Congratulations and welcome to the CP Program!

- Erica Behrens
- Samantha Brown
- Jennifer Chang
- Alexander Colbow
- Anna Hoffman
- Owen Gaasedelen
- Christina ‘Siu Yuen’ Louie
- Michelle Nanji
- Alex Rice
- Anthony Rinaldi
- Kristin Wurster

[Greetings From The Program Director – William Ming Liu]

Welcome to the first edition of our program newsletter. With such a dynamic program, it is difficult for students, faculty, and alumni to keep track of all the news. We hope this newsletter will provide everyone associated with Iowa’s Counseling Psychology program a glimpse into its history, current activities, and future directions.

We recognize that our counseling psychology community has a long and distinguished history. And this newsletter will be one venue by which current students and alumni will learn about each other. Several alumni are highlighted in this issue. Presently, our students and faculty have been active on the national and local levels and have been engaged in exciting projects. Among the faculty, we are active in scholarship and are journal editors, editorial boards, and book editors and authors. For those who may not know, John Westefeld was recently the president for Division 17, Society of Counseling Psychology. We also welcome Megan Foley-Nicpon as a full-time faculty member starting in Fall 2012. Our students are also engaged in incredibly important scholarly and social justice work. For instance, Jerrod Koon has been active in men’s anti-violence work and Tamara Woods, currently an intern with the Iowa City Veterans Administration, developed a pilot course to reintegrate military personnel with various traumas back into school.

For the program, one of the major activities the program will be undergoing in the 2012 calendar year is our self-study and accreditation visit. Our program has been continually accredited by APA and recognized as a strong and robust program. With the help of our alumni and current students, we anticipate another good accreditation review.

An important outcome for our program has been placing students on internship. Increasingly, internship has been competitive with at least 25% of all intern applicants not receiving an accredited internship. We have been fortunate to place 100% of our intern applicants into accredited internships for the last five years and we look forward to another strong year.

Finally, as the program grows and the faculty and students look to the future, one endeavor we are initiating is undergraduate courses in counseling psychology which may turn into an undergraduate major. It has been our experience that undergraduates are finding counseling psychology to be the applied professional field that is most congruent with their interests. They discover and become excited that counseling psychologists are working in the military, in hospitals, at university counseling centers, and in community settings. The future of our program and profession will rest in developing and recruiting qualified students, and this coursework will serve these purposes.

I hope you see how we are all working together to maintain our program as one of the top-tier counseling psychology programs in the nation. I believe this newsletter will spark many conversations among students, faculty, and alumni, and I am looking forward to hearing from you.
[Selected Publications & Presentations]

**Publications:**


**Presentations:**

- Sam Cochran and John Westefeld presented a tribute to Gerry Stone, a former faculty member, director of the UCS, and both editor of TCP and president of Division 17, at the 119th APA Convention, Washington, D.C.
[Recent Awards]

Awards:
• Megan Foley Nicpon: 02/11 AERA SIG Path Breaker Award, AERA Research on Giftedness, Creativity, and Talent SIG.
• Tina Hoffman: Summer Dissertation Fellowship. (Summer, 2011). Graduate College. The University of Iowa.
• Tina Hoffman: Exceptional Graduate Student Award. (2011). College of Education. The University of Iowa.
• John Westefeld: wrapped up his three-year term as president-elect, president, and past president of Division 17 at the 119th American Psychological Association Convention, Washington, D.C.

[Happenings]

2011 CP fall picnic and 1st year pinning ceremony

Patrick Galligan and Chris Manllick at the 2011 APA Conference

CPers take part in Out of the Darkness Walk 2011 for suicide awareness

Marcus Alt and Adam Lewis at the 2011 APA Conference

Faculty well represented at 2011 Backward Bowling event
Each edition of the newsletter will highlight selected alumni who practice in a common setting. This edition features alumni who have worked within the military field.

[Alumni Spotlight – Larry James]

I completed all of the course work and dissertation by May of 1986. I applied and was accepted for Internship at Bethesda Naval Hospital in Bethesda, Maryland. After I completed a Navy course in Officer basic leadership skills I started my Internship in November of 1986 and completed the APA approved program one year later in November of 1987.

My first assignment after internship was a once in a lifetime experience. I got assigned to the Naval Medical Clinic at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. I truly suffered for my country during this 3-year assignment, the sun, the ocean and the 85-degree temperature in the winter were tough, but because I was so dedicated to performing my duties, I steadfastly drove on and survived this assignment. The military has a way of providing a leadership opportunity early in ones career. Within one year out of my internship I was licensed and the Chief Psychologist of the Naval Medical Command at Pearl Harbor.

