It's hard to believe that this will be my last newsletter column as Chair of the Psychology Department. The past three years has gone by quickly. I have enjoyed my time as Chair, and I felt honored to represent such a wonderful group of colleagues. However, I must admit I have been anxious to spend more time in my new lab, and this is why I steadfastly adhered to my self-imposed three-year term limit. Admittedly, this was not an easy time to be Chair, given three consecutive years of budget cuts. I anticipated many of the challenges I faced when taking this position, and I have done my very best to be an effective advocate for our Department and to help the Department fulfill its goals, despite the trying economic times. I have focused most of my attention on helping the Department increase its scholarly productivity, bolster our acquisition of external funding, and maintain high academic standards in our courses. Three infrastructural tools identified to help accomplish these goals were a 2-2 course load (which would make us competitive with other doctoral programs in psychology), increased lab space for faculty and students, and competitive assistantships for our graduate students. Although we still have a ways to go, I think we have made significant progress in all three of these areas, and to the degree in which we obtained this infrastructural support, our productivity in terms of scholarship, grant proposals submitted, grant proposals funded, SCH, and degrees conferred also increased. By several measures, this probably represents the most productive three-year period in the history of our Department. However, I suspect that with continued support, our productivity will grow to even greater heights over the next few years.

I am extremely appreciative of the support I received from my colleagues in the Department. Being one of the largest and most diverse departments on this campus can make it challenging to attain agreement on the many issues that we have faced in the past three years. Nonetheless, this Department functioned admirably in our concerted efforts to achieve our common goals. It is rewarding to work with such a talented group of colleagues who share common passions for both scholarship and teaching. I am especially appreciative to those who served on the Executive Committees (George Ronan, Richard Backs, Sharon Bradley-Johnson, Susan Jacob, Bryan Gibson, Debra Poole, Steve Colarelli, Stuart Quirk, and Tim Hartshorne) during the past three years. We faced some very difficult challenges, and even when there was not complete agreement, this group held together and demonstrated time and time again their ability to put aside personal preferences in favor of what was best for the entire Department. I fervently hope that this selfless dedication continues, because it is critical for the progress of our Department. I would also like to give a special thanks to Hajime Otani, who served as Associate Chair during the past two years. Hajime did a superb job balancing our course offering needs, assistantship assignments, and faculty scheduling preferences. More importantly, he provided a balanced consul to me and others on our Executive Committee. I have every confidence that Hajime will do an outstanding job as our next Chair. Finally, I would like to thank our staff for the excellent support they have provided this Department over the
years. I would especially like to thank Barbara Houghton for her exceptional service to this Department. Due to budget cuts, we have had major re-adjustments in our staff during the past three years, but Barb has been able to keep the office running smoothly. Her dedication and commitment to her work and to this Department has been extraordinary. I can’t thank her enough for the support and help she provided to me and this Department.

In closing, I have felt blessed to have had the opportunity to work with such a great group of people during the past three years. Collectively, I think we made extraordinary strides in bolstering our stature as a Department and towards achieving our long-term goals. Although we are an incredibly productive Department, we have never lost our focus on providing our students with educational and research opportunities that are rarely found elsewhere. I am confident that this Department will continue to grow and flourish over the years. Thank you all for the opportunity to represent what, in my opinion, is the best department at CMU.

NIMH FUNDS RESEARCH FOR TREATMENT OF CONDUCT-DISORDERED PRESCHOOLERS

MOUNT PLEASANT — Central Michigan University psychology professor Larissa Niec has received funding from the National Institute of Mental Health for an innovative therapy initiative for conduct-disordered preschoolers.

The grant, which totals about $175,000 per year for three years, will fund Niec’s research on group treatment for children ages 3 to 6 who exhibit behavior problems that are beyond what is considered normal for their age.

Niec opened the Parent-Child Interaction Therapy Clinic on CMU’s campus in 2000. The clinic serves referred clients from Mount Pleasant and surrounding communities. The program teaches parents how to improve discipline techniques and enhance the quality of their relationship with their children.

“Overall, our goal is to enhance the quality of life for parents and children,” she said.

