: Dr. Sherry Beaumont) Christine is a first year Master’s student in the Psychology Program. She graduated from UNBC with an Honours Psychology degree in 2010 after spending 2005-2008 at McGill University. She is currently playing her fifth and final year for the UNBC varsity basketball team. Her research interests are in Positive Psychology, with a focus on wisdom and meaning in life. Currently she is also researching meaning in death, death acceptance and death anxiety.

**Psychology Orientation**

The Psychology Department held our annual Orientation session on Tuesday, Sept 21, 2010. Graduate Committee Chair, Dr. Sherry Beaumont, met with new and returning graduate students. Dr. Loraine Lavallee, Undergraduate Committee Chair, met with new and returning undergraduate students. The following faculty members attended this event and introduced their areas of teaching and research: Dr. Paul Siaklaluk, Department Chair, Dr. Sherry Beaumont, Dr Malinda Desjarlais, Dr. Cindy Hardy, Dr. Loraine Lavallee, Dr. Han Li, Dr. Robert Tait, and Dr. William Tippett. Our Senior Lab Instructor, Julie Orlando, and Administrative Assistant, Loreen Obst, also attended this event. Our student Psyc Club Chair Leanne Whyte introduced the Psyc Club and welcomed returning and new members. About 60 students attended this lively meeting which was followed by a casual get-to-know-each-other with pizza. Dr. Loraine Lavallee organized this successful event. Our Administrative Assistant, Loreen Obst, greatly contributed to the success of this event.
Academic Exposure (Report from Julie Orlando, organizer of this event)

The Academic Exposure event on Sept 7th was a success, we had a number of students stopping by the table to take a brochure or indicate their interest in psychology. I’d like to thank Malinda, BJ, Loraine, Paul, and Han for coming out to the table.

Psyc Out

Eight students presented the findings of their research projects at this year’s Psyc Out, an annual celebration of student research in Psychology, on April 8, 2010. Students from the Psyc 445 class also participated in this event. Psyc Out was organized by Dr. Loraine Lavallee.

Students’ Successes


Michele Wellsby completed her Master's thesis on July 20 entitled “The Role of Knowledge Gained Through Bodily Experience in the Processing of Insults”, and is now a PhD student in the Department of Psychology at the University of Calgary. (Master's thesis supervisor: Dr. Paul Siakaluk).

Rebecca Bruser successfully defended her Master's thesis entitled “The Link Between Identity Processing Style and Compassionate Love: Are Mindfulness and Self-Compassion Key Components?” (Supervisor: Dr. Sherry Beaumont)

CPA Student Affiliates: Advertisement

Canadian Psychological Association
Student Affiliates and Campus Representatives
The CPA website (http://www.cpa.ca/students) has information for students that are interested in becoming student affiliates (formerly referred to as student members). The key benefits of being a student affiliate include the opportunity to network with students and professionals from across Canada as well as access to various resources and updates. If you are on Facebook you can also visit the “UNBC CPA Students” page for important CPA news and updates.

The CPA is currently looking for both an Undergraduate Student Representative and a Faculty Representative for UNBC. For information please see the CPA website mentioned above. If you or someone you know might be interested in being a representative or would like additional information please contact the Campus Representative Coordinator: Missy Teatero (mteatero@lakeheadu.ca).