



The FORUM

The Newsletter of the SPSP Graduate Student Committee Spring 2007

Happy Spring Everyone!

Okay, okay it does not feel very much like Spring for most of us right now but this is the Spring edition the FORUM so maybe some warm weather will come along with it. In this issue you will find articles recapping the GSC sponsored events at this year's annual convention and we will introduce you to the newly elected 2007/2008 GSC members. In addition, you will find two president's corners, one from John Edlund our outgoing President (who you will see around for another year as our Past-President) and a second from Elizabeth Lee our incoming President.

Congratulations 2007 Poster Award Winners!

This year marked the 5th year anniversary of the SPSP Graduate Poster Award. During each of the poster sessions, secret judges viewed submissions and then the committee of judges for that session voted on the top three posters for each session.

First place winners received an award certificate, a \$100 monetary award, and courtesy of Empirisoft free personal copies of MediaLab and/or DirectRT for the remainder of their graduate student career, plus one year post-graduation, and the winner's choice of either: a DirectIN Millisecond Precision Keyboard (value \$290) or a DirectIN Precision Response Box with Custom Button Layout (value \$390).

This following first places winners won these awards: *Amir Goren* - Understanding the Limits of Spontaneous Trait Transference: Exclusive Trait-Target Binding Prevents Transference. *William Hart* - Evidence for the

person-situation interaction in goal activation using goal priming procedures. *Steve Young* -The Own Group Bias in Facial Recognition: A Cross Categorization Effect *Joshua Ackerman* -When do they and when do we all look the same to me? Understanding heterogeneity and homogeneity effects. *Joshua Ian Davis* - What role do facial expressions of emotion play in emotional experience? *Jesse Graham* - Moral Theories of Liberals and Conservatives: Exaggeration of Differences across the Political Divide. *Minkyung Koo* - Adaptation in emotional well-being: How to benefit more from writing about gratitude.

Runners up received an award certificate and a \$50 monetary award. The following individuals won these awards: *Johanna Peetz*- Get It Done On Time - Predicting Project Completion Times Of Close And Distant Projects. *Jaye Derrick* - The Effects of Acceptance, Rejection, and Self-Esteem on

Relationship Perceptions and Self-Disclosure. *Kristina Olson* - American and Japanese Children's Preference for the Lucky. Different forms of partner discrepancies and their emotional outcomes. *Heather*

Continued on page 2

2006-2007 GSC Members

President:

John Edlund

Members-at-Large

David Portnoy

Elizabeth Lee

Lavonia Smith-LeBeau

Vanessa Hemovich

Past President:

Darin Challacombe

GSC Social Hour

The inaugural SPSP graduate student social hour in Memphis was a hit! Held on Friday night from 7:30 to 8:30, over 100 graduate students attending. The SPSP-GSC would like to thank everyone who attended and made this even such a big success. For those of you who weren't there, a quick recap: wnearly 100 graduate students mingled, met people, made connections, and most importantly had fun while eating and drinking. Many students came by after the last poster session on their way out for Blues and BBQ. Plans are in the works to improve and expand this event next year in Albuquerque, so if you have any comments about the Memphis social hour or suggestions on how we could improve the event please e-mail David Portnoy at david.portnoy@uconn.edu .

Poster Awards (cont)

Wadlinger- Looking Happy: Regulating Psychological Resiliency through the Experimental Manipulation of a Positive Visual Attention Bias. *Sheree M. Schrager*- Putting Socio-cognitive Conflict In Context: Disagreements Are More Threatening In Competition. *Sylvia Perry* - Making lemonade? Defensive coping style moderates the effect of stereotype threat on women's math test performance.

The GSC would like to congratulate all of the winners of the 2007 GPA. We would also encourage graduate students interested in being involved in next year's GPA to be on the lookout for announcements next Fall with details of deadlines for submitting.

