IN THIS ISSUE...

We in the Department of Psychology have a lot to brag about in this issue. Highlights include a message from our Chair, Phil Kraemer, describing some important recognition garnered by our department and, even better, some tremendous resources coming our way soon; a description of the renovation of the animal research labs currently in progress; a research profile by Don Lynam; a profile of Conan Kornetsky, our Alumnus of the Year; and the usual announcements and notes. Enjoy!

--Monica Kern, Editor

Message from the Chair

The 97-98 academic year could very well go down as a watershed year for the Department of Psychology. Similar to other recent years, the achievements of faculty and students were quite impressive. The defining aspect of this year’s success, however, is the recognition that the Department has earned for its cumulative record of accomplishments over the past decade. It is quite clear that Psychology is now appreciated as one of the strongest departments within the University. Although we should be proud and pleased with this status, the more inspiring prospect is that our well deserved reputation is becoming a catalyst for the further development of the Department.

Two events that occurred this year are especially auspicious, and each justifies an optimistic view of the future. The first was our unprecedented positive Periodic Review. Every six years academic units within the University are evaluated by a team of objective reviewers, which includes colleagues from other departments in the College and eminent psychologists from other universities. As described by the Associate Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, the results of our review were not merely outstanding but were more laudatory than he had seen for any other department! As the results of this glowing review circulate among administrators at UK, we should be optimistic that our success will be rewarded with new opportunities to expand and improve the Department.

Evidence that the latter has already occurred is found in the second major event of the past year. In the fall of 1997, UK publicly committed to elevating the stature of its research and graduate education with the ambitious goal of becoming one of the nation’s top 25 public research universities. In order to move in that direction, a task force was appointed to identify existing research strength within UK. The strategy is to improve the University’s overall reputation by first investing in those units that are best positioned to attain national prominence. After scrutinizing enormous quantities of data, this task force--chaired by the former Dean of the Graduate School, Daniel Reedy--identified 20 units across the University as “Targets of Opportunity,” a list that included those departments and programs at or near national prominence. To our satisfaction, but without surprise, Psychology was included among this prestigious group of Tier I units.

Even more provocative, however, is the selection of Psychology as a program to receive some of the initial funds designated for the advancement of research excellence. Psychology’s initiative was one of only 11 proposals that were recently funded by the newly established Council on Postsecondary Education. As a result, the
Department will be able to hire two new faculty and fund three Research Assistantships, and it will receive additional funds for research equipment and for renovation of research space within Kastle Hall.

As we celebrate our good fortunes and eagerly anticipate the future, we should pause to acknowledge the efforts of all those who have made the Department what it is today. The success of the Department clearly reflects the collective efforts of faculty, students, staff, and alumni. There is one individual in particular, however, who deserves special gratitude. That person is our former Chair, Mike Nietzel. There is no question that Mike’s creative stewardship accelerated the Departments’ growth over the past six years. In terms of both specific actions and general leadership, Mike raised our aspirations and confidence, and he allowed individuals to maximize their accomplishments in a way that also elevated the composite strength of the Department. Psychology now ranks as a model of academic excellence, and much of our success is attributable to Mike’s efforts. Thank you, Mike!

It has been, indeed, a very good year, and it is somewhat daunting to consider that even better years are possible. As we move ahead, we are justified in closing this year with the kind of unmitigated optimism expressed by Timbuk3: “The future’s so bright, ya gotta wear shades...”

--Phil Kraemer, Chair

Social Program Hosting SESP Conference

This fall will be a hectic and exciting time for the Social Psychology program at UK. The social program was successful in its bid to host the 1998 annual meeting of the Society of Experimental Social Psychologists (SESP). SESP is the most prestigious professional organization for social psychology, and its annual conference has long been regarded as the most important professional meeting for social psychologists. Membership in SESP is not automatic; one must be at least five years post-Ph.D., be nominated by a current member, and possess an academic record demonstrating research expertise and productivity in social psychology. The annual meeting of SESP thus represents the major opportunity for the biggest names in the field to present their research and network. The location of the meeting rotates around the country; for example, recent meetings have been held in Toronto, Washington D.C., and Amherst. The conference consists of 12-16 symposia, a plenary speaker, presentation of Distinguished Scientific Contribution and Dissertation of the Year awards, a Saturday night banquet, and ample opportunity for informal networking. In addition to scholarly activities, SESP is known for including a wide variety of extracurricular activities: a 5K race, tennis tournament, volleyball, and events unique to the city where it is held.