During this three years assignment I did 6-month deployments in exotic places like the Naval Hospital in the Republic of the Philippines. During the first gulf war (desert storm/desert shield) I was deployed for six months to the hospital at 29 Palms, California.

I wanted to become a Clinical Health Psychologist and the Navy's timetable was not the same as mine. Thus, I transferred to the Army and I completed a post-doc fellowship in health psychology at Tripler Army Medical Center in Honolulu. During this fellowship I also completed training in clinical psychopharmacology and became credentialed to prescribed. After the fellowship I was the director of an inpatient health psychology unit. It was a program that I designed to treat obesity, type II diabetes and hypertension. I did my own physicals, ordered my own labs and prescribed medications for my patients. I did this in the Army for approximately 15 years.

We published many papers on this program and the training model. I was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel and became the Vice Chair of The Department and I had overall responsibility for all training, research and service in a department with 100 staff. Along the way I have published 5 books, over 50 scientific papers, and I have received more than 5 million dollars in federal research funding.

In August of 1999, I was assigned as the Chief, Department of Psychology at Walter Reed Army Medical Center. While serving at Walter Reed, 9-11 occurred. I was the Chief Psychologist of the Medical Task force that responded to the terrorist attack at the Pentagon. Within 12 hours after the attack on the Pentagon, we had 3 different mental health clinics operating 24-7 at the pentagon to deliver mental services to the 40,000 staff at the Pentagon.

In November of 2002 while serving at Walter Reed I was made aware of the abuses at Guantanamo. I was deployed to Guantanamo Bay, Cuba to train staff on how to properly interview a prisoner rather than use abusive interrogation techniques. These procedures are now Department of Defense federal laws that govern the safe and humane custody of prisoners.

Over my 22-year military journey I was fortunate and privileged to wear a military uniform. I have had 10 military deployments in 22 years and I have been to 38 different countries--- indeed it has been one heck of a ride. I was awarded a Bronze Star on the battlefield in Iraq, this was one of my most proudest moments of my life.

I retired from the U.S. Army at the rank of Colonel on August 1st, 2008. That same summer I began my current position as the Dean, School of Professional Psychology, Wright State University.
[Alumni Spotlight – Tara Nicole Smith]

Commander Tara N. Smith was born and raised in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. She earned her Bachelor of Arts Degree in Psychology from Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania in 1995. She earned her Doctor of Philosophy degree from The University of Iowa in 2000, in Counseling Psychology and completed the requirements for licensure in 2002. She is licensed in the state of Hawaii and has served in the U.S. Navy for 12 years.

Smith was commissioned in the Navy in 1999, completing her Psychology internship on active duty. After completing Officer Indoctrination School in Newport, RI, her first command was Naval Medical Center, San Diego, California where she completed her internship. In 2000 she transferred to Naval Medical Clinic Pearl Harbor, Hawaii for three years as a staff Psychologist.

Smith was then assigned in 2003 as the Ship’s Psychologist onboard the Forward Deployed Aircraft Carrier, USS Kitty Hawk (CV 63), home-ported in Yokosuka, Japan. There she earned her qualifications as a Surface Warfare Medical Department Officer (SWMDO) and became a Shellback.

Her next assignment was at the National Naval Medical Center at Bethesda, MD. There she supervised Psychiatry and Psychology residents, worked on the inpatient and outpatient wards, and served as the Command Managed Equal Opportunity Officer. During that three-year tour she was deployed as an Individual Augmentee to the 113th Army Medical Company in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. She was deployed from October 2006-April 2007 and served in Baghdad and Balad, Iraq.

Her next tour was two years at Naval Hospital Sigonella in Sicily, Italy. During her assignment in Sicily, she was deployed with Combat Logistics Batallion-4 Marines out of Okinawa, Japan, to Ramadi, Iraq, from January 2009-September 2009. During that tour she earned the Fleet Marine Force qualification.

Smith is currently serving a three-year tour at Marine Barracks Washington. In this position she provides support to multiple agencies in the Washington DC area. She screens, provides psychological testing and evaluations for military members in sensitive positions.

Smith’s personal awards include the Bronze Star Meritorious Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal, the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal, the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal, the Army Achievement Medal, the Medical Officer Surface Warfare insignia and the Fleet Marine Force insignia.

[How to Donate to the Counseling Psychology Program]

For more information about how you can give designated gifts to benefit the UI Counseling Psychology doctoral program, please contact Debbie Green at deborah-green@uiowa.edu or reference http://www.education.uiowa.edu/alumni/gift_opportunities/.

Congrats to the 2011 graduates!!