Finally, The GSC sends out

heartfelt thanks to the judges who volunteered to assist this year for the GPA: Geoff MacDonald, Tamlin Conner, Ronni Janoff-Bulman, Steve Gangestad, Glenn Adams, Kate McLean, Tyler Okimoto, Paul Silvia, Kimberly Quinn, Peter McGraw, Omri Gillath, Kentaro Fujita, Mark Daniel Leising, Wendy Wood, David Kenny, Dale Griffin, Christine Hooker, Nira Liberman, Laurie Santos, Marco Perugini, Kennon Sheldon, Jessi Smith, Bruce Bartholow, Timothy Loving, Marilynn Brewer, Jeff Larsen, Nicole Shelton, Lisa M. Diamond, Leaf Van Boven, Tom Postmes, Dana Carney, and Takahiko Masuda.

Munching with Mentors in Memphis

During the Friday afternoon poster session, our annual Mentoring Event occurred. This year 110+ graduate students had the opportunity to sit down to lunch and discuss research and profession development issues with some of the most well-known people in Social and Personality Psychology. Both mentors and graduate students reported that this event was both enjoyable and educational.

The 06/07 GSC would like to extend their thanks to all of the mentors for this year's event: Catherine Cozzarelli, Jeff Simpson, Reg Adams, Jessica Lakin, Mike Norton, Kathleen Vohs, Ximena Arriaga, Stacey Sinclair, David

Matsumoto, Jaime Arndt, Joshua Greene, Ap Dijksterhuis, Greg Herek, and Dan Batson as well as the SPSP training committee for their assistance in planning.

Finally, we would also like to thank all of the graduate students who provided suggestions for potential mentors and topics, and especially those who participated in this event. The mentoring event grows each year and we are thrilled to be able to offer such a popular event at the conference and we continue to work hard to meet your needs. Graduate students who have participated in the past often mention that the Mentoring Event was the highlight

of their conference experience by offering a unique opportunity to interact with the top names in the field, as well like minded graduate students who become colleagues and potential collaborators.

If you would like to have a say in next year's event be on the look out for emails through the student listserv (<http://www.spsp.org/student/> to sign up if you are not already on there) asking for suggestions regarding topics and mentors. Then as we get closer to SPSP 2007 be on the look out for registration information and be sure to send us your preferences so you can participate in next year's event.

Spotlight on...

2007-2008
SPSPSGSC
Members

Elizabeth Lee -- President

I am Elizabeth Lee and I'm a 2nd year student at Penn State. My research examines the roles that culture, gender, and ethnicity play in stereotyping, prejudice and discrimination. I'm currently looking at how culture and emotion affect confronting discrimination, how we cope with identity discrepancies, and how we are socialized to think about race relations. I'm really psyched that this is my 2nd year working with the GSC. I've gotten to meet so many students doing interesting research and so I definitely believe in the value of networking. It will be my goal to continue and expand the resources we worked on last year. I'd like to offer more helpful info online and encourage increased participation at the next conference. Anytime you have any feedback, please feel free to contact any one of us with your thoughts

Megan O'Grady Member-at-Large

Hello! My name is Megan O'Grady and I am a second year doctoral student in the Applied Social Psychology program at Colorado State University. I am

also working on a concentration in health psychology. My research interests include self-processes, interpersonal relationships, and person-perception. I mainly focus on how these basic social psychological concepts apply to health-risk behavior, especially risky sexual behavior and dangerous drinking. When I complete my degree, I hope to secure an academic position. I am excited to serve on the GSC this year and hope to help provide the resources that help grad students connect with each other and reach their goals.

Sonia Kang Member-at-Large

Hello, my name is Sonia Kang and I am just completing my 1st doctoral year in Social Psychology at the University of Toronto. I am interested in the experience and effects of prejudice and discrimination across the lifespan, from both a behavioral and neural perspective. One of my main goals for the Graduate Student Council is to facilitate the creation of a stronger graduate community in order to cultivate communication and, ultimately, collaborate between graduate students across Canada and the USA. I am looking forward to my first term on the GSC and hope to see continued success and positive change this year!