The social faculty at UK (Rick Hoyle, Monica Kern, Richard Smith, Margo Monteith, and Sung Hee Kim) are excited at the opportunity to host the biggest event in their field. But it is a daunting job. Richard Smith is the UK member on the Program Committee, and he and the other committee members are sifting through symposium submissions trying to decide which talks to accept. The average attendance at SESP is about 500, so the logistics and headaches involved in carrying out the conference are similar to those encountered in planning a very large wedding, except with SESP it lasts four days, not one, and there is no honeymoon to look forward to. The conference will be held the last weekend in October, which is a beautiful time to show off the Bluegrass area. For our special activity, we will be organizing a trip to Keeneland. The Saturday night dinner will be held at the Kentucky Horse Park, complete with live bluegrass band, hayrides, and dancing until the wee hours.

The conference represents a wonderful opportunity for UK’s social program to increase its national visibility. Getting the best people in the field of social psychology to Lexington to see our faculty, university, and surroundings should help greatly in our graduate recruiting efforts. The conference also represents a wonderful opportunity for current social students. To maintain the high quality of the conference, the SESP rules are set up to limit the size of the conference by specifying that each member can bring only one non-member guest, which generally means that few graduate students can attend. However, that rule is waived for the host institution, because the graduate students do a large amount of the grunt work involved in staffing registration tables, putting together registration materials, and the like. Thus, all the social students will be able to attend this year’s conference for free, giving them an unparalleled opportunity to meet and mingle with the best in the field.

So, like a wedding, it will be a tremendous amount of work. But, like a wedding, we'll probably conclude that it was worth it. For more information about the conference, please consult the web address listed in the related "UK Psychology on the Web" article.
Renovation of Animal Labs

As at least a few weeks had passed since the completion of the last departmental construction project (the graduate student computer lab), we evidently decided we missed the sound of loud drilling too much. Thus, we have embarked on a new renovation project, the most ambitious one undertaken in Kastle Hall since it was built. This renovation will completely overhaul the animal laboratory facility in the basement to bring it up to AAALAC (pronounced 'triple A-lack') standards. Specifically, the renovation involves creating two new animal colony rooms, new feed and bedding storage, cage washing facilities, a shower for personnel, and a new air-handling system (by far the biggest expense). A new security system more advanced than the current one (which consists of the sign "Authorized Personnel Only") will complete the project. The total cost of the renovation is $709,500, and when it is done the facility will be state of the art and capable of meeting rigorous AAALAC standards for animal care.

The grant to obtain the funds for the renovation was originally written by Mike Bardo and Mike Nietzel and then submitted through (Vice President for Research) Fitzgerald Bramwell's office to the National Center of Research Resources (a center of the NIH). After the grant was funded, bids were solicited from firms to carry out the renovation. You can imagine our surprise, and that of the architect who designed the plans, when the lowest bid came back more than $100,000 over budget. Afraid that making more cuts in the proposed renovation would only push it even further over budget, the department looked to the University to make up the funding shortfall. In part, no doubt, a reflection of the positive standing of the Department and, in part, thanks to the very skilled negotiations wrought by Mike Nietzel, the University agreed to cover the amount we needed.

Renovation started late in 1997 and should be completed sometime in the fall of 1998. This will be none too soon for the residents of this building, who are mightily weary of the excessive number of false fire alarms caused by construction dust. But once it is done it will be a facility of which we can all be proud. To recognize Mike Nietzel's tireless efforts in pursuing and obtaining the funding for this project, and in honor of all his achievements for our department during his tenure as Chair, the Department is naming the new facility after him.

