LEADERS IN THEIR FIELD; FACULTY

Dr. Johnson Li has been awarded a 2018 Terry G. Falconer Memorial Rh Institute Foundation Emerging Researcher Award for faculty members in the early stages of their careers who display exceptional innovation, leadership and promise in their chosen fields.

Two Psychology faculty members have been selected to win a 2018 University of Manitoba Merit Award in Social Sciences, Humanities and Fine Arts for outstanding performance in teaching, research, scholarly work and creative activities, and service.

Congratulations to Dr. Debbie Kelly on her well-deserved Merit Award for Research, Scholarly Work and Creative Activities.

Congratulations to Dr. Janine Montgomery on her well-deserved Merit Award for teaching.

Dr. Katherine Starzyk has supervised an impressive number of Vanier scholars. She is currently supervising Vanier Scholarship winners Iloradanon Efimoff and Aleah Fontaine, was MA co-advisor to Rene El-Gabalawy, who received a Vanier in the first year of the competition, & was Ley Fraser’s MA supervisor, just prior to Ley receiving her Vanier Scholarship.
LEADERS IN THEIR FIELD; STUDENTS & ALUMNI

2019 VANIER SCHOLARS

Recently the University of Manitoba announced a record number of six graduate student recipients of 2019 Vanier Scholarships. Psychology has the honour of counting two current graduate students and one alumni among these numbers. Congratulations to Elena Bilevicius, Aleah Fontaine, and Ley Fraser!

Elena Bilevicius (advisors Ed Johnson & Matt Keough) is currently working on her thesis Understanding how social factors explain the link between negative mood and problem drinking in emerging adults with a goal of better understanding the mechanisms that put people ages 18 to 25 at risk of alcohol problems.

Aleah Fontaine (advisor Katherine Starzyk) is currently completing her MA thesis on reconciliation in Canada and will be going on to complete a PhD thesis titled: Effecting Change Within the Child Welfare System in Manitoba to Promote Better Well-Being. Aleah is looking for ways to improve the child welfare system, especially in Manitoba.

Ley Fraser completed her MA in Psychology and is currently completing a PhD in Sociology working on her thesis At the Identity Crossroads: Transgender Canadians and Intersectional Discrimination. Ley will be looking at intersectionality in gender minorities.

NATIONAL AWARDS

Jordana Sommer, Psychology PhD student, won a 2019 National Register of Health Service Psychologists Doctoral Student Award. This award supports an original applied research project focused on improving psychology delivery in a health setting, including mental health. Jordana’s impressive plan is to use the $10,000 stipend to support her dissertation research involving a randomized controlled trial investigating the impact of a novel preoperative virtual reality simulation on preoperative distress in breast cancer surgery patients.
Look Who’s Talking

Dr. Debbie Kelly and Dr. Kristin Reynolds presented at the 36th Annual Centre on Aging Spring Symposium, May 6-7, 2019.

Dr. Kristin Reynolds, Department of Psychology, gave the Afternoon Plenary Session for the 2019 Centre on Aging Spring Symposium. Dr. Reynolds talk was titled: The development and pilot evaluation of an information decision-aid for late-life depression.

Dr. Debbie Kelly, Department of Psychology, gave a talk for one of the Morning Concurrent Sessions. Dr. Kelly’s talk was titled, Comparative Studies of Spatial Cognition: What can birds tell us about aging?

Retired UofM Psychology professor, Dr. Robert Altemeyer, was profiled recently in the Winnipeg Free Press with an article focusing on his lengthy career specializing in research on authoritarian personalities. The article also touches on the parallels between Dr. Altemeyer’s 2006 book, The Authoritarians, and the current political climate of the USA, with the election of President Trump.

Iloradanon Efimoff’s thoughts on both White privilege and her research, which aims to diminish racist attitudes by changing how people think, were included in an article in UMToday Magazine, Creating Pathways Deconstructing Privilege, about exposing unconscious everyday privilege experienced by White people.

Dr. Ed Johnson gave an informative on-camera interview with Mike Albanese, City News, in February, discussing rising anxiety levels in young persons. Dr. Johnson also served as an invited discussion leader on the theme of “Supervision and Mentorship across the Professional Lifespan” and delegate to the Canadian Psychological Association’s (CPA) historic National Summit on the Future of Professional Psychology Training in Canada in Montreal. Prior to the summit, he and the other discussion leaders each published an article in Psynopsis, Canada’s Psychology Magazine, which may be found here.

As part of the Pints of Science Festival, the Department of Psychology was represented by Dr. Melanie Soderstrom and post-doc Dr. John Bunce who each gave a talk and answered questions at Fionn MacCool’s Pub, Tuesday May 21st.