Whereas many therapy programs involve parents getting advice from a therapist and then coming back to report their progress at home, Niec’s approach involves therapists observing parents and children through a two-way mirror and coaching through a microphone.

Parents are able to immediately put into practice what they’ve learned from the therapist, said Niec.

Due to an overwhelming demand for services for young children, the Parent-Child Interaction Therapy Clinic will evaluate group therapy with the NIMH grant.

“We are looking at moving into a group format. With the ongoing reductions in health care resources, it is critical for us to be able to reach families in a way that is effective and cost-effective,” said Niec.

The group approach will involve parents taking turns at interacting with their children while several parents observe in another room with the therapist and learn from each situation. The program lasts approximately 14 weeks.

The Parent-Child Interaction Therapy Clinic is housed within the Psychological Training and Consultation Center in CMU’s Health Professions Building. Clients are charged based on a sliding fee scale. For more information, please call (989) 774-3808.

CJD, CMU Public Relations
Comings

We would like to welcome Terri Anthony to the Psychology Department. Terri is now the Administrative Secretary for the Clinical and School Psychology programs. Terri recently relocated back to Central Michigan from Virginia. She had been the academic administrator in the Gastroenterology Division, part of the Department of Internal Medicine, then the Executive Secretary in the Department of Pharmacy/School of Pharmacy at Virginia Commonwealth University Medical Center in Richmond. Before moving to Virginia, she was an assistant to the Director of Alumni Relations at CMU. Terri has a son and daughter, both living in Richmond.

Goings

Jackie Studer was the Administrative Secretary for the Clinical and School Psychology programs. She moved over to Residence Life here at CMU. We will miss Jackie and wish her well.

Cybil Flora was the Administrative Secretary for the Psychological Training and Consultation Center. She has now become a part of the Carl’s Center in the Health Professions Building here at CMU. We would like to thank Cybil for all her hard work and dedication.

Psychology Department Student Worker

May Graduates

Lindsay DeBoer has worked in the Psychology Department for five years. Lindsay is graduating from CMU with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration with a major in Corporate Finance.

Britteny Howell has worked in the Psychology Department for four years. She is graduating from CMU with a Bachelor of Science in Anthropology. Britteny has been accepted into the Masters Program in Anthropology at the University of Cincinnati.

Erin Vincent has worked in the Psychology Department for three years. Erin is graduating from CMU with a Bachelor of Science with a major in Psychology.

We would like to thank these students for all their hard work for the Department.

New Arrivals

Congratulations to Dr. Neil and Mikki Christiansen on the birth of their son, Nicholas Kerry, 6 pounds and 4 ounces on December 27, 2004.

Congratulations to Eunyoung and Charlie Yang on the birth of their son, Titus Youngho Yang, 8 pounds and 5 ounces on May 2, 2005. Charlie is in the Industrial & Organizational Psychology program.

Retirement

Dr. Michael Kent retired from the Psychology Department on December 31, 2004. Mike retired after 34 years of dedicated service to CMU. Mike served as Chairperson for the Psychology Department for 17 years. He also served as Interim Dean and Associate Dean for the College of Education, Health and Human Services (later renamed as the College of Education and Human Services). We wish Mike a very enjoyable retirement.
Update from the Program Directors:

Experimental Program:
Dr. Richard Backs

The Experimental Program is wrapping up another successful semester. Since the last issue of our newsletter, we have had another doctoral student graduate. Congratulations to our newest alumna Dr. Rachel Laimon and her advisor Dr. Deb Poole!

We have awarded our Steinmetz scholarship this year to two very deserving masters students, Teri Schondelmayer and Mai Migita. Teri is working with Dr. Justin Oh-Lee and Mai is working with Dr Hajime Otani. This scholarship was made possible by one of our distinguished alums, Dr. Joseph Steinmetz, in honor of his parents. The scholarship is awarded annually to M.S. student (or students) who have excelled in the first year of the program and can be used to help defray the cost of tuition, fees, books, etc. You can find out more information on how to make a donation to this scholarship and other worthy causes elsewhere in the newsletter.