Interview with Rich Milich, Associate Editor of Journal of Abnormal Psychology

In our department, we are fortunate to have several faculty members who serve important roles as associate editors or members of the editorial boards of the top journals in our field. These appointments reflect the high regard with which these faculty members are considered (one must be well known and respected in the field to become an A.E.) as well as help to improve the visibility and reputation of our department. We thought that readers of Kastle Watch might enjoy an inside look at the journal publishing game as revealed by an interview with Richard Milich, who is nearing the end of his term as A.E. of the Journal of Abnormal Psychology, the premier journal in clinical psychology.

MK: What are the duties of an associate editor?

RM: I receive about 60 manuscripts a year and 20 revised manuscripts. I send each manuscript out for three reviews--one consulting editor and two others--and then I'll read the manuscript and the reviews. It's like being a judge: Weighing the arguments of the reviewers and the paper, I decide if it has the potential to make an important contribution.

MK: There have been several withering articles published criticizing the subjectivity and unreliability of the review process. What's been your experience as A.E.? Do reviewers tend to agree about a manuscript?

RM: I've been pleasantly surprised at the agreement among reviewers, though I haven't looked at it systematically. But it seems like reviewers have pretty good agreement. Only occasionally will I have reviewers who like a paper but I don't.

MK: Do you ever overrule reviewers and give a different decision than they recommend?

RM: Rarely. What will happen is that you will get three semi-positive reviews, but the cumulation of weaknesses makes it a decision to reject. Each reviewer will identify different problems, and the cumulative effect is that there are just too many problems to make it publishable. And, of course, if two reviewers really like a paper, but another reviewer raises a fatal flaw, the fatal flaw will sway the editorial decision.

MK: So you think that overall the reviewing process works?

RM: It is a fair process. Over time
you build up a set of reviewers you respect and trust, and you go back to them a lot. If I have a reviewer who is inappropriately negative or harsh, I don't go back to that reviewer.

MK: What will you say to an author in that case?

RM: It's a tricky issue. If a reviewer raises an issue that I think is dead wrong, I'll sometimes come out and say in my action letter that I don't agree with him or her. Or, sometimes I'll just summarize the reviewers' points I do agree with and tell the author to deal with the others at his or her discretion, which is a code for saying that they can forget about them. But these kinds of cases are fairly rare. Nine out of 10 manuscripts are easy decisions one way or the other.

MK: Now that you've been on the other side, what advice do you have for researchers wanting to get published in top journals?

RM: First, you need to develop a strong theoretical rationale. Even if it's a good study, if it's not theoretically grounded it won't get into the Journal of Abnormal Psychology. Second, sloppiness creates a bad impression. Reviewers will forgive one or two typos, missing pages, and so on, but not much more than that. Before you submit a paper, you should have others read it for you, especially people outside of the field. Lastly, if the editor opens the door for a revise and resubmit, you should go ahead and do so, even if it seems to be a long shot. A relatively high percentage of revise and resubmits eventually get accepted. But if you do resubmit, you shouldn't blow off any comments by the reviewers. Reviewers hate it if you don't at least address their comments and explain why you can't or won't make the recommended change.

MK: What's been the biggest surprise for you during your reign as A.E.?

RM: The biggest disappointment has been how many truly bad manuscripts have been submitted to the top journal in the field, even by big names. I'm not sure why people send in these papers that are truly bad. Maybe they know it's weak and they're hoping it will sneak in anyway; maybe they just want feedback prior to trying a second-level journal. Or maybe they're just too impressed with their own work and don't see the flaws. But I've written too many action letters that say "all the reviewers have identified weaknesses with the conceptualization, data collection, analyses, and write-up"--the manuscript is bad from top to bottom.

MK: Have you gotten many complaints from authors criticizing your decisions?

RM: I've gotten about five. Half of them were polite; the other half were pretty irate. I passed those on to the editor.

MK: Aside from incurring the wrath of the authors whose work you've rejected, what are the other compensations for being Associate Editor?

RM: I get a $1250 yearly honorarium and funds for a part-time assistant, plus five free journal subscriptions. I calculated it out once. Based on 80 manuscripts a year, it comes to about $15-$20 per manuscript. If I were in it for the money, I'd be better off mowing yards.