Chantal Van Landeghem, Psychology MA student (advisors Dr. Lorna Jakobson & Dr. Adrienne Leslie-Toogood), finished top 3 for her presentation in Heat 1 of the 2019 3MT competition, going on to present Exercise addiction: It’s a real thing: Risk of Exercise Addiction in University Students: A Subtyping Study Utilizing Latent Profile Analysis in the 3MT finals on March 18th, 2019.
Kudos and thanks to Dr. Randy Jamieson, who takes over on July 1 as Acting Head of Psychology for 2019-2020!

Psychology also welcomes an outstanding new instructor to the department! Dr. Wan Wang will be joining our Quantitative Psychology program this July. Dr. Wang is returning to Manitoba, where she is originally from, after earning her doctorate from Wilfrid Laurier and completing a post-doc at Waterloo. Her expertise in data analysis and experimental design will be an asset to the Quantitative area and the Department.

Congratulations to Dr. Dan Bailis on being re-appointed Department Head through 2023, and Bon Voyage as he heads off for a year-long sabbatical.

Bon voyage to Dr. Matt Keough as he leaves the University of Manitoba to take up his new position at York University. While we are sad to see Matt go, we’re grateful for his many outstanding contributions to research and teaching here. Congratulations and best wishes!
Head’s Up!
Department of Psychology, University of Manitoba, June 2019

MATT KEOUGH’S FAREWELL
MORE STAFF NEWS

Congratulations to Dr. Johnson Li and wife Virginia Tze on the birth of their beautiful baby boy, Hugo!

Congratulations to Dr. Jen Theule and Dr. Launa Leboe-McGowan on their recent promotions!

Dr. Launa Leboe-McGowan received a promotion to Associate Professor.

Dr. Jen Theule received a promotion to Associate Professor and has been granted tenure.

Dr. Judy Chipperfield recently received a Long service award. Congratulations!

Celebrating the faculty members who recently had a Service Anniversary in 2018: Dr. Dan Bailis, Dr. Joanne Keselman, Dr. Joe Pear, Dr. Jim Shapiro, Dr. Melanie Soderstrom, Dr. Dickie Yu

GRANTS

Dr. Jonathan Marotta - In collaboration with researchers from the College of Rehabilitation Services, Depts. of Human Anatomy and Cell Science; Radiology and Neurology. Neural underpinnings of improved mobility function by dual-task cognitive game-based treadmill system intervention in Parkinson's disease. University Collaborative Research Program (UCRP)

Montgomery, J. M., Shoostari, S., & Wirth, K. Describing the Pathway to an Autism Spectrum Disorder Diagnosis, University Collaborative Research Program (URCP), University of Manitoba ($21800)

Jennifer Barnes, Psychology PhD student: recipient of the 2018 CPA Grants for Student Research and Knowledge Dissemination. “This award recognizes exceptional student research and knowledge dissemination efforts in all areas of psychology.”

RESEARCHPALOOZA

Researchpalooza 2019 was a huge success with more than 40 entries, more than any previous year. This year’s #1 ranked poster, as chosen by the PSYC 4520 honours class, was “Alexithymia, Theory of Mind, and the Processing of Indirect (Non-Literal) Speech in a Non-clinical Sample” by Jakobson, L. S., Pearson, P. M., Hare, C., Kozub, Z., & Rigby, S. N.

SPECIAL THANKS

Thanks to Lauren Kaminski, Matthew Cook & Karli Rapinda, for running the Psychology booth at the 2019 U of M Open House for High School students.
Several Psychology graduate students have been selected to receive a 2018-2019 FGS Research Completion Scholarship. Congratulations to Brooke Beatie, Dylan Davidson, Kate Kenyon, Karmen McDivitt, Sarah Rigby!

Brooke Beatie was awarded the 2019 Psychology Graduate Student STAR Award for outstanding achievement in research, teaching, and service.

Tiffany Carther-Krone received a 2019 FoVea (Females of Vision et al.) Travel and Networking Award. Funded by the National Science Foundation to covers the costs involved in attending the 2019 Vision Sciences Society meeting.

Kristene Cheung, Psychology PhD student, has been awarded the Sam and Esther Sair Scholarship for her commitment to working with people with long-term mental disorders.

Kayla Kilborn received a 2019 Rising Stars Foundation Women in Sport Scholarship to support her Master’s.

Karmen McDivitt, was awarded the 2019 Manitoba Psychological Society, Dr. John Walker Student Research Award!

Sarah Rigby, was awarded the Vineberg Award for 2019. Sarah will give next year’s Vineberg colloquium talk in Winter 2020.

