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The Synapse

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

Welcome to the seventh 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 Psych Students Helping Haiti

With the recent earthquake in Haiti, TCNJ students were called to action! When the Haitian Student Organization decided to start a drive for Haiti relief, the Psychology Club teamed up with them to help collect and organize donations to send down to Haiti. In addition, the Psych Club participated in HSA's Here for Haiti event and made a monetary donation.



Scholarly Applications!

Laurie Ann Mandara '07 Scholarship applications are due **February 26th** at 5:00pm.

Requirements:

- ◆ Fully matriculated psych major
- ◆ 64 credits completed or 16 units by the end of Spring Term 2010
- ◆ Overall GPA of at least 3.0
- ◆ Demonstrate commitment to community service and/or persistence in overcoming personal obstacles

To access the application visit the psychology website at <http://psychology.department.tcnj.edu/>

Psi Chi Membership applications are due **February 17, 2010**

Requirements:

- 3.5 in your psych course
- 3.5 overall
- Must have attended TCNJ for at least 3 semesters
- Must have completed 4 psychology courses.

To apply online go to http://tcnj.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_8GkCISUGUxYVEhu&SVID=Prod

Marshall P. Smith Scholarship applications are due **February 26th** at 5:00pm.

Requirements:

- ◆ Fully matriculated psych major
- ◆ Completed at least 16 credits in psychology at TCNJ
- ◆ Have at least 24 credits remaining toward graduation at the start of the next academic year
- ◆ Have a GPA of at least a 3.5 in psychology courses at TCNJ and an overall GPA of 3.2 at TCNJ

To access the application visit the psychology website at <http://psychology.department.tcnj.edu/>

Interesting Psychology Fact...

During WWII B.F. Skinner used operant conditioning to train pigeons to guide missiles at enemy targets. Although he was able to successfully train the birds, the military was skeptical at the reliability of the pigeons' performance and cancelled the project.

Skinner, B.F. (1960). Pigeons in a pelican. *American Psychologist*, 15(1), 28-37.

Mark Your Calendars!

All Events are in SSB 130 unless otherwise stated

Feb 10-11: 11am-3pm Valentine Grams for sale in the STUD – Hosted by Psych Club

Feb 17: 1pm Psy'd Kick mixer on psych concentrations – Hosted by Psi Chi & Psych Club

Feb 24: 12:30 Brunch – Hosted by Psi Chi

Mar 25: 11:30-12:20 Brown Bag Lunch with Dr. Jason Dahling in SSB 225 “Studies on Career Expectations and Outcomes: Applications of Social-Cognitive Career Theory”

Apr 8: 11:30-12:20 Brown Bag Lunch with Dr. P. Andrew Leynes in SSB 223 “Stop Me If I've Told You This Before...”: Understanding Memory for Actions”

Keep a look out! The dates are TBA for this semesters Faculty Showcase and Philanthropic Fundraiser!

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

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

Senior Student Highlights

CALLIE PETERS



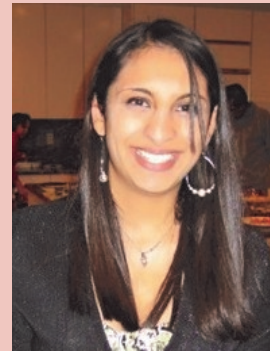
Callie transferred to TCNJ her sophomore year and has made Dean's List every semester. She served on Prof. Collier's Research Roundtable where they worked to assess the need for a College Center for Loss and Transition at TCNJ. This year, she is working on her senior honors thesis on disordered eating and its relation to body image dissatisfaction, self-esteem, and media influence. After she graduates, she is going to attend graduate school in the fall to receive her Masters in Counseling.



JESS JONES

Jess has concentrations in clinical and biopsych. She is a lab manager and in her 5th semester in the ERP lab. She is a member of Psi Chi, Phi Beta Kappa, and Phi Kappa Phi. When she graduates, she will work at the Princeton Neuroscience Institute as a Research Specialist which will include working as the MRI tech and EEG lab manager.

SWETA SHAH



Sweta is a biopsychology student with a minor in biology. She is in her 4th semester and a lab manager in the ERP lab and in her 3rd semester in the Organizational Misbehavior lab. Currently, she is the Psych Club president and a member of Psi Chi and Phi Beta Kappa. When she graduates, Sweta plans to attend the NJ School of osteopathic medicine.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: How do I declare a specialization in Psychology?

A: Go to <http://psychology.department.tcnj.edu/academics/major.html> and scroll to the bottom. There, you will find a link to the form you must complete. Have your current advisor sign that paper after you've completed it, then bring it to the Psychology Office! Or, you can pick up one of the specialization forms in the Psychology Office.

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 is possible intern sites. Feel free to contact these organizations directly as they are all willing to take on TCNJ psychology interns!

Q: I am interested in learning more about psychology graduate programs, what should I do?

A: Go to the library. There are books on reserve for psychology students that give tons of information on graduate degrees in psychology. If you still have questions, come to the psych office!

Got summer plans?

The Psychology Department would like you to know that we are offering many different summer courses in 2010! 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 10th-May 27th), first session (June 1st-July 1st), or second session (July 6th-August 9th). Choose from courses such as Cognitive Psychology, Personality Theory, Consumer Behavior, various seminars, and many more.

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

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 for the survey!



TCNJ Psychology Dept

Social Sciences Building

Main Office, Room 109

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