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Chair's Corner

by Dr. Jean-Paul Boudreau,
Department of Psychology Chair



Greetings from Uppsala in Sweden from where I write this piece overlooking Uppsala Slott and Northern Europe's oldest university, founded in 1477.

As we turn the corner of summer and open the fall semester, it's important to pause and reflect. The department has been abuzz this summer with many exciting developments, including many firsts such as our BA graduating class, MA defenses, and PhD class. We have received research infrastructure funding and have hosted a depart-

ment visit by the Deputy Minister of Training, Colleges, and Universities.

The Psychology Research and Training Centre is operating in full swing and plans are underway to expand our PRTC and support Ryerson's ambitious research ascent. Stay tuned for details in the fall issue of *UP* where we will also update you on faculty research.

Responding to the department's rapid growth, we are pleased to add new administrative support to the department (effective August 1, 2009): Dr. Candice Monson as our Director of Clinical Training, Dr. Michelle Dionne as Associate Chair and Dr. Frank Russo as Director of Psychological Science Training.

In this issue you will get to meet four new faculty colleagues from

Boston University, University of Birmingham, Minnesota/MIT, and the University of Toronto, who add new depth and breadth to the department's on-going research and teaching evolution. Our new MA and PhD students are also featured; today, our program has a total of 54 graduate students in the program (23 PhD and 31 MA) who represent a diverse cross-section of Canadian universities from Central Canada, the Maritimes, and the West Coast provinces representing 16 different universities. We are very proud of our student achievements, also cited in this issue.

We hope you enjoy this issue, as well as enjoy the end of summer. Ψ

- Jean-Paul

Internationally renowned scholar appointed Professor of Distinction in Department of Psychology

by Dr. Jean-Paul Boudreau

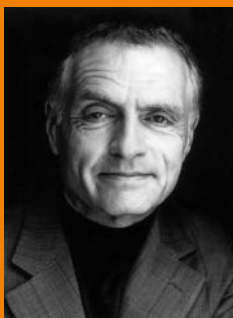
Dr. Morton Beiser has joined the Department of Psychology as a Professor of Distinction. He is a Professor Emeritus of Cultural Pluralism and Health, University of Toronto, and Founding Director and Senior Scientist of the Toronto Centre of Excellence for Research on Immigration and Settlement (CERIS). Dr. Beiser earned his MD from the University of British Columbia. For ten years, he was on the faculty of Social Psychiatry at the Harvard School of Public Health and then served for 15 years in the Division of Social and Cultural Psychiatry at the University of British Columbia.

Author of one book and 175 published articles, Dr. Beiser has been

Principal Investigator for a number of studies including the Refugee Resettlement Project, a ten-year study of the health and experiences of more than 1300 "Boat People," from Southeast Asia; the Flower of Two Soils, an investigation of mental health and academic achievement among 2,000 Aboriginal children on two Canadian reserves and two US reservations; Immigrants and Tuberculosis, an investigation of factors accounting for the high risk for tuberculosis among immigrants and refugees; Growing Up in Canada, a study of the children of the Southeast Asian refugees who took part in the Refugee Resettlement Project; Community in Distress, an investigation of the mental health of 1600 adult Tamils living in Toronto; and The New Canadian Children and

Youth Study.

Dr. Beiser chaired the federal task force on the mental health of immigrants and refugees (1986-1988). The final report, *After the Door Has Been Opened* (1988), summarized the major challenges facing immigrants and provided recommendations to alleviate the distress of immigrants and refugees, and to facilitate their integration. Dr. Beiser served as a member of the Canadian Multiculturalism Advisory Committee (1990-1994), a Cabinet-appointed committee charged with overseeing the implementation of Canada's multiculturalism policies. He chaired the Medical Advisory Committee of Citizenship and Immigration Canada (1999-2006). Ψ



Dr. Morton Beiser



Alasdair M. Goodwill
PhD, University of Birmingham
Assistant Professor

Dr. Alasdair Goodwill joined Psychology as an Assistant Professor on August 1, 2009. He comes to us from the University of Birmingham, where he has been Course Director of the Doctorate in Forensic Psychology in the Centre for Forensic and Criminological Psychology.

Dr. Goodwill has developed an extensive research program in forensic psychology. He is focused on offender profiling and in particular, on developing and delivering pragmatic methods for suspect prioritization in serious and violent criminal investigations. His research includes work on profiling stranger rapists by victim choice consistencies, geographical profiling, and comparative analyses of profiling approaches. He has contributed psychological analysis of suspects and given substantial profiling advice on several high profile sexual offence cases across the UK.

