

Inside This Issue:

- ▶ PAWS 1
- ▶ FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS 1
- ▶ INTERESTING PSYCHOLOGY FACT 1
- ▶ MARK YOUR CALENDERS 2
- ▶ STUDENT HIGHLIGHTS 2
- ▶ SUMMER COURSES 2
- ▶ GRADUATING SENIORS 2
- ▶ STUDENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS 2

○ ISSUE 5 | ○ VOLUME 1 | ○ SPRING 2009



The Synapse

YOUR CONNECTION TO THE PSYCHOLOGY DEPARTMENT AT
THE COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY

Welcome to the fifth edition of the Psychology Department Student Newsletter. We hope this newsletter serves as a helpful resource in providing you with important information about Departmental events and topics of interest within Psychology.

TCNJ Introduces new PAWS system

Primary Academic Web-based Services (PAWS) is The College of New Jersey's new self-service system and will replace The Electronic Student Services (TESS), the Advising, Registration and Transcript Information Exchange (ARTIE), and the Student Information System (SIS). Among other things, you will be able to monitor tuition and financial aid as well as enroll and manage classes and coursework.

Improvements over the current system include faster response time, virtually 24 hour access, online program planners allowing students to run "what if" scenarios to identify courses that would be needed if they changed their majors, and (finally) a back button!

PAWS self-service will be available in 2009. Look for the campus wide announcements or visit <http://www.tcnj.edu/~it/csproject/index.html> for more information.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: How can I learn more about the student organizations for Psychology?

A: Visit the Psychology department website, click on student resources, and then on student organizations. Posted there is information about how to access the Psychology Club and Psi Chi websites and contact e-board members.

Q: I am interested in finding an internship, can the department help me with that?

A: Listed on the Psychology website under the Research Opportunities and Internships section are possible intern sites. Feel free to contact these organizations directly as they are all willing to take on TCNJ psychology interns! Also, check out the Bulletin board in the basement where other opportunities are posted.

Q: I have so many questions that I think a student can help me with better than my advisor. How can I get help?

A: Both Psi Chi and Psych Club offer mentoring programs. You can see the listing of Psi Chi mentors on their website and contact them directly or contact Psych Club to get your very own Psy'd Kick!



Interesting Psychology Fact...

Researchers at the Institute for Psychology of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences and the Institute for Logic, Language and Computation of the University of Amsterdam demonstrated that two to three day old babies can detect the beat in music.

Winkler et al. **Newborn infants detect the beat in music.** *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, Jan 26, 2009

Mark Your Calendars!

All Events are in SSB 130 unless otherwise stated

Feb 11th Student Activities Fair in Student Center from 12-3. Get info about Psi Chi and Psych Club!

Feb 18th Career Services "Interview Workshop"—Hosted by Psi Chi from 12-1pm

Feb 25th Lab Info Session — Hosted by Psi Chi from 12-1pm

Mar 4th Psych Club Specialization Presentation from 1-2pm

April 1st Psi Chi Resume/CV/Interview Workshop from 12-1pm

April 8th and 15th Psi Chi continues their Alumni Speaker Series from 12-1pm

April 22nd Psych Club Picnic from 1-2pm. Contact them for location information.

April 29th Psi Chi De-Stress Program from 12-1pm. Contact them for location information.

For more details on these events, please visit our website at:

<http://psychology.department.tcnj.edu/Calendar.html>

Got summer plans?

The Psychology Department would like you to know that we are offering more summer courses than ever before! Feel free to take advantage of a great opportunity to catch up on classes or get ahead to make your semester course load a little easier. Classes can be taken during the pre-session (May 11th-May 28th), first session (June 1st-July 2nd), or second session (July 6th-August 6th). Choose from courses such as Cognitive Psychology, Vocational Psychology, Consumer Psychology, Topics in Biopsychology, and many more.

Check TESS for full course listings. Hope to see you over the summer!

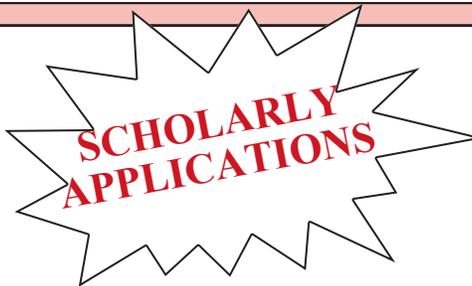
Student Highlights

Dyana Reisen, senior Psychology major, had her paper, "Docent Training Program for the KidsBridge Museum," accepted for the TCNJ Journal of Student Scholarship. The paper will be in Volume 12 for April, 2010.

Also, Dyana has won the Undergraduate Student Paper Award from the Association for Death Education and Counseling for her paper entitled "Exploring the Various Aspects of Disenfranchisement". Her faculty sponsor for this research and mentor for paper submission is Lisa Collier.

Dyana is a Psi Chi member who has previously won the Marshall P. Smith Scholarship. She has done art therapy with autistic preschoolers and runs a volunteer art/play therapy program at the TCNJ Graduate Clinic.

She plans to take a year off and then eventually head to graduate school. During that year off, she wants to work at a clinic or for an agency, as well as get her yoga teacher certification. She is looking into Somatic Psychology graduate programs, which combine the mind/body perspective of yoga with psychology. Congrats & good luck Dyana!



Marshall P. Smith scholarship applications are due February 25th at 5:00pm.

To access the application visit the psychology website at psychology.department.tcnj.edu/

Psi Chi Membership applications are due February 16, 2009

Requirements:

- 3.5 in your psych course
- 3.5 overall
- Must have attended TCNJ for at least 3 semesters
- Must have taken at least 12 psychology credits.

To submit the online application visit the PSI CHI website at www.tcnj.edu/~psichi

Specializations are Optional

As of Fall 2008, Psychology Concentrations, now known as Specializations, will be **OPTIONAL**. Students who entered TCNJ in or after Fall 2008 are no longer required to select a Specialization in order to graduate.

There have been changes to course requirements for some of the specializations, which will go into effect in Fall 2009. Those who select concentrations before next semester, will not be held to the new requirements. Please see the Psychology Department website for more information.



TCNJ Psychology Dept

Social Sciences Building
Main Office, Room 109

<http://psychology.department.tcnj.edu>

Graduating Seniors



Every spring semester the Psychology Department emails out an "exit survey" to all graduating seniors. This survey is designed to give the Psychology Department accurate statistics, as well as allowing the department to keep in touch with alumni. Make sure to keep an eye out in April of this semester for the survey!