I also have two exciting curricular announcements related to the Experimental Program. The first is a program option that we have been working on for several years, an Accelerated M.S. degree. In this program, talented undergraduates who decide early in their program of study that they want to pursue an M.S. in Experimental Psychology degree can apply to the Accelerated M.S. and complete both their B.S. and M.S. degrees within five years. We plan to begin the Accelerated program in the fall. The second announcement is that we have begun the long development process for interdisciplinary M.S. and Ph.D. programs in neuroscience. These programs have long been housed within the Experimental Psychology program, and will still be intimately associated with the program, but the new programs will also involve faculty from Biology and the Health Professions. I look forward to reporting on the progress of these programs in future newsletters.

As always, we want to hear from you; however, soon you may be hearing from us! Next year the Experimental Program has to undergo program review, and we need to know how our graduates are doing. Please send me an email at backs1rw@cmich.edu ..or send your information to the newsletter editor. I look forward to hearing from you.

School Program:
Dr. Tim Hartshorne

Hello Alumni,

It has been a busy year for the School Program. We conducted the self study for our APA accreditation renewal, and managed to get that off before the May 1 deadline. Our site visit should be in the fall. We hope to hear about the renewal of our NASP specialist level accreditation this summer. Our NASP accreditation for the doctoral program continues as long as we are APA accredited.

Admissions went very well this year. We will have four new doctoral students and five new specialist students beginning in the fall. These are the same numbers as our current first year’s. The new officers for SASP have taken over, and their enthusiasm and energy are impressive (and a bit overwhelming). I think you should anticipate hearing from the group this year.

The faculty have been busy this year, compiling an impressive record of publication and presentation. What is even more impressive is student publications. Amy Jackson, Tina Grialou, Jen Swanson, Jonnie Taton, and Sandy Klar have all had recent publications with faculty.

We have two students going on doctoral internships next year. Sandy Klar is going to Johns Hopkins, and Jen Swanson to the Family, Infant and Preschool Program at the Western Carolina Center, North Carolina. These are both outstanding placements, and we are proud of their accomplishment in being selected.

Personally, it has been great to be back in the department after an absence of two years. I enjoyed and learned a great deal during my two years as an administrator, but I also realized that I preferred my work as a faculty member. It is a privilege to be a part of this outstanding faculty and program. Please stay in touch.
Congratulations to Jennifer Spranger who successfully defended her doctoral dissertation this spring. Congratulations also to Emily Bailey, Misty Bennett, Catherine Bush, and George Montgomery on successful MA thesis defenses and to Guangrong Dai and Joe Dettmann who defended their dissertation proposals.

Charlie and Eunyoung Yang are the proud parents of a new boy. Their son, Titus Youngho Yang (8 lbs and 5 ounces) was born on May 2, 2005.

We have good group of incoming students—four to the Ph.D. program and one to the M.A. program.

This will be my last semester as I/O program director. Neil Christiansen was elected as program director and he will start in the Fall.

Clinical Program:
Dr. George Ronan

I write to say hello and to provide an update on the program. Since I last wrote, we have been busy. Last month, we hosted an APA Committee on Accreditation Site Visit that was chaired by Barbara Yutrzenka, the Director of Clinical Training at the University of South Dakota. Russell Walsh, Ph.D., Chair of the Department of Psychology at Duquesne University served as the clinical member and Philip Marshall, Ph.D., Chair of the Department of Political Science at Texas Tech University served as the experimental member. Although we have yet to receive formal feedback, the initial impressions are that the visit went well and we anticipate continued accreditation. This spring we also conducted a national search for a full-time Director of the Psychological Training and Consultation Center. Nathan Weed chaired the search and as I write he is in the process of making an offer to the top applicant. Finally, Reid Skeel has agreed to take the lead as Director of Clinical Training. I am excited about having a much needed break from directing the show (PTCC Director 1995 – 1999; DCT 1999 – 2005) and am looking forward to spending more time working in my lab and writing.

