



EKU Department Psychology Newsletter

Eastern Kentucky
University

Spring 2016

Inside this issue:

Passing of Dr. Rosanne Lorden

Dr. Rosanne Lorden, professor of psychology at EKU, passed away on Feb. 2 after a brief illness. She was 69.

Dr. Lorden, who had served the University faithfully since joining the faculty in 1986, is fondly remembered for an uncommon zest for life that carried over in everything from her teaching to her gardening to her friendships.

A tireless worker and beloved professor recognized many times for classroom excellence, Dr. Lorden served on numerous departmental, college and University committees. She was instrumental in the implementation of the Thinking and Communicating across the Curriculum Project and the Banner program as well as a leading force in the development of the University's unique Animal Studies program.

She is also remembered as an enthusiastic world citizen and avid traveler who was into organic gardening before it became a catchphrase and hoarding recyclables long before others became alarmed by landfills. She took frequent nature walks; read voraciously; loved canoeing, whitewater rafting and kayaking; and cooked like a professional.

Dr. Lorden, a treasured friend, colleague, mentor, scholar, and teacher, joined our faculty in 1986 and for the past three decades has been the heart of the department.

As those of us who knew and loved Dr. Lorden have struggled to deal with her passing, many have recounted Rosanne stories and reflected on what she meant to them and how she affected their lives. I want to share just one with you:

“When I think of Rosanne, I think of a joy-filled, genuinely kind human being. From the day I met her she had a way of making me feel like who I was and what I cared about mattered. She had a way of making everyone she came in contact with feel significant. May we all learn how to live a fuller life by her example. She will be forever missed.”



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Doctoral Students at EKU Hone Testimony Skills

Eight students in the doctoral program in clinical psychology at Eastern Kentucky University traveled to the University of Kentucky College of Law recently to hone their testimony skills.

The students, from Dr. Dustin Wygant's advanced forensic psychology class, worked with second- and third-year UK law students who are members of the Trial Advocacy Board (law school version of mock trial) under the guidance of Professor Allison Connelly.



The law students conducted direct and cross-examination of the EKU doctoral students. Each EKU student was given a forensic report and psychological test results for an actual case that was previously completed by Wygant. The cases were modified to make the students the psychologist who performed the evaluation, and involved questions of competency to stand trial, legal insanity, and risk for future violence.

The doctoral students provided expert testimony about their cases. The UK law students guided the testimony through direct and cross examination, and Connelly provided feedback to both the law students and witnesses. Wygant offered feedback after each case as well,

discussing how the doctoral students performed as well as the actual case outcome.

The testimony took place at the UK College of Law courtroom, “enhancing the realism of the experience,” Wygant said. Connelly served as judge during the hearings.

“The experience was a hit,” Wygant said. “Everyone enjoyed it, and we plan to maintain this collaboration and do this event on an annual basis.

”EKU’s doctoral program in clinical psychology, the first practice-oriented Psy.D. program at a public university in the Commonwealth, was launched in 2015 to address a significant health care void, particularly in rural Kentucky. The curriculum provides opportunities for specialized training in substance abuse, mental health administration, school-based mental health, suicide risk assessment and prevention, and working with traditionally underserved populations, including veterans and their families, adults and children with developmental disabilities, and individuals who are deaf and hard of hearing. Additional specialized training opportunities include forensic psychology and applied behavior analysis.



For more information, visit psychology.eku.edu/doctorate-clinical-psychology-psyd.

Psychology Department Awards Banquet a Success!

The Psychology Department Awards Banquet was a rousing success. The following students won departmental awards:

Dr. Rosanne Lorden Outstanding Psychology Co-op Student Award: Tony Lunsford (an e-Campus student) and Jasmine Wilson

Dr. Rosanne Lorden Outstanding Animal Studies Co-op Student Award: Veronica Seawall

Clark Hull Award of Excellence: Brianna Wilson

William and Pauline Knapp Scholarship: Elizabeth Bartelt

Douglas and Nancy Steward Hindman Scholarship: Kendra Smallwood

We also presented awards to the 2016 Outstanding Psychology Seniors and recognized a variety of other student awards and accomplishments. The Dorothy Mercer Award for Excellence in Advising was presented to Rosanne (not for the first time).