Research Profile: Don Lynam

Some toddlers are negativistic, hostile, and defiant. Some school-age children steal, break rules, destroy property, and fight with their peers. Some adolescents commit serious delinquent acts. Finally, some adults become chronic offenders. Why do these individuals do the things they do? How early can we identify the future chronic offender? What can we do to prevent the development of these problems? These are some of the questions that my research addresses. I study antisocial behavior across the life course, starting with early oppositional behavior, and extending through conduct disorder, adolescent delinquency, and adult criminality. Specifically, I am interested in the role of individual differences on the development and maintenance of antisocial behavior and the early identification of those at risk for chronic offending. Toward this end, my research has two distinct foci. The first concerns the contribution of cognitive, neuropsychological, and personality factors to adolescent delinquency. The second focus is on the early identification of the chronic offender using personality and behavioral data. In pursuing these research interests, I have drawn from the areas of clinical, developmental, and personality psychology, and sociology.

Children with conduct problems, delinquent adolescents, and adult criminals differ from their nonantisocial counterparts in many ways. Much of my research is designed to identify the individual characteristics that distinguish antisocial from nonantisocial individuals and to understand the processes by which these individual differences get translated into antisocial behavior. Three sets of individual difference variables seem particularly important: intelligence, impulsivity (executive brain functions), and personality.

There is overwhelming evidence that low verbal IQ scores are associated with the most serious offending across the life course. In addition to further
documenting this relation, my work has been concerned with ruling out potential confounding factors and showing that the causal direction runs from low IQ to antisocial behavior. In a longitudinal study of over 400 male adolescents, my collaborators and I administered a standard intelligence test along with measures of antisocial behavior and other individual differences; we also videotaped the testing sessions and scored each participant for his levels of motivation, persistence, and attention to the task. As in our previous work, boys who were the most delinquent scored more than half a standard deviation worse than nondelinquent boys on the verbal IQ test; importantly, this difference was not due to differences in social class, race, impulsivity, or observed test motivation--four factors frequently theorized to be responsible for the IQ-delinquency relation. Finally, in other work, we and others have found that low IQ precedes the development of antisocial behavior. It appears that low IQ contributes to the development of antisocial behavior.

Another area in which severely antisocial and violent offenders can be distinguished from nonoffenders is impulsivity which, broadly defined, suggests a tendency to act without thinking and an inability to delay gratification. In the study mentioned above, we collected twelve measures of impulsivity from multiple sources using multiple methods. We found that impulsivity was strongly related to antisocial behavior across a three year time-span, even after controlling for IQ and social class. Most recently, we have looked at how a boy’s neighborhood influences the relation between impulsivity and antisocial behavior. Some have argued that individual differences should be less important in circumstances that “press” for certain kinds of behavior; they have argued further that poor, inner-city neighborhoods present such circumstances that press for antisocial behavior in their residents. In our research, however, we found that impulsivity was actually more strongly related to delinquency in poor neighborhoods than it was in good neighborhoods. Impulsive boys in poor neighborhoods were extraordinarily antisocial, whereas nonimpulsive boys in poor neighborhoods were no more antisocial than their counterparts in better neighborhoods. These neighborhoods do not sound an irresistible siren call for antisocial behavior; rather, these neighborhoods sound a call that only youth already at risk, by virtue of being impulsive, can hear.

The final domain of individual differences that I have examined is psychopathy, a specific configuration of personality traits that has been strongly related to antisocial behavior in adulthood. Interpersonally, the psychopath has been described as grandiose, egocentric, manipulative, forceful, and cold-hearted; affectively, the psychopath displays shallow emotions, is unable to maintain close-relationships, and lacks empathy, anxiety and remorse. Behaviorally, the psychopathic offender commits more types of crime, more crimes of any type and more violent crimes, in or out of prison, than his nonpsychopathic counterpart. My most recent research has attempted to import the concept of psychopathy into childhood in order to identify the “fledgling psychopath.” Using the sample of 400 boys described earlier, I used mother-reports of the boys’ personalities to construct the Childhood Psychopathy Scale (CPS) which assesses multiple aspects of psychopathy including lying, manipulation, lack of guilt, lack of empathy, lack of planning, and irresponsibility. In many ways, boys who scored high on the CPS “looked like” adult psychopaths. They were the most serious offenders at each of the two ages. They were also extremely impulsive, immune internalizing problems (like anxiety and depression) and relatively prone to externalizing problems (like aggression and delinquency). Thus, the traits associated with psychopathy are related to serious antisocial behavior.