The clinical faculty continue to be proud of the accomplishments of our students. Below are the names of the students and their internship placements for the 2005-2006 training cycle:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Placement</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mark</td>
<td>Deskovitz Temple University School of Medicine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jason</td>
<td>Jent University of Miami - Mailman Center for Child Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leslie</td>
<td>Pickett US Department of Justice – Atlanta, Georgia</td>
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<tr>
<td>Eric</td>
<td>Roat Gulf Coast Veterans Health Care System</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christian</td>
<td>Schutte Western New York Veterans Health Medical Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jennifer</td>
<td>Slezak Indiana University School of Medicine</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Several students who are finishing up their predoctoral internship have accepted tenure track faculty positions (e.g., Saz Madsen), university counseling center positions (e.g., Ayesha Nagra), or formal post doctoral fellowships (e.g., Wendy VanVoorst). In sum, the program is doing well and alumni continue to have a positive impact on the development of the discipline.

Now the Alumni Update

Several alumni have recently responded to my plea for updated information on our alumni. Their responses are listed in the Alumni News. I encourage all of you to consider updating us on what you have been doing since you graduated form the program. Feel free to contact the new DCT, Reid Skeel, through surface mail (Reid Skeel, Department of Psychology, Central Michigan University, Mount Pleasant, MI 48859) or e-mail (skeel1rl@cmich.edu).

With warm regards, George
Undergraduate Program:
Dr. Stuart Quirk

The department is very pleased to announce our undergraduate award winners this spring for both outstanding graduating senior and the Wilbert Wright Awards. We awarded $300 Wilbert Wright awards to Renee Rocca, Tiffanie Hollaway, Matt LeBlanc, and Steven Demny for the 2005-2006 academic year. These generous awards are in honor of a former CMU faculty member and are designated to assist first generation college students with their education expenses.

Two students shared the Outstanding Graduating Senior Award for their promise and excellent work during their undergraduate years. Renee Rocca was also awarded a Wilbert Wright award. She is a dual major in Child Development and worked closely with Drs. Larissa Niece and Carl Johnson leading to 4 national/regional poster presentations. She was an active leader in Psi Chi and volunteered for Head Start, Student Disabilities Services, and other organizations. She plans to pursue her Ph.D. in school psychology at CMU in the fall. We are very lucky to have her. Neal Kimble earned an outstanding graduating senior award for his excellent research activities with Drs. Terry Libkuman and Melvyn Jaffa. He conducted his honors project examining emotional responses on the faces of liars under the supervision of Dr. Libkuman. He presented research at the American Psychology-Law Society national conference. He is also a dual major in Sociology and is weighing multiple offers for graduate training in forensic, experimental and social psychology programs.

We are also pleased to award three graduating seniors our Recognition of Excellence awards. Cheyenne Luzynski is a dual major in Biology who worked with various faculty including Drs. Johnson, Gibson, Libkuman, & Monahan. She has presented research at a regional conference and has been very active in volunteering with Special Olympics and other organizations. She is taking some time off after graduating before applying for graduate training in clinical psychology. Joshua Scott is an honors student with a dual major in Philosophy who worked closely with myself and Dr. Meadows. He presented a poster at the national conference, Society for Research in Psychopathology and currently has a manuscript under review. He will be attending Long Island University to pursue his Ph.D. in clinical psychology. Jennifer Davie worked in the labs of Drs. Dunbar and Skeel where she conducted research on risk taking and alcohol use as well as work on rodent models of Huntington’s disease. She has presented research at conferences and volunteered for Big Brothers/Big Sisters among other activities. Jennifer will be attending University of Minnesota to pursue her Ph.D. in school psychology.

Finally, we also honored our colleague, Dr. Melvyn Jaffa this spring with a faculty excellence award. Mel obtained his bachelor’s degree from MIT and his doctorate in Social Psychology from Columbia University where he trained with Stanley Schachter. He has been a long time instructor of core undergraduate courses including Introductory Psychology and Social Psychology. Mel has been continuously active in research supervision with numerous undergraduates. If any of you have fond memories of courses of work with Dr. Jaffa, we would love to hear about them.