For the first time in the 35+ year history of the banquet, we were treated to live entertainment during the meal. The Cammack Flat Notes (Dr. Dustin Wygant and Associate Professor of Humanities, Culture, and Languages, Dr. Erik Lidell) favored us with a selection of song and guitar stylings, including the classic Bill Monroe tune Kentucky Waltz and a heartfelt rendition of Purple Rain, in tribute to the recently departed Prince (there was hardly a dry eye in the house – especially when Dr. Wygant donned a purple tie).

Clinical Program Update

This spring saw the graduation of the final graduate students in the terminal master's program that has been around since the 1970's. Over the years, ECU has graduated countless students who have gone on to various positions around the Commonwealth and elsewhere. Some of these students have gone on to earn doctoral degrees, while others have worked in the state at the master's level. The program had a great run, but is now discontinued since we have our doctoral program.



This spring also saw the completion of the first year of the new doctoral program in Clinical Psychology at ECU. We had 11 first year students who completed courses in various clinical skills (assessment, intervention, ethics, etc.) and 8 advanced third year students who came in with a master's degree. These students completed yearlong practicum positions at the ECU Counseling Center, Eastern State Hospital, Madison Middle School, Bluegrass.org, and the Federal Medical Center. The program came with two new clinical faculty, who also finished their first year at ECU, Drs. Liesa Klein and Michael McClellan. Dr. Klein brings expertise in the area of applied behavioral analysis and Dr. McClellan brings his expertise in rural mental health and cultural competency. The program continues to grow- we have 12 incoming first year students next fall and 8 new third year students, which will bring the program up to full occupancy with four separate classes! We're currently working towards our initial accreditation.

EKU Mock Trial Team Wins Great Lakes International

Eclipsing squads from Notre Dame University and Northwestern University, among others, a mock trial team from Eastern Kentucky University brought back the first-place trophy from the Great Lakes Mock Trial Invitational in snowy Ypsilanti, Michigan, Nov. 21-22. For the first time in the program's history, EKU went a perfect 8-0 in a tournament. Eastern took both ballots in each of four rounds against Notre Dame, Northwestern, Hillsdale College and the University of Pittsburgh.

EKU's historic effort also brought home multiple individual awards. Ryan Wiggins, a freshman criminal justice and psychology double major from Georgetown, was the top-ranking witness in the tournament, earning a perfect 20 rank and an Outstanding Witness Award. Maiya Lane, a freshman criminal justice major from Louisville, also earned an Outstanding Witness Award. Matt Boggs, a senior political Science and history double major from Whitesburg, earned Outstanding Attorney Awards on both the prosecution and defense sides of the case.

Other members of EKU's tournament-winning team included Allie Maples, a political science major from Mount Sterling; Sean Potter, a political science major from Whitesburg; and Andrena Mounce, a biology and chemistry double major from Berea. Boggs and Maples are members of EKU Honors.

EKU's second squad at the tournament also performed well, going 4-4 and recording impressive wins against Iowa State University and Northwood University. Members of that squad included Mackenzie DeSpain, Omar Salinas-Chacón, Laura Jackson, Sophia Chan, Caridad Echevarría and Erica Madden. Salinas-Chacón, Jackson and Echevarría, are also members of EKU Honors.

Faculty and staff assisting with the program include Thomas Parker, Lynnette Noblitt, Brandon Williams, Kristeena Johnson and Dean Sara Zeigler.



PSYCHOLOGY COLLOQUIUM: "Lights, Camera, Action! Understanding Visual Comprehension

Adam M. Larson, Ph.D. from Findlay University presented the talk, "Lights, Camera, Action! Understanding Visual Comprehension Using Pictures, Visual Narratives, and Film."

Researchers have been studying reading for quite some time to understand how eye movements are related to comprehension. Recently, Larson and colleagues have begun asking similar questions regarding visual narratives, like film. Larson shared some of his research that shows how we start to comprehend, remember, and generate inferences in the narratives we watch.



Undergraduate Students Participation in Conferences

Kentucky Academy of Sciences, November 14, 2015

Shannon Layman, "Sex differences in the self-concepts of gifted students: A meta-analysis."

Kentucky Psychological Foundation Spring Academic Conference, April 2, 2016

Kayla Durham, Marissa Slavey, "Is harsh parenting style related to negative child behaviors?"