How do these traits (low IQ, impulsivity, and psychopathy) get translated into antisocial behavior that is stable across time? I think that there are two contributing processes that we must think about. The first is very direct and happens in the moment of an antisocial act. Many of us have antisocial impulses; for example, each of us has probably gotten angry and wanted to strike out at the perceived source of our anger. Most of the time, we don’t act on these impulses because we can think things through, we have alternatives available to us, we can control our impulses, and we care about other people and do not want to hurt them. In contrast, imagine the person who has a low IQ, poor impulse control, and a number of psychopathic traits. This person lacks the kinds of internal controls that most us have, and is therefore much freer than we are to be antisocial. That is the first process; my graduate students and I are currently studying how these individual differences influence the kinds of decisions that people make. The second process is much more subtle and indirect. Individual differences in intelligence, impulse control, and personality influence how a person responds and is responded to by others, the kinds of options he or she has available to him or her, and the kinds of choices that he or she makes. These responses, options, and choices have repercussions for our futures. The boy with a low IQ will find school frustrating and may drop out. The impulsive boy may rashly snatch a woman’s purse in plain view of a police officer and get arrested. The psychopathic child may be physically
aggressive towards his peers and find himself rejected and ostracized. These actions and their consequences may make future antisocial behavior more likely; dropping out limits legitimate occupational opportunities, an arrest record limits opportunities and brings one into contact with other antisocial youth, and peer rejection may increase feelings of alienation and disconnectedness.

Antisocial behavior is an important social problem that imposes costs to the individual afflicted with it as well as to his or her victims and society at large. My hope is that through understanding the contributors to antisocial behavior we can better identify those at risk and hopefully intervene more effectively. I also hope that my research helps to move us in that direction.

UK Psychology on the Web

You may recall that a few issues ago in Kastle Watch we described the dawning of the computer age in Kastle Hall with the installation of ethernet connections and upgraded computer hardware and software for faculty. Since that time, faculty and graduate students have been busy beavers exploring the wonders of the World Wide Web and creating web pages of our own. For those of you with access to the Web and who are homesick for Kastle Hall, here are some departmental web sites that you may want to look up. Most of these have links to the other pages, so accessing one should let you get to most of the others.

http://www.uky.edu/ArtsSciences/Psychology/welcome.html (This is the main Psychology home page, complete with beautiful picture of Kastle Hall.) http://www.uky.edu/ArtsSciences/Psychology/faculty.html#faculty (This is the list of faculty, including links to those individual faculty who have their own web pages.)

http://www.uky.edu/ArtsSciences/Psychology/graduate.html (Describes the graduate program and how to get application materials. This has been a boost to our recruiting efforts, as more and more undergraduates are undertaking their search for graduate schools via the Web.)

http://www.uky.edu/~rhoyle/SESP/ (Web page for the SESP conference hosted by the social psychology program; see related story.)

http://www.uky.edu/~gsjohn00/brownbag/ (Scott Johnston's web page on teaching with technology.)

Conan Kornetsky: Alumnus of the Year

We are proud to announce that Conan Kornetsky has won our second annual Alumnus of the Year award. Born in Maine in 1926, Conan received his B.A. from the University of Maine. He obtained his Ph.D. in 1952 from UK in the areas of clinical psychology and physiology. Following graduation, Conan was on active duty for the U.S. Public Health Service until 1959. He then joined the faculty at Boston University, where he is currently Professor in the Division of Psychiatry and Department of Pharmacology in the School of Medicine.

