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• Welcome •••••

As Chair of the Public Relations Committee, it is my privilege to provide some introductory comments to the latest edition of the newsletter. The purpose of our newsletter is to highlight the achievements of the department and provide information on recent and upcoming events. In this edition, we



2006. Congratulations to each of you. Finally, we once again call upon our friends who support the various scholarship and aid programmes.

While it is the Public Relations Committee that pulls together the information for each newsletter, we owe innumerable thanks to a number of individuals without whom this newsletter would not be possible. First, we would like to thank Jill Latschislaw for the layout of the newsletter. We also want to thank the department staff who tirelessly label and mail the approximately 800 copies of the newsletter: Suzanne Beaudet, Heather Bowers, Gloria Derksen, Mary Kuzmeniuk and Jill Latschislaw.

Marian Morry
Chair, Public Relations
Committee

have included our regular columns which include the departmental research programmes (Drs. Rayleen DeLuca and Warren Eaton), accomplishments of our distinguished graduates (Dr. Janice Ristock), graduate student research (Mr. Lee Baugh and Ms. Kerri Walters), and our colloquium series. Two special features have also been included in this edition of the newsletter. First, the Adjunct Profiles are intended to provide a brief introduction to the individuals who so graciously volunteer their time and energy working with graduate students in the department. Second, in the spirit of highlighting achievements, we report on our students who received their M.A. or Ph.D. in

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One University. Many Futures.

• Spotlight on Research •••••



Warren Eaton

Developmental Area

My current research programme is the result, not of foresight and planning, but of a chance encounter at a scientific meeting 10 years ago. I happened to see a poster about season-of-birth differences in when babies first crawl and walk. The differences between spring- and fall-born babies were surprisingly large, and I decided to pursue the issue as a secondary interest. My skepticism faded and my interest grew after we replicated the seasonality finding with a small Winnipeg sample. I then was able to obtain some SSHRC funding to start a large, prospective longitudinal study in 2001. The resulting project, the Milestones Study, included more than 700 families, most from Winnipeg, who kept daily checklists of what their babies were doing each day. The results of that project, and our experiences in conducting it, have tremendously influenced and broadened my interests to include the themes that follow.

The first is that there are indeed season-of-birth effects associated with when babies first crawl and walk. I think the most compelling explanation for this phenomenon has to do with vitamin D exposure during the middle of the first year. This hypothesis has led me to new interests and to in-progress studies on sunlight exposure, breastfeeding, vitamin D intake, and to research in other high latitude countries like New Zealand.

A second theme is that many parents are highly motivated to participate in research if their participation is convenient. When we started the Milestones Study, we did not know if any parents would be willing to complete daily checklists for any length of time. We were surprised to find that, on average, they completed the checklists for 6 months – without *any* prompting or cajoling from us. Parents found the process of watching for subtle signs of developmental progress to be quite rewarding, and a number of them have even sought to enroll more recently born children. Such parental enthusiasm has led me to the realization that a milestone-focused methodology has tremendous potential for uncovering developmental patterns that are “hidden” in the living rooms of families everywhere.

My third theme evolved from the necessity to estimate rates of development from developmental milestones. With ubiquitous events like crawling and walking, individual variation is reflected in the chronological ages at which milestones are reached. Instead of being a predictor, age becomes the outcome variable. Statistical techniques from other disciplines are ideal for analyzing such age-of-attainment data, and many developmental events lend themselves to this approach.

My final theme emerged from repeated failures to attract grant funding for studies subsequent to the original Milestones Project. For grant reviewers, milestones research seems to be redolent of the 1930s, to be too far removed from the current zeitgeist in motor development research, or to be just weird. Thus, I've been forced to find alternative ways to continue this research. I have realized that our milestones methodology can be delivered via the web, and we are establishing what I hope will become a centre for internet-based developmental research. The Oxford English Dictionary was developed with the help of thousands of volunteers, and in a modern parallel I hope to attract thousands of web-using parents who are willing to collaborate in the mapping of the themes and variations in how infants and children develop in their customary habitats.