Toria Gambill, "The relationship between childhood trauma and criminal behavior: A meta-analysis."

Ashley Miller, Kristen Gibson, "The effect of cognitive behavioral therapy on obsessive compulsive disorder: A meta-analysis."

Melissa Napier, Dominique Norris, "How eye movement desensitization and reprocessing affects trauma victims: A systematic review."

Eliza Scalia, Jamie Pharis, "The effects of various treatments on post-traumatic stress disorder."

Kendra Smallwood, Alexis Reisig, "The correlation between abuse and negative life outcomes."

Jason Tuggle, "Relationship type and violence in stalking cases."

Michaela Herbig, "The relationship between self-construal and parenting practices."

Justin Morgan, "Self-construal, self-concept clarity, and consideration of future events."

Jessica Ruark, "Personality factors that predict cyberbullying among middle school students."

Hayley Sparks, "My religion and my people: Levels of ingroup identification and Christian religious orientations."

University Presentation Showcase, April 15, 2016

Hayley Sparks, "My religion and my people: Levels of ingroup identification and Christian religious orientations."

Jessica Ruark, "Personality factors that predict cyberbullying among middle school students."

Michaela Herbig, "The relationship between self-construal and parenting practices."

Justin Morgan, "Self-construal, self-concept clarity, and consideration of future events."

Brooke Maupin, "Indirect bullying, empathy, and need for power: A mediating relationship."

Jason Tuggle, "Relationship type and violence in stalking cases."

Marissa Slavey, Kayla Durham, "Is harsh parenting style related to negative child behaviors?"

Jamie Pharis, Eliza Scalia, "The effects of various treatments on post-traumatic stress disorder."

Ashley Miller, Kristen Gibson, "The effect of cognitive behavioral therapy on obsessive compulsive disorder: A meta-analysis."

Melissa Napier, Dominique Norris, "How eye movement desensitization and reprocessing affects trauma victims: A systematic review."

Kendra Smallwood, Alexis Reisig, "The correlation between abuse and negative life outcomes."

Danil Verenchuk, Toria Gambill, "The relationship between childhood trauma and criminal behavior: A meta-analysis."

Kimberly Neat, "Gender differences in self-perception of intellect vs. gender differences in GPA."

Catrina White, "Judging Cuteness."

Jade Parson, "Wild about dolphins: Learning about research through study abroad."

Mid-America Undergraduate Psychology Research Conference, April 23, 2016

Melissa Napier, "How eye movement desensitization and reprocessing affects trauma victims: A systematic review."

Jason Tuggle, "Relationship type and violence in stalking cases."

Kendra Smallwood, "The correlation between abuse and negative life outcomes."

Eliza Scalia, "The effects of various treatments on post-traumatic stress disorder."

Kristen Gibson, "The effect of cognitive behavioral therapy on obsessive compulsive disorder: A meta-analysis."

I-O Graduate Program Update

The I-O program students and faculty have had a busy year. In December 2015, first year I-O students offered workshops to the community as a part of their Industrial Psychology course. **Sylwia Oles** and **Cassandra Walter** presented a workshop on *Job Descriptions and the Law*. **Randy Lytes** presented a workshop on *Learning Graphs and Tables in Microsoft*, and **Cassie Studler** presented a workshop on *Business Writing*.

The second year students completed various projects in the Training course in Fall 2015. **Samantha Mink** developed a web based training on new team member orientation and safety for Habitat for Humanity of Madison-Clark. **Anna Shank** created a “Train the Trainer” course for Sekisui S-LEC in Winchester. **Brittany Biddle** and **Alaina Ploski** created leadership training modules and employee handbooks for Univance in Winchester KY. Topics in their training included leadership, conflict management, and communication. **Shelby Williams** performed a needs assessment, including online survey development, administration, and data analysis, for VRS Interpreting Institute and the ECU College of Education.



The second year students also completed practicum projects in Fall 2015. **Shelby Williams** and **Samantha Mink** developed and implemented a professional development workshop series for ELS Richmond. **Brittany Biddle**, **Alaina Ploski**, and **Anna Shank** conducted a workload assessment for ECU Facilities Services.