Dr. Mel Jaffa
(on the right)

Faculty Recognition Award for Spring 2005

Recipients of the College of Humanities and Social & Behavioral Sciences 2005 Awards:

- Outstanding Graduate Teaching Award $500 – Ayesha Nagra – Clinical (Advisor - Tamara Penix Sbraga)
- Outstanding Graduate Research Award $500 – Koichi Kato – Experimental (Advisor – Hajime Otani)
- Outstanding Undergraduate Research Award $250 – Neal Kimble (Advisor – Terry Libkuman & Mel Jaffa)
- Outstanding Undergraduate Research Award $250 – Mahlon Collins (Advisor – Justin Oh-Lee)
Student Organizations

APSSC:

The American Psychological Society Student Caucus (APSSC) at CMU is an officially registered university-based Central chapter of APSSC. Student membership and participation was at an all time high and is on a continual rise. Their primary goal is to promote student involvement in research activities in psychology and to educate members and all psychology students about the professional planning, GRE, graduate school admissions, and careers in psychology. One of their main goals this year was to plan and host their second annual Research and Publications Workshop; several psychology professors spoke about their research and ways to become involved in research and publication to an audience of undergraduate and graduate students. This was a wonderful opportunity that allowed for students to interact with some of Central’s leading researchers in the psychological field. APSSC also put on several monthly socials hosted by John Monahan, Deb Poole, Susan Jacob, Stuart Quirk and Rick Backs, along with an end of the year picnic. APSSC has become actively involved in volunteering this semester, by raking leaves for the Commission on Aging and being bell-ringers for the Salvation Army. Finally, many of their members will be attending the 17th Annual American Psychological Society (APS) Conference in Los Angeles, California to present their individual research projects. As with any student organization, their success depends heavily on the support of psychology faculty members. We would like to express our sincere appreciation to our faculty members who have been instrumental in our success this year and we thank them very much for their support. For the upcoming semester, we will continue with our monthly socials and perhaps have an invited speaker at one of the socials. We are also in the process of establishing an APSSC scholarship program to encourage student participation. We look forward to your continued support. – Nicole Jaskiw

IOPA:

This semester has been a busy one for IOPA. We just returned from the Society for Industrial and Organizational Psychology (SIOP) conference in sunny Los Angeles, California. Most of our graduate students attended the conference and many students (N= 14) presented their research. Our program continues to impress by having great showings at the conference and contributing to the cutting edge research in the field. In fact, researchers at Wayne State University that compile rankings of the nearly 100 I/O graduate programs in the nation, ranked our program in the top 20! This is a great honor, and reflective of the unwavering commitment of our students and faculty to actively making active contributions to the field of I/O.

We were also happy to have one of our distinguished alumni, Dr. Sandra O’Connor, return to campus to speak to our students as part of an IOPA sponsored event. Dr. O’Connor is now a Vice President at Personnel Decisions International (PDI), which is one of the premier I/O consulting firms in the nation. Dr. O’Connor now runs the PDI office in Boston, and returned to CMU to discuss her work with our student members, and provide students with information about job opportunities at PDI. Her presentation was very informative and inspirational for the next generation of I/O graduates from CMU.

Finally, IOPA recently elected a new executive board for the 2005-2006 school year. Misty Bennett was elected IOPA president, Gary Burns was elected Secretary, Sara Langford was elected Treasurer, Adam Johnson was elected research chairperson, and Tara Wickmark-Thorne was elected social events chairperson. Congratulations to the new e-board! We all look forward to these capable students leading IOPA into the future. Special thanks are extended to the e-board that I served with: Gary Burns, Misty Bennett, Monica Filipkowski, and Jeff Labrador. I speak for all IOPA members when I say that we appreciate your dedication to making IOPA great. Thank you - Brian Siers
**PSI CHI:**

Spring 2005 has been another successful semester for Psi Chi. This semester, we focused on serving our members and the community. Our community service projects included Relay For Life and helping another RSO with their work on Child Abuse Awareness Month (Take A Stand For Kids). We also offered new topics for our meetings, including Professional’s Night and Post Graduation Advice Night.

Spring is also the time for the annual Midwestern Psychological Association Conference in Chicago. We are happy to be supporting 13 members who will attend MPA, with funding from the College of HSBS and money raised by our members through fundraising projects. Advancing the professional development of our members through attendance at MPA is one of the key goals of our chapter.