It would be difficult to find an alumnus of our program more deserving of this award. Conan has amassed a scholarly record of great distinction. He has over 175 publications, primarily in the area of pharmacological effects on brain stimulation reward. He has been the primary supervisor of over 20 Ph.D. or joint Ph.D.-M.D. students. He has served on the editorial boards of major journals in the field, and he has a strong record of continuous extramural funding. Conan's expertise has gained him considerable recognition in the field: He was named a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science in 1970, and he has been designated a Research Scientist Awardee for NIH and NIDA. In 1985 he was the President of APA's Division of Psychopharmacology. Conan has also served regularly on NIMH, NIDA, and NIH review committees and study sections. Also impressive is that Conan has remained a highly productive researcher long past the time that most people have retired; for example, he has continued to produce 4-6 publications per year in the past five years.

As alumnus of the year, Conan received a $500 cash award and had his name engraved on a plaque hanging in Kastle Hall. He was also invited to Lexington for our Psychology Honors Day celebration on April 17th. He gave a formal research colloquium (co-sponsored with Pharmacology) and then gave an informal talk during the Honors Day program in which he described his
life in graduate school at UK. Students and faculty alike were delighted to hear what the program was like back in those days. For example, as much as we like to complain about Kastle Hall, the top floor of Neville Hall, where Psychology was housed in Conan's time, had been deemed unsafe for occupation by the University, so of course that is where the graduate student seminars were held! And no matter how bad you thought your quals experience was, Conan's description of the qualifying exams in the early 1950s will make you shudder to your core: There were three days of written closed-book exams. The first two days consisted of three 2-hour exams covering the broad spectrum of psychology: history & systems, experimental, comparative, child development, statistics and methodology, industrial and personnel psychology, and abnormal and clinical psychology. The third day consisted of a six-hour exam in the student's major field, half multiple choice and half essay questions. The written exams were followed by an oral exam at a later date should the candidate pass the written, which was not at all a sure thing. During Conan's time in the department, the quals failure rate was running about 50%.

Although grueling, Conan's quals experience had the advantage of ensuring a comprehensive knowledge of psychology. We were gratified to hear Conan's assessment of his education at UK: "When I went to the NIH in Bethesda I felt somewhat intimidated because I was the only psychologist who came from schools other than Berkeley, Stanford, Harvard, and other prestigious places. I quickly found that I was competitive with them and that my education was at least as good as what they had received."

Conan Kornetsky has achieved great stature in the field of psychopharmacology. We are proud to be able to claim him as an alumnus of our program, and he is highly deserving of the Alumnus of the Year Award. Congratulations, Conan!

Call for Nominations

It is time for nominations for the third annual Distinguished Alumni Award, which is given to Ph.D. graduates of the department who have distinguished themselves by outstanding achievements in education, research, or applications of psychology. Recipients of the award will receive a cash award; have their names engraved on a plaque in Kastle Hall; and will be invited to present a colloquium during our Psychology Day celebration.

If you would like to nominate yourself or any other Ph.D. alumnus of our department, please write a brief nominating letter including your name, address, phone number; the name and address of the nominee; a recent vita of the nominee if you have one available; and a short statement why you believe the nominee should be considered for the award.

Nominees from the last two years will be considered for this year as well, so if you nominated somebody previously you do not need to nominate the same person again (although you are free to nominate somebody new). Nominating letters should be sent to Dr. Phil Kraemer; Chair, Department of Psychology; University of Kentucky; Lexington, KY, 40506-0044. Nominations will close on September 1.

Transitions

This has been a year of remarkably few transitions--no new faculty or staff to report since our last issue. In addition, nobody was put up for promotion at either the junior or the senior level. The only change to report is that Steve Mangine, our visiting assistant professor, has decided not to return this fall so that he can devote full attention to his private practice. Cecile McAninch, a recent clinical Ph.D. of this program, has been hired to fill his position.

Faculty Notes

Chana Akins has received two grants, an NSF grant entitled "Biological mechanisms of reward" for $31,822, and a University Research Committee grant entitled "Female copying in mate choice behavior" for $3,108. In addition, she has been appointed to the Midwestern Psychological Association program committee.