Also of note, **Samantha Mink** completed her spring practicum project by creating and coordinating the first ever Veterans Memorial Walk. The walk benefited ECU Veterans and proceeds are going to be used towards a memorial on campus. There were 180 registrants and the walk raised approximately \$4,800. This event will become an annual walk, involving future I-O students to help with planning and coordinating.

The I-O students have been busy outside of the classroom as well. Several students hold, or are currently seeking, internships. Three first year students (**Randy Lytes**, **Sylwia Oles**, and **Cassandra Walter**) also attended the annual River Cities I-O (RCIO) Conference in Chattanooga in October.

For the sixth year in a row, under the coordination of second-year student **Samantha Mink**, the I-O club placed a “gift tree” in the Cammack Building. Students, faculty, and staff donated gifts and generous monetary contributions. In December, the I-O Club delivered the gifts to 90 residents of Madison Towers. As always, we would like to thank everyone who provided support to this cause!

The Center for Applied Psychology and Workforce Development (CApP) has also been busy. Students **Anna Shank**, **Cassie Studler**, and **Cassandra Walter** delivered workshops for ECU Psychology majors on the topics of *Resume Writing*, *The Job Search*, and *Professionalism*. We are also pleased to report that all of our 2015 graduates are gainfully employed in the field!

Eastern Kentucky University Ranked a Top Value College for Online Psychology Degrees

Eastern Kentucky University has been identified as one of the top value colleges for online psychology degree programs in our recent ranking. The ranking considered graduation and tuition rates using data that was gathered from the NCES College Navigator Database.

Eastern Kentucky University was ranked #30.

The editor noted “offering six concentrations in Substance Abuse; Autism Spectrum Disorder; Forensic Psychology; Child and Family Psychology; Workplace Psychology; and Brain and Cognitive Science, ECU’s degree prepares students for an unparalleled range of careers and educational opportunities upon graduation.”

College Values Online’s mission is to provide assistance in selecting the best college for each individual situation by offering rankings of schools and various degree programs, in addition to information on numerous career options from a value perspective.



Eastern Kentucky University Rocks the KY Psychological Association Conference

The ECU Psychology department had 11 graduate research posters (authored by a total of 21 students) out of the 24 that were there, meaning that almost every other poster belonged to ECU. Two of those posters won first and second place in the graduate division! Congratulations!

ECU also had 11 out of the 49 undergrad posters there (authored by a total of 18 students), making ECU’s rate one poster for every five..

Dr. Richard Osbaldiston, our tirelessly dedicated professor, mentored the most projects with a total of 12 grad and undergrad posters, but our faculty were well-represented there as well. There were 7 different faculty mentors representing social, clinical, school and industrial-organizational psych. Most of these faculty members were at the conference in encouragement for their students.

Psychology Faculty Nominated for Excellence in Teaching Award



Dr. Steffen Wilson and Dr. Melinda Moore (right) were nominated in the first annual eCAPS awards ceremony for the Excellence in Online Teaching award. This was the first year awards in e-Campus Learning were awarded.

Dr. Radhika Makecha (left) on being named Critical Thinking Teacher of the Year. Approximately 200 faculty were nominated by their students and 15 of those nominees were selected by a faculty committee to receive the award. This is quite an honor for any faculty, but especially impressive for one in only her third year at ECU.



School Psychology Update

The school psychology program had a very active year. One of our highlights was that Dr. Dan Florell was recognized by the Kentucky Psychological Association as the Graduate Faculty Mentor of the Year. Dr. Teri Nowak will be going on sabbatical in the fall to focus on her research with preschoolers.

In addition, we had several of our graduate students present their research at several conferences including the National Association of School Psychologists and Kentucky Psychological Association conventions.

The year wrapped up with several students graduating and moving on into positions in the schools.

Animal Studies Senior Selected for Dean's Award of Merit

Senior Animal Studies major, Veronica Seawall, has been selected to receive one of three College of Arts and Sciences Dean's Award of Merit for 2015/16. This award recognizes an outstanding senior who has excelled academically and has made significant contributions to her discipline, the campus, and the community. The award carries an honorarium and is accompanied by a plaque noting the student's achievement. Congratulations, Veronica!



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Let's Hear from Alumni

We love to hear from our alumni. We want to know what you have been up to so that we can expand our alumni update sec-



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