At the end of Fall semester, we inducted 22 new members to our chapter. We are also pleased to announce the induction of 14 new members at the Induction Banquet on May 1. Finally, we would like to thank everyone who has supported our Psi Chi chapter this year. Without the support of faculty members and our advisors, Dr. and Mrs. VanHorn, we would never be able to be as successful as we are. We appreciate their leadership and the hard work of this semester’s Executive Board: President-Michelle Wilson; Vice President-Ashley Tloczynski; Secretary-Christie Nikanowicz; Treasurer-Tamara DeCarlo; Historian-Abby Ewalt; MPA Coordinator-Emily Robinson; Webmaster-Jenny Nerbonne; Social Chair-Renee Rocca; Fundraising Chair-Krista Gabriau; Publicity Chair-Jessica Krefman; Volunteer Chair-Alyssa Nogaski; SGA Rep-Darren Cabble. Thank you all so much! - Jenny Nerbonne

**Clinical Student Association:**

The past few months have been busy for clinical psychology students and the Clinical Student Association. Congratulations are extended to fourth year students who will be departing for internships at the close of the current semester. Congratulations are also in order for third year students who will be receiving their Masters’ Degrees this May. Thank you to the students who volunteered to host and provide transportation for Open House applicants. The process went smoothly due in part to the efforts of CSA. Currently, we are discussing plans for a Summer social to send off the fourth year students. - John Neudecker

**SASP:**

This semester members of the Student Affiliates of School Psychologists received funding to attend conferences.

Several members attended the Michigan Association of School Psychologists Critical Issues Conference which was held in March. The conference focused on the changing field of school psychology. Two SASP members, Lindsay Allen and Jennifer Anderson also received funding to present at the annual National Association of School Psychologists Convention in Atlanta, GA this April. Also, Meghan Caswell presented at the Society for Research and Child Development this Spring and Nichole Dailor presented at the Student Research and Creativity and Endeavors Exhibition and recently had a paper accepted at the American Psychological Society conference being held at the end of May.

Elections were held in April to fill the SASP officer positions for the 2005-2006 school year. Our new officers are Jason Vladescu-President, Meghan Caswell-Vice President, Katharine Szabla-Treasurer, Nichole Dailor-Secretary, and Amanda Leshk-Historian. Also, Andrea Bullen will be the Alumni-Relations coordinator. Goals for the upcoming year include developing a website to improve communication with alumni and coordination of services, increasing involvement at the state and national organization level, and facilitating community involvement through volunteer programs and fundraising. We look forward to a productive and energetic year! Congratulations and good luck to you all! - Jennifer Anderson
SRCEE 2005

The Department of Psychology had 76 projects at SRCEE this year. From the Psychology Department there were 15 faculty members and 120 students involved.

Sr. Gary Dunbar and Angela Boersen

Angela was the winner of the Michigan Branch Scholarship Award from the American Association of Laboratory Animal Science.

Grant received to study Parkinson’s drug

Dr. Justin Oh-Lee has been awarded a three year grant for the amount of $191,474 from the National Institutes of Health.

Justin’s research will concentrate on reducing the harmful side effects produced by most commonly prescribed and effective drug for Parkinson’s patients, levodopa. His goal is to fend off the side effects for as long as possible in order to lead a healthy life.

He is excited about the grant and about getting more CMU students involved in research.

May 2005 Graduates

PhD’s
Rachel Laimon

Master’s/Specialist
Jennifer Debaski Andrea Syrek
Tina Redes

Master’s
Amy Treloar Linda Brewer
Gary Burns
Christina (Scholfield) Cammarta
John Neudecker
Tina Grialou
Kimberley Pytlak
Emily Bailey

George Montgomery (December 2004)

Psychology Outstanding Undergraduate Awards:
Neal Kimble
Renee Rocca

Undergraduate Recognition of Excellence Awards:
Jennifer Davie
Cheyenne Luzynski
Joshua Scott

Summer Research Scholar Award
Angela Boersen
Steven Demny
Ingrid Parrington

New Chairperson:
A dinner was held in honor of Dr. Gary Dunbar at the Mt. Pleasant Country Club for his three year service to the Psychology Department as chairperson. Dr. Hajime Otani will be our incoming chairperson in August 2005.
Hello fellow CMU Alumni - by Mark Poff D.O.