Selected publications:

Bodnarchuk, J. L., & Eaton, W. O. (2006). Transitions in breastfeeding: Daily parent diaries provide evidence of behavior over time. *Journal of Human Lactation*, 22, 166-181.

Bodnarchuk, J. L., & Eaton, W. O. (2004). Can parent reports be trusted? Validity of daily checklists of gross motor milestone attainment. *Journal of Applied Developmental Psychology*, 25, 481-490.



• Adjuncts



Dr. Angela Cornick

Director ABA Program and Psychology Services, St. Amant

Field: Applied Behaviour Analysis

Specialty: Autism, Developmental and Intellectual Disabilities, Assessment and Evaluation of Skills



Dr. Jim Clark

Professor, Department of Psychology, University of Winnipeg

Field: Cognitive Psychology

Specialty: Inhibition, Word Norms, Nature of Science



Dr. Beverley Fehr

Professor, Department of Psychology, University of Winnipeg

Field: Social Psychology

Specialty: Close Relationships, Emotion, Intimacy, Love, Commitment



Dr. Ron Norton

Professor Emeritus, University of Winnipeg

Field: Clinical Psychology/Experimental Psychopathology

Specialty: Anxiety Disorders, Substance Abuse, Chronic Pain, Comorbid Psychopathology



Dr. Leslie Graff

Associate Professor, Department of Clinical Health Psychology, Faculty of Medicine, University of Manitoba

Field: Health Psychology with Illness Related Chronic Pain

Specialty: Gastrointestinal Related Illness; Inflammatory Bowel Disease; Irritable Bowel Syndrome; Chronic Pain



Dr. Pauline Pearson

Associate Professor, Department of Psychology, University of Winnipeg

Field: Vision & Visual Cognition

Specialty: Perception, Colour, Texture, Binocular Vision; Implicit & Explicit Memory



Dr. Susan Larson

Associate Professor, Concordia College, Minnesota

Field: Behavioural Neuroscience

Specialty: Sickness Behaviour Psychoneuroimmunology, Animal Learning, Behavioural Pharmacology

• Adjuncts



Dr. Robert Renaud

Assistant Professor, Department of Educational Administration, Foundations and Psychology, Faculty of Education, University of Manitoba

Field: Performance Indicators in Higher Education

Specialty: Critical Thinking, Structural Equation Modeling, and Student Ratings of Teaching



Dr. Bob Tait

Dean of Graduate Studies and Professor of Psychology at the University of Northern British Columbia

Field: Experimental Psychology

Specialty: Learning, Motivation, and Management Systems, Pavlov Conditioning, Disaster Problems



Dr. John Walker

Professor, Department of Clinical Health Psychology, Anxiety Disorders Program, St. Boniface General Hospital

Field: Anxiety Disorders in Adults and Children

Specialty: Health Anxiety, Cognitive Behaviour Therapy, Epidemiology, Prevention and Early Intervention



Dr. Dieter Schonwetter

Assistant Professor, Education Specialist, Faculty of Dentistry, University of Manitoba

Field: Health Psychology, Personality, Social Cognition

Specialty: Student Tracking Programs, Student Learning Outcomes; Higher Education Program Assessments and Evaluations; Attribution and Locus of Control; Stress



Dr. Nora Vincent

Department of Clinical Health Psychology, Faculty of Medicine, University of Manitoba

Field: Clinical Health Psychology

Specialty: Sleep Disorders, Eating Disorders, Generalized Anxiety Disorder, Interpersonal Aspects of Depression



Dr. Doug Williams

Professor, Department of Psychology, University of Winnipeg

Field: Human and Nonhuman Cognition

Specialty: Conditioning, Timing and Contingency Learning

• Our Distinguished Alumni •



Dr. Janice Ristock

Dr. Janice Ristock is Associate Dean (Research) and Professor of Women's Studies, Faculty of Arts, University of Manitoba

