Word from the Head

This month we have farewelled Tony Ward and Dave Gittings, and Bart starts as Acting Deputy Head.

Congratulations to those who graduated and to Matthew Warren, winner of the Faculty award for top student in 2010. Matthew has been offered a place in 3 prestigious Universities—we hope you get the money to go.

It is the end of term for lecturers; thanks to everyone for doing a great job.

Prof. John McClure
Acting Head of School

News in the School

Parenting Programme – Group Triple P
Karen Salmon and colleagues from the University of Auckland (Professor Matt Sanders and Dr Cassy Dittman) are conducting a study investigating whether the effectiveness of a well established parenting programme, Group Triple P, is increased if we add a component that also helps parents to manage their children’s emotions.

The study is being conducted in the VUW Clinic with the involvement of our 5th year clinical psychology trainees and Dr Nellie Lucas, one of our senior clinical supervisors. Rebecca Burson is the research assistant to the project. We are publicising our programme widely (it is free of charge) in order to engage 28 parents of children aged 3- to 6 years, who have concerns about their child’s behaviour.

They are pleased to have the opportunity to ask a research question that potentially improves outcomes for children and to do so by engaging our trainees, clinic staff and clinical academics. Please circulate information about the study!

Prestigious Invitation
Dr Taciano L. Milfont has been invited to join the Editorial Board of the journal Environment and Behavior. The journal “examines relationships between human behavior and the natural and built environment”, and has an impact factor of 1.37. Dr Milfont now sits on the editorial board of the two main scientific journals in the area of environmental psychology (he joined the editorial board of the Journal of Environmental Psychology in 2010).
**EndNote and Zotero—Library Classes**
The Library continues to offer courses in the use of these two popular referencing tools. All staff & students are welcome to attend. The classes are free, and run for an hour.

For EndNote classes in the Library see http://www.victoria.ac.nz/library/instruction/endnote.html
For Zotero classes in the library see http://www.victoria.ac.nz/library/instruction/zotero.html

Please note that tailored classes in EndNote and Zotero are available on request from the library: contact library-reference@vuw.ac.nz

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**Autism NZ**

Autism NZ is a non-profit organisation that aims to provide information and support for those with Autism Spectrum Disorders and their families. We are looking for volunteers to help with our Thursday social groups for children (aged 7-12) in Johnsonville and the Saturday teen group in Tawa. If you think you may have some time to help us out or just want more information, please contact me! You don’t even have to come every week. Penny Tok penny.tok@vuw.ac.nz. No experience is necessary!

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**Victoria University Students' Psychology Society**

The Victoria University Students’ Psychology Society – the name rings with tradition, prestige, and honour… Meetings and events held in grand halls with polite chatter and discussion about all things interesting.

Take a scoop of that tradition, a pinch or two of prestige and honour; add a bit of trivia, some legendary prizes and a few jugs of beer, and you may have some idea of what the VSPS Quiz Night turned out to be. With hosts dressed as mad scientists, and markers working like lab rats, it was a fantastic evening – the ultimate ‘brainwave analysis’. This year’s quiz had a great turn out with 25 teams fiercely competing for the title of first place. Inter-lab competition was at an all time high, which was evidenced by Dr. Garry’s impromptu lecture in order to clarify what was an apparently ambiguous answer.

Our overall winners of the evening were ‘Team Wilma’ who took out first place. ‘Pavlov’s Bitches’ and ‘Eduardo Valentino’ came second equal. Mention must be given to some other legends of the evening – best team name was ‘Australopithecus Pissing on a Rhododendron Blossom’, and the team ‘the Three Must Get Beers’ scored for originality due to their mascot, an almost life size, chicken-wire baby elephant. Big props to them!

No doubt, the evening will be held as a sweet memory for those who attended. Thanks to all who came along. We look forward to seeing you when we kick things off again at Clubs Week at the start of next semester.

For further information about VSPS go to: www.victoria.ac.nz/psyc or contact via email: vicpsycsoc@gmail.com or facebook: ‘Victoria Students’ Psychology Society’
Conference Time
The New Zealand Association of Positive Psychology (NZAPP) is having its first conference on September 9th and 10th in Auckland. For further information, including details on presenting, please go to the NZAPP website http://www.positivepsychology.org.nz/conference.html

Links to Procrastinate
I doubt you need any help procrastinating but if you did you might want to check out a few of the following:
- Ron Fischer makes an appearance on early morning tv
- Celebrate Matariki, the Maori New Year at Te Papa
  http://www.tepapa.govt.nz/WhatsOn/Matariki/Pages/Matarikifulleventsprogramme.aspx
- A bit of number 8 wire and kiwi humour after the Christchurch earthquake
  http://www.showusyourlongdrop.co.nz/
- Matthew, Warren, our star Honours student from 2010 and winner of the Science Medal for top student in the Faculty, is applying for scholarships to do a Master’s in Cognitive Neuroscience at Oxford. Apparently, for the AMP scholarship, supporters of the applicant are supposed to vote for them. Just click on the link. http://www.doyourthing.co.nz/2011-00959/matthew-warren

Congratulations May Graduants

Photographs from our May graduation celebration can be viewed by the lifts on Level 6 Easterfield.

Abby Andrews  Christina Clement  Jack Barraclough
Adam Smith    Claudia Recker    Jackie Cheesman
Alana Malloy  Colin Sharp       Jane Taylor
Alex Marshall-McNabb Crysta Derham  Janelle McIvor
Ali Richardson Damon Harrison  Janet Craig
Amy Whittaker  Daniel Lindsay  Jared Walton
Andrew Zimmermann Daniel McAuliffe  Jenifer Cant
Andrew Pang    David Robertson  Jenna McWilliams
Angela Southee Deborah Venning-Slater  Jennifer Truman
Anil Lala      Dora Sharpe-Davidson  Jeremy Webster
Anna Barclay  Eleanor Moloney  Jessica Te Hiko
Anna Moughan    Emma Whalley  Jessica Harding
Anna Roberts  Emma Leigh       Jody-Lee Murphy
Anne Bennett  Emma-Jayne McGregor  Josie Hammington
Benjamin Johnson Erica Stewart  Julia Yesberg
Cameron Miller  Femke Burger  Karl Emson
Caroline Taylor  Fiona Boake  Kate Craven
Cassandra Forbes  Hannah Davidge  Katherine Mackay
Catherine Duff  Hannah Cross  Kathryn Burt
Chantal Meyerink  Hannah Bailey  Katrina Jagersma
Chi Chung Cheung  Helena Cook
Publications