I was asked (after I volunteered) to write a letter describing my experience at CMU and how it helped me to become what I am today. First of all, I should tell you that I am a psychiatrist in the Lansing area working for the Community Mental Health for Ingham, Eaton and Clinton counties. I love my work! There’s something new and different everyday! I work in the Crisis Services Dept. so it can get pretty wild some times but it can be very gratifying also. I loved my time at CMU and felt I had a very positive experience! I started there in Aug. ’75 I had no idea what I wanted to do with my life. It was suggested to me that I take all kinds different classes and see which ones that seemed the most interesting to me... and I did. Luckily, I had the very good fortune of having Dr. Rankin as my first psychology instructor. He was GREAT!!! I decided to take more Psych. classes. After my soph. year I was still floundering without direction and one day in another of my psych. classes, the professor (can't recall his name) said that a person needed to have a variety of life experiences to be well rounded and to be a really good psychologist! So, I decided to dropout of school! I had a passion for snow skiing at the time, so I moved to Colorado to be a ski-bum. It was the best thing I could have done and thankfully my parents actually encouraged me to pursue my passion. After only one year of working as a cook/dishwasher by night and skiing my guts out by day, I realized that I wanted to become a psychologist and returned to CMU. After I graduated in ’80 (Dick Enberg gave the commencement speech), I worked as a juvenile counselor for only one year. I quickly realized that I needed to go back to school to try to get my Ph.D. to get the level of autonomy that I desired. I was talking to my older brother (who, at the time, was in his 2nd year of med school). I told him about what it would take to become a psychologist (as far as years of education) and he suggested that I should go back to college and get the pre-med requirements and to go to med. school so that when I was done I could also prescribe medications. I wasn't too sure I wanted to go that route at first. I had and have such respect for the many Psychologist I had come to know at Central and wanted to emulate them. But after several talks with my dad and brother (both of whom are family physicians), I decided to do as big brother advised. Again, fortunately I was able to plow through all my pre-med requirements in one year and got right into med. school. After completing med. school in ’86 (and post grad. training), my father asked me to go into family practice with him. But after 3 years of that and working as an emergency room physician (on the side), I realized it was the psychological aspects of people that most intrigued me and so I had finally come full circle. I completed my residency training at MSU in ’93 and ran the inpatient and outpatient psychiatric units at Carson City Hospital (in Mich.) from ’93 - ’99 and in 10/99 moved to where I am now. I’m so grateful to Dr. Rankin and all the professors I had through the Psychology Dept. at CMU because it was their passion and curiosity that they instilled in me that helped me to get where I am granted, (though slightly misguided) today. I’m proud to say my oldest son is now in college and he too is majoring in psychology at WMU.
### Awards/Graduates

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dissertation Research Support Grants</th>
<th>Congratulations to the following students who have been nominated for our “Outstanding Graduate and Recognition of Excellence Award”</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Melissa Brittain</td>
<td>Melissa Becker</td>
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<td>Sergio da Silva</td>
<td>Adrian Camden</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mark Deskovitz</td>
<td>Jennifer Davie</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tina Grialou</td>
<td>Carla Dropiewski</td>
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<td>Jan Perkins</td>
<td>Alicia Harper</td>
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<td>Leslie Pickett</td>
<td>Jillian Herrick</td>
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<td>Erick Roat</td>
<td>Tiffanie Holloway</td>
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<tr>
<td>Christian Schutte</td>
<td>Neal Kimble</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ritu Subramony</td>
<td>Cheyenne Luzynski</td>
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<td>Renee Rocca</td>
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<td>Joshua Scott</td>
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<td>Jonathon Shelley</td>
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<td>Michelle Stenske</td>
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<td>Christina Stomski</td>
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<td>Amber Thompson</td>
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<td>Erin Vincent</td>
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<td>Jessica Walker</td>
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### More Alumni News

- **Susanna Warner** — Susanna received her M.A. in Clinical Psychology from CMU in 1991. She is currently serving as director of outpatient counseling at Wedgewood in Grand Rapids. She and her husband have two children, a six year old and a three year old.