Susan Barron was appointed to a two-year term on the editorial board of Neurotoxicology and Teratology. She is the chair of the Membership Committee for the Research Society on Alcoholism. She has also received a $1600 grant to support her travel to Denmark to present a paper at the International Society for Biomedical Research on Alcoholism.

Tom Widiger has received two prestigious appointments: He was named Honorary Fellow of the American Psychiatric Association and Fellow of the American Psychological Society.

Tom Zentall was appointed to a four-year term as Associate Editor of the Psychonomic Bulletin & Review,
which is the flagship journal of the Psychonomic Society. He has also started a three-year term as Secretary-Treasurer of the Midwestern Psychological Association. (So, don't forget to send in your dues!) Tom will be giving an invited talk at this year's APA convention, and, closer to home, he was re-elected to the University Senate.

Jonathan Golding received the Chancellor's Award for Outstanding Teaching in the tenured category. If this announcement gives you a sense of deja vu, it is because Jonathan also received this award in the nontenured category. And, once again, Jonathan was voted to the College of Arts and Sciences 'Top Ten' faculty list. This list consists of the faculty whom graduating seniors said made the greatest contribution to their undergraduate careers.

Don Lynam was appointed to the editorial board of the Journal of Abnormal Psychology. Don has also received a $31,759 grant from the National Consortium on Violence Research to examine the degree to which offenders specialize in violent vs. nonviolent crimes. He is also a co-Investigator on another NCOVR grant that addresses the issue of heterotypic continuity. (See related Research Profile article.)

Margo Monteith received a Research Supplement for Underrepresented Minorities in the amount of $55,153 from NIMH to fund Vincent Spicer's dissertation research. In addition, Margo was appointed to the editorial board of Basic and Applied Social Psychology.

Sung Hee Kim was a finalist for the Chancellor's Award for Outstanding Teaching in the nontenured category. Sung Hee was also named to the Arts and Sciences "Top Ten" list of faculty nominated by graduating seniors as having made the biggest impact on their educations. Sung Hee received a Summer Faculty Research Fellowship, an award also earned by our first-year clinical faculty member Suzanne Segerstrom.

Mike Bardo and Phil Kraemer were PIs on a grant from the National Institute on Drug Abuse entitled "Taste Cues and Morphone Conditioning." The total award for the grant was $257,036, and its aim is to determine the role that distinct stimulus cues such as taste and odor play in controlling conditioned drug effects in laboratory rats, which may be useful for understanding cue-elicited craving in drug addicts.

Sung Hee Kim, Jonathan Golding, and Ron Taylor received a $5,000 grant for a proposal entitled "Improving Undergraduate Education in Psychology: Attrition, Graduation Rates, and Quality of Learning."

Ron Taylor was named the "Favorite Faculty Member" by PSI CHI, an impressive accomplishment given his perennial role as instructor for PSY 215, a course that is not near and dear to the hearts of our undergraduates.

Greg Smith and his wife, Diane Sobel, had a beautiful little baby girl on April 18th. Her name is Jamie Rachel Sobel Smith, and she weighed in at 7 pounds, 8 ounces and 20 1/4/.

Graduate Student Notes

For the second time, Tracy Segar was named the Outstanding Teaching Assistant by the department (co-winner with Mark Whatley). Tracy has also received a Research Society on Alcoholism Student Travel Award to present at the RSA meeting at Hilton Head this summer. Lastly, his poster at the Spring 1998 Neuroscience Day was named the Outstanding Graduate Student poster by the UK Neuroscience Chapter.

Jennifer Wilford received a Dissertation Year Fellowship for 1998-1999. These fellowships are extremely competitive (only a few are given across the entire university), and our department has an excellent track record in receiving them. Congratulations, Jennifer! This was only one of many honors for Jennifer this year; she also received travel awards from the Research Society on Alcoholism, the Center for Evolution, Ecology, and Behavior, and the Graduate School (where she won one of the new Commonwealth Research Awards for travel). Lastly, Jen won the ISBRA Young Investigator Award.