I completed my BA (Hons.) at the University of Manitoba. Dr. Lorna Sandler was the advisor for my honours thesis project on "The psychosocial factors effecting women's breast self-examination practice". I also worked as a research assistant with Dr. John Adair in his social psychology lab. My experiences as an honours student were extremely positive. I have fond memories of participating in an active undergraduate psychology club, Friday afternoon wine and cheese parties, and even a few baseball games with faculty and students. In the honours programme I received a very solid foundation in research that made the transition to graduate school a relatively easy one. That said, in my undergraduate years, I struggled with trying to reconcile contradictory experiences between my life outside the university with my studies in psychology.

For example, I worked at a sexual assault centre where I witnessed the trauma and resilience of women who had been raped, yet I encoun-

tered psychological research and theorizing that described female victims of sexual assault as masochistic and sexually provocative. (This was the early '80s). I completed my MA in Applied Social Psychology at the University of Guelph and then a PhD in Community Psychology at OISE/University of Toronto. My time at OISE was particularly gratifying because I was exposed to the perspective of feminist psychology and worked closely with Jeri Dawn Wine, a pioneer in the field. Today I feel privileged to be in the Women's Studies Programme at the University of Manitoba. More recently I have taken on the role of Associate Dean (Research) and feel fortunate to have the opportunity to support social science and humanities researchers.

My own research is not that far removed from the topic of my honours thesis. I engage in community-based, qualitative research in the area of health, sexuality, and gender. More specifically my work has focused on issues of relationship violence, the impact of homophobia and other forms of oppression, and programme evaluations of social service agencies. I have three new research grants in these areas: A CIHR project (with Randy Jackson, Canadian Aboriginal Aids Network) entitled, "Two-Spirit Women's Experience of Homophobia in the Context of HIV/AIDS Service Provision"; A CIHR project on "Vulnerability and Resilience among Sexual Minorities in Canada" and a SSHRC project, "Understanding Women's Perceptions of Risk for Intimate Partner Violence with an Intersectionality Framework: The Case of Disabled, Separated and Lesbian Women in Canada".

I currently serve on the editorial board of the *Canadian Journal of Community Mental Health* and was Associate Editor from 2000-2005. I

also serve on the advisory board for the *Sexuality Studies Series*, University of British Columbia Press, and am an expert panel member for the violence panel of *The Canadian Health Network*.

I have received a number of awards from the University of Manitoba including a Faculty of Arts Outstanding Achievement award and an Outstanding Teaching award, a University of Manitoba Outreach award, an Rh award for Outstanding Contributions to Interdisciplinary Scholarship and Research, a YWCA/YMCA Woman of Distinction Award, and a Book award for *No More Secrets: Violence in Lesbian Relationships* from the American Psychological Association.

Selected publications:

Brownridge, D., Chan, K. L., Hiebert-Murphy, D., Ristock, J. L., Tiwari, A., Leung, W. C., & Santos, S. C. (in press). The Elevated Risk for Non-Lethal Post-Separated Violence in Canada: A comparison of separated, divorced and married women. *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*.

Iwasaki, Y. & Ristock, J. (in press). The Nature of Stress Experienced by Gay Men and Lesbians. *Anxiety, Stress and Coping: An International Journal*.

Ristock, J. L. (2005). Taking off the gender-lens in Women's Studies: Queering violence against women. *Canadian Woman Studies*, 24(2/3), 65-66.

Holmes, C. & Ristock, J. L. (2004). Exploring discursive constructions of lesbian abuse: Looking inside and out. In C. Shearer-Cremean, L. Parks & C. L. Winkelmann (Eds.), *Negotiation and Narrativity in Abused Women's Rhetoric*. University of Toronto Press: Toronto, 94-119.