- **Corbin S. Irelan** — Corbin graduated from CMU with her M.A. in 2001 and her Ph.D. in 2003. She is currently employed with the MapleView Consultation Center, P.C. in Paw Paw, Michigan.

- **Mary Mintz** — Mary received her M.A. in Clinical Psychology here at CMU in 1993. After completing her degree, she taught at SVSU for one year, worked in a private practice for slightly more than two years, and then moved to Europe. While in the Netherlands, she directed an English-speaking counseling service without pay and then returned to Michigan to remain a volunteer sector. She currently volunteers in her local hospital, several nursing homes and hospice as a therapeutic music practitioner. She is also a editorial advisor for the Harp Therapy Journal, published in Pennsylvania.

- **Paul Callaghan** — Paul received his M.A. from CMU in 1989 and his Psy.D. in 1993. He is a licensed psychologist in Traverse City, Michigan.
CMU Psychology Alumni Group

The CMU Psychology Alumni Group is continuing to make progress. We still only have the names of about 10 people who have expressed interest in the group. Remember, we need 50 to become chartered with the CMU Alumni Office. Nonetheless, we’re going to continue with programming and organizing, charter or no charter! Some events over the next year will include:

- A social gathering with faculty and alumni over Homecoming 2005 weekend
- A discussion session about career paths with current students (perhaps the week of Homecoming)
- Organizational planning (for those committee junkies out there)

Adding your name to the list doesn't commit you to involvement. If you haven’t done so yet, please send your name and contact information to Matt Jans (matthew.jans@umb.edu) or Christopher Austin (austi1cr@cmich.edu). We look forward to hearing from each one of you. Hope to see you next Homecoming!!!

Thank you to all of our Alumni Contributors. Your support is greatly appreciated.

Alumni Contributors
Psychology

Mrs. Kathleen Allen *
Dr. Phyllis M. Anderson *
Ms. Rebecca Jo Belvins & Mr. George Anast
Mr. William E. Caldwell
Mr. Andrew Claes
Mrs. Julia Daniels *
Mrs. Sherry Friedlander *
Ms. Heidi Ford
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* continued supporters
Central Michigan University’s Department of Psychology relies on the generosity of our alumni and friends to raise funds to enhance student education. If you would like to be among those who help provide a high quality education to our students, we invite you to consider a gift to one of our existing funds, or you are invited to establish an endowment to support student education in a manner most meaningful to you.

The following are accounts within the Department of Psychology in need of on-going support:

- **Psychology-Alumni Development Fund (#44006)**: Provides assistance to the Psychology Department to enhance student education by supporting student and faculty scholarly and creative activities.

- **Psychology Training and Consultation Center (#43104)**: Funding to train CMU students enrolled in the applied psychology graduate program in the application of psychological science for resolving human problems.

- **Brain Research and Integrative Neuroscience (BRAIN) Center Award (#66494)**: Scholarship awards to students researching effective pharmaceutical interventions for neurodegenerative diseases such as Huntington’s Disease and Parkinson’s Disease.

- **Anne K. Quimper Memorial Prize Endowment (#66462)**: Scholarships for CMU graduate students in the School Psychology Program.

- **Wilbert Wright Endowment (#66551)**: Scholarships for first generation college students attending CMU full time and majoring in Psychology. This award is intended for the purchase of textbooks or other non-tuition expenses.

- **Joanna M. Russ Endowment (#66686)**: Awards will support primarily undergraduate students who are interested in research on genetic syndromes and low incidence disabilities, funding their research materials and expenses to travel for presentation.

Please send your contributions to:

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Department of Psychology
Sloan Hall, Room 101A
Mount Pleasant, MI 48859

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Please return this form to: CMU – Department of Psychology, Sloan Hall, Room 101A, Mount Pleasant, MI 48859 or you can email your updates to barb.houghton@cmich.edu. We look forward to hearing from you!!
The CMU Department of Psychology is a Central Michigan University Center for Excellence. The department continues to strive for the highest level of achievement in academics, research, and student and faculty development. We are proud to be a part of CMU and the Mount Pleasant Community, and appreciate the continued support of our Alumni and Friends.