Chantal Van Landeghem received this year’s Sir Douglas Oatway Memorial Fellowship for graduate students who are researching issues related to adult harassment.
Undergraduate Awards

The 2019 Spring PURE Award winners:
Evan Forest (with Dr. Melanie Soderstrom & Dr. Amy Desroches), Gagan Gill (with Dr. Judy Chipperfield), Alexis Koffman (with Dr. Richard Kruk), Shannon Senanayake (with Dr. Jonathan Marotta), Derek Trudel (with Dr. Tammy Ivanco).

During the 2019 Honours Dinner Several undergraduate awards were received.

The CPA Certificate of Excellence awards were awarded to: well deserving students Haley Bernusky, Heather Hughes, & Shayna Pierce. Congratulations!

Shelby Anderson, Haley Bernusky, Aidan Campbell, & Baénie La Fleur were selected to receive an Honours Class of 2018-2019 Award of Excellence in Public Speaking.

Finally Haley Bernusky was awarded the 2019 Ten Have award for the student in 4th year honours whose thesis was judged to be the most outstanding of the year. Congratulations to Haley on her triple win!

Psychology Honours students Carly McFall (left) & Kaeley Simpson (right) are among the 2019 recipients of the University of Manitoba Emerging Leader Awards recognizing student leaders who make outstanding contributions to the University of Manitoba & community.

Matsya Thulasiram was awarded a Vision Sciences Society (VSS) Student Travel Award for excellent submissions to the annual meeting. Typically given to graduate students, it is a rare honour that this award is being presented to an undergraduate.

Psychology was well represented at the University of Manitoba June 5, 2019 convocation. The University Gold Medal winner for Faculty of Arts was awarded to Aaron J. Stone (left), who graduated this June with his B.A. Hons in Psychology.

All three Faculty of Arts Program Medals, awarded to students with the highest standing in the faculty, were awarded to students involved in the Psychology program: Aidan Campbell (upper right), BA Honours degree in Psychology, Laura Wallace (left), BA General degree in Psychology, and Carolyne Marchildon (lower right), BA Advanced degree in History with Psychology minor.
HONOURS DINNER 2019
## Faculty of Arts Endowment & Travel Award Funding

### American Educational Research Association Conference in Toronto
Student Conference Travel Award and Endowment Funds: **Patti Parker**

### Anxiety and Depression Association of America Conference
Endowment Funds: **Brooke Beatie, Karmen McDivitt, Jordana Sommer**

### Applied Behaviour Analysis International Conference
Endowment Funds: **Carly Cressman**

### Association for Behaviour Analysis 45th Annual International Conference in Chicago
Student Conference Travel Award: **Ryan Heckert, Karli Pedreira, Jessica Summers**
Endowment Funds: **Brittany Cook, Maria Pongoski, Jessica Summers**

### Association for Psychological Science Conference in Washington, DC
Student Conference Travel Award: **Matthew Quesnel**

### Canadian Psychological Association Annual National Conference in Halifax
Student Conference Travel Award: **Elena Bilevicius, Mathew Bernstein, Nicolas Brais, Jeremiah Buhler, Kristene Cheung, Jona Frohlich, Jessa Hogarth, Kevin Kristjanson, Karli Rapinda, Alanna Single, Chantal Van Landeghem, Amber Yaholkoski, Michelle Ward**
Endowment Funds: **Dylan Davidson, Leora Strand**

### Canadian Society for Brain Behaviour and Cognitive Science Conference in Waterloo
Student Conference Travel Award: **Erin Dowling, Bradley Smith, Jackie Spear**

### International Society of Political Psychologists
Endowment Funds: **Dr. Katelin Neufeld**

### International Youth Conference on Ukrainian Heritage
Endowment Funds: **Brenna Hildebrand**

### Society for Personality and Social Psychology Annual Conference
Endowment Funds: **Robert Dryden, Corey Petsnik**

### Society for the Scientific Study of Reading Conference in Toronto
Student Conference Travel Award and Endowment Funds: **Francesca Silla**

### Visions Sciences Society International Conference in St. Pete Beach, Florida
Student Conference Travel Award: **Ryan Langridge**
Endowment Funds: **Tiffany Carther-Crone**

### 9th Annual World Congress of Behavioural and Cognitive Therapies in Berlin, Germany
Student Conference Travel Award and Endowment Funds: **Sarah Petty**
RECENT COLLOQUIA

Friday, January 18th, 2019
Dr. Justin Friesen  
(University of Winnipeg)  
Colloquium in Social and Personality Psychology

February 8th, 2019
Dr. Bruno Zumbo  
(University of British Columbia)  
Colloquium in Quantitative Psychology

Friday, March 1st, 2019
Mr. Ryan Langridge  
VINEBERG AWARD COLLOQUIUM & RESEARCHPALOOZA

Friday, March 15th, 2019
Dr. Matthew Hill  
(University of Calgary)  
Colloquium in Brain & Cognitive Sciences

Friday, March 22nd, 2019
Dr. Robert Horner  
(University of Oregon)  
Colloquium in Applied Behavioural Analysis

Friday, March 29th, 2019
Dr. Matthew Keough  
TEACHING AWARD COLLOQUIUM

Friday, April 5th, 2019
Dr. Krista Byers-Heinlein  
(Concordia University)  
Colloquium in Developmental Psychology

ADDITIONAL TALKS & PRESENTATIONS

Caitlin Blaney presented a Rapid Fire Presentation, Anxiety in rheumatoid arthritis: preliminary results for the impact of an online mental health intervention, during the Department of Clinical Health Psychology 10th Annual Research Day in Winnipeg in April.