Jennifer Knack Member-at-Large

I'm Jennifer Knack and am a 3rd year doctoral student in the social experimental program at The University of Texas at Arlington.

My research interests examine various aspects of social pain and self-regulatory processes. For my master's thesis, I examined how re-experiencing and recalling past social pain and physical pain experiences influenced individuals' ability to self-regulate. I am interested in further exploring similarities and differences between social pain and physical pain at a behavioral and neurological level. In addition, I am interested in the developmental influences of social pain (i.e., chronic victimization) and self-regulation. This will be my first year serving as a member of GSC. I am looking forward to serving this year and welcome any suggestions you may have!

David Portnoy Member-at-Large

I'm in my 4th year of the Social Psychology PhD program at UConn. I'm currently starting work on my dissertation focusing on the cognitive processes of making plans for the future. This is my second year serving as a member-at-large for the GSC. Last year one of my main duties was helping to organize the graduate student social hour at SPSP, this event was a huge hit and I'm looking forward to an even bigger and better event next year.

Presidents' Corner

Greetings –

Looking back, this term has been one of quite successful growth of offerings for the student population. In response to student requests, we set up two important resources for graduate students on the SPSP webpage. The first of these is the introduction to psychology resources page, which is an archive of materials that other SPSP members have offered for students to use in prepping their classes. This resource contains many files including syllabi, lecture PowerPoints, assignments, and demonstrations. Furthermore, more than just instructors in introduction to psychology can use the resource. The materials in the webpage can be used by anyone teaching social or personality

psychology as well. The other major resource that is now available for students is the international students resources page. This is a collection of links that can be used by international students looking to study in the US or by American students looking to travel beyond the country's borders. We hope you have the opportunity to make use of these resources.

We also expanded the offerings available at the conference. The "Advice I wished I Had Received in Graduate School" symposium was a tremendous success that we are looking to continue in the future. Over 500 people attended these talks. For those of you who were not able to attend or take notes, we have established an archive of the presentations on the webpage. The social hour was enjoyed by all who attended. The food was good, and

the conversations were better. We are looking forward to the social hour becoming a tradition for graduate students attending the conference.

Looking forward, I can tell that the next graduate student committee will be quite successful. The members represent a very diverse background, and are all dedicated to serving the graduate students of SPSP. The next GSC is quite capable of making things better for all students.

I want to conclude by saying how fortunate I consider myself to have been in a position to serve the graduate students of SPSP. I had the privilege of meeting many of you at the conference and enjoyed the many discussions we had and I look forward to seeing many of you in Albuquerque. Thank you again for a great year.

John Edlund
Northern Illinois University

From the President-Elect

Graduate student survival depends on seeking the guidance of others. Other students - lab mates, friends in your cohort, classmates - are valuable sources of info and fun to bounce ideas with. They are the people you speculate with about issues in your department and trade nuggets of wisdom on how to survive grad school.

I like to think of the GSC as an extension of your social support network. We want to offer advice on any topic that concerns you. Last year, as a Member-at-Large, I was able to contribute to the

successful projects the GSC worked on. We added more content to our website (<http://www.spsp.org/student>), sent out different postings over the listserv, and hosted a number of exciting programs at the conference.

As the new term begins, I am very optimistic that the momentum generated in the last year will continue. The GSC will be looking to expand on the numerous resources and programs we already sponsor. In the next issue of the FORUM, you can be sure there will be a preview of things we'd like to accomplish.

If you have any ideas or concerns, don't hesitate to let us

know what you think by sending an email to spspgsc@yahoo.com. We all know much of what it takes to be a successful grad student is learned outside of class. Let the GSC be another source of helpful info you can turn to when you have questions about graduate student life.

Hope things are going well so far this semester! I look forward to serving as your President and hearing from you.

Elizabeth Lee