Several of our students have fared well on the academic job market. Robin Lightner has earned a tenure-track position as assistant professor at Peace College, a small liberal arts college in Raleigh, North Carolina. Jeff Sherman has accepted a faculty position at the medical school at the University of Washington. Patricia Robinet has accepted a faculty position at Colby College in Maine. Lastly, Karyn McKenzie's position as assistant professor at Georgetown College has been transformed to a tenure-track position given her successful completion of the Ph.D. The psychology department at Georgetown College these days could also be called the UK Alumni Association, as Robert Galen has just been appointed to a tenure-track assistant professor position there.

Denis McCarthy was appointed to the Graduate Council.
This year's winner of the Samuel J. Gunto Memorial Award for Graduate Student Research in Social Psychology is **John Georgesen**. He won the award for his first-authored manuscript entitled “The Balance of Power: Interpersonal Consequences of Differential Power and Expectancies,” currently under review.

**Mindy Otis** and her family are doing well in Higganum, Connecticut. Mindy is the Clinical Director at a special education school in Eastern Connecticut. Her husband, John, works for an evil insurance company. Her son, Andrew, is in 3rd grade, and her daughter Sarah is in kindergarten. Mindy likes that her job is on a school-year schedule which leaves her time for being a soccer mom. As she notes, “Yes, we’ve become stereotypes—who would’ve thunk it?” She also wants to know when she can throw out all her raw data from her dissertation or if she has to be buried with it. (Actually, Mindy, we recommend cremation. It’s much more satisfying to burn the darn stuff.) Mindy would love to hear from friends (she asks, where is Jeff Feix?) and can be reached at 121 Skunk Misery Road, Higganum, CT 06441, phone: 860-345-8706.

**Steve Hagemoser** won a $3000 fellowship from the National Federation for the Blind. He was one of only 26 students chosen across the nation for the fellowship.

Where Are They Now?

In this column, we print brief notes about where our alumni have settled and what they are up to these days. The success of this column depends on your willingness to send in a short summary of where you are and what you’re doing. We only received a couple of submissions for this issue; please take the time to jot a few lines to let your former friends and acquaintances find out what you’re doing. You can mail your entries to Monica Harris Kern, Department of Psychology, University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY, 40506-0044, or via e-mail to harris@pop.uky.edu. Also, we do not have current addresses for either Jane Haselden or David Lanier; if you know where we can find them, please do us the favor of letting us know.

**Jamie Baker-Prewitt** serves as a manager in the Consulting and Analytical Services Department of Burke, Incorporated, and international research and consulting firm headquartered in Cincinnati, Ohio. In this role, Jamie provides analytical consultation to internal and external clients, and she has responsibility for analysts, statistical programmers, and reporting specialists, all of whom perform analyses on survey data for companies in a wide variety of product and service industries. Jamie has a seven-year old daughter (Taylor), and a four-year old son (Baker Reid), both of whom are, of course, highly intelligent. Jamie’s husband, Tom, is a partner at Dinsmore and Shohl, a Cincinnati-based law firm.

Since the conception of the Psychology Enrichment Fund in the summer of 1991, the Department has benefited substantially from the generosity of alumni who have contributed to the fund. Although donations in any amount are always welcome, the Department has identified three special levels of gifts that can be structured in multi-year payments. **Psychology Friends** pledge $300 to the enrichment fund; **Partners** pledge a total of $1000, and members of the **Kastle Society** pledge a sum of $2000 to the Fund. Individuals who donate at any of these levels will receive personalized paperweights from the University and will have their names engraved on wall plaques that are displayed in Kastle Hall.

To make a contribution in any amount to this fund, please write your name and address on a check made payable to the Department of Psychology, University of Kentucky, and mail it to Monica Harris Kern, Department of Psychology, University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY, 40506-0044.
check payable to the **UK Psychology Enrichment Fund** and mail it to the University of Kentucky Office of Development, Sturgill Development Building, University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY, 40506-0015. Your help is always needed and greatly appreciated.