Reegan McCheyne, Psychology honours student, presented Self-Compassion and Decision-Making on the Value of Everyday Objects as part of the Consumer Behaviour presentation, during the Faculty of Arts Undergraduate Research Symposium. Winnipeg, March 28th, 2019.

Jordana Sommer presented a Rapid Fire Presentation, Mental health sequelae in the perioperative period: dissociation, delirium & posttraumatic stress, during the Department of Clinical Health Psychology 10th Annual Research Day in Winnipeg in April.
# Defenses & Proposals

**Nicolas Brais, Master’s Thesis Oral Proposal**  
Friday, June 28th, 9:30AM, P412 Duff Roblin  
**Title:** The Effects of Self-Compassion on Avoidant Behaviours Within Individuals With Social Anxiety

**Hana Abbas, Master’s Thesis Final Oral Defense**  
Thursday, June 27th, 1:00PM, P412 Duff Roblin  
**Title:** Eye-Hand Coordination: Memory-Guided Grasping in a Cluttered Environment

**Brenna Henrikson, Doctoral Dissertation Oral Proposal**  
Thursday, June 27th, 2019, 12:30PM, P519 Duff Roblin  
**Title:** The Broad Autism Phenotype and its Relation to Parental Reflective Functioning in Parents of Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders

**Robert Dryden, Master’s Thesis Oral Proposal**  
Tuesday, June 25th, 2:30PM, P412 Duff Roblin  
**Title:** Enhancing Academic Motivation and Success for First-Generation Students with Low Perceived Control

**Kylie Clayton, Doctoral Dissertation Final Oral Defense**  
Friday, June 21st, 2019, 1:00PM, P412 Duff Roblin  
**Title:** A Meta-Analysis on the Rate of Attachment Classifications of Infants in the Strange Situation Paradigm: Distribution Across Cultures and Demographic Variables

**Karlis Cochrane, Master’s Thesis Oral Proposal**  
Wednesday, May 22nd, 1:00PM, P412 Duff Roblin  
**Title:** Parenting Style as a Predictor of Parenting Stress and Family Quality of Life in Families of Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder

**Michelle Ward, Doctoral Dissertation Oral Proposal**  
Wednesday, May 15th, 2018, 12:00PM, P412 Duff Roblin  
**Title:** Like Mother, Like Son: A Similarity-Fit Perspective on Motherhood and the Broader Autism Phenotype

**Alanna Single, Master’s Thesis Oral Proposal**  
Tuesday, May 7th, 11:00AM, P412  
**Title:** Examining the Prospective Associations between Mindfulness Facets and Substance Use in Emerging Adulthood

**Chantal Van Landeghem, Master’s Thesis Oral Defense**  
Thursday, May 2nd, 10:00AM, P412 Duff Roblin  
**Title:** Risk of Exercise Dependence in University Students: A Subtyping Study Utilizing Latent Profile Analysis

**Daniel Foidart, Master’s Thesis Oral Proposal**  
Thursday, April 18th, 2019, 10:00AM, P519 Duff Roblin  
**Title:** Behavioural Skills Training to Teach Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder Street-Crossing in a Virtual Environment

**Kerri Hildebrand, Master’s Thesis Oral Defense**  
Friday, March 22nd 2019, 10:30AM, P412 Duff Roblin  
**Title:** A computational account for contingency learning

**Bradley Smith, Master’s Thesis Oral Proposal**  
Thursday, February 28th, 2019, 1:00PM, P412 Duff Roblin  
**Title:** Neuroticism in Four Non-Cancer Populations at the End of Life

**Scott Smith, Master’s Thesis Final Oral Defense**  
Monday, January 28th 2019, 10:00AM, P412 Duff Roblin  
**Title:** Implementation of a Novel Music-Face Pairing Task to Increase Facial Affect Recognition in the Broad Autism Phenotype
RECENT PUBLICATIONS!


CONFERENCE POSTERS:


If you have any updates, news, presentations or publications that you would like included in the next newsletter, please send them to Jamie McMillan at Jamie.McMillan@umanitoba.ca