Dr. Goodwill earned his Master's Degree in Investigative Psychology (Liverpool, 1998) and his PhD in Forensic Psychology (Birmingham, 2005). He brings outstanding experience to the Ryerson Psychology Department. Dr. Goodwill has published in the leading journals of his field, including Behavioral Sciences and the Law, Psychology, Crime & Law, Journal of Psychology, Public Policy, & Law and Applied Cognitive Psychology. He has contributed a book chapter on "Heuristics and biases in decision-making," as well as a chapter in The Forensic Psychologist's Casebook.

In addition to his forensic research, Dr. Goodwill brings advanced knowledge of statistical analysis and data modeling techniques (e.g. Multivariate Analysis, Multidimensional Scaling, Structural Equation Modeling, and ROC analysis) to Psychology—skills vital to Psychology's MA/PhD program. He is an excellent teacher who will contribute to both our graduate curriculum in statistics and to our undergraduate curriculum in areas of Forensic Psychology and the Law. Dr. Goodwill applies his forensic training in clinical settings where, for example, he conducts community-based therapeutic sessions and risk assessments for offenders with learning difficulties. Ψ



Candice M. Monson
PhD, University of Nebraska
Associate Professor &
Director of Clinical Training

One of the foremost experts on the interpersonal aspects of Posttraumatic Stress Disorder, Dr. Candice Monson joined the department as an Associate Professor (tenured) on July 1, 2009. She will serve as Director of Clinical Training in Psychology's MA/PhD program.

Dr. Monson comes to Ryerson from the U.S. Veterans' Administration National Center for Posttraumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) in Boston, where she served as Deputy Director, Women's Health Sciences Division. With a PhD from the University of Nebraska (1998) and a post-doctoral fellowship in forensic psychology at the University of Missouri-Kansas City Schools of Medicine and Law, Dr. Monson's research program explores PTSD and interpersonal factors relating to trauma recovery and PTSD. She is currently conducting an NIMH-funded project that tests her Cognitive-Behavioral Conjoint Therapy for PTSD. She is also Co-Principal Investigator of a prevention trial of intimate ag-

gression in recently returning veterans with PTSD, funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, as well as a U.S. Department of Defense (DOD)-funded trial of treatment for returning veterans with PTSD who have perpetrated intimate aggression. In addition to her treatment outcome efforts, Dr. Monson investigates gender differences in the perpetration of interpersonal violence and its consequences.

Dr. Monson holds over \$6.2 million (USD) in research grants from NIH, DOD, Centres for Disease Control & Prevention, and VHA Office of Mental Health Services. Her scholarly productivity is equally impressive, with 32 scientific articles published in leading peer-reviewed outlets, including *Journal of Clinical and Consulting Psychology*, along with 13 books or book chapters. She has also presented her research findings at over 100 domestic and international meetings and symposia.

Having taught at Dartmouth College, University of Missouri, and the University of Nebraska, Dr. Monson will contribute to our undergraduate and graduate programs with courses in systems of psychotherapy, anxiety, trauma and stress disorders, and in clinical research methods. Ψ

Welcome New Faculty!



Margaret Moulson
PhD, University of Minnesota
Assistant Professor

A Postdoctoral Fellow in the Department of Brain and Cognitive Sciences at MIT (Cambridge, MA), Dr. Margaret Moulson joined Ryerson's Psychology Department as an Assistant Professor on August 1, 2009. She holds a 2007 PhD in Psychology from the Institute of Child Development (ICD) at the University of Minnesota.

Dr. Moulson is an emerging star in her field, with publications in the top journals of her field, including *Developmental Psychology*, *Child Development*, *Infancy*, and *Journal of Cognitive Neuroscience*, with several more under review. She has also been active in conference presentations and her research has been recognized with a 2006 Early Career Researcher Award by the International Society on Infant Studies.

Her innovative research program takes a developmental cognitive neuroscience approach to understanding the mechanisms that underlie the development of social per-

ception in both typical and atypical populations. Specifically, her research combines behavioural and electrophysiological methods to investigate the psychological and neural underpinnings of aspects of face perception from infancy to adulthood. Dr. Moulson shows that deciphering information from faces is crucial to social functioning, and that most adults decode facial information quickly and effortlessly.

Dr. Moulson's NSERC-geared research in the Psychology Research and Training Centre at 105 Bond St. will benefit from the Ontario government's recently-announced decision to award Ryerson 7.2 million in new operating funding that includes support for new research tools in Psychology, including a high-density electroencephalogram (EEG) machine that measures and records electrical activity emitted by the brain.

Dr. Moulson is an experienced classroom teacher. She has taught in the University of Minnesota's ICD program and Queen's University's Enrichment Studies program. She will bring an excellent teaching record to the areas of Child Development, Cognitive Neuroscience, and Experimental Research Methods. Ψ

Meet our new MA and PhD1 students!



Amy Brown-Bowers, CLIN (C. Monson)

I completed my Bachelor of Journalism at Ryerson, equivalent of BA in Psychology at Ryerson University and York University. My area of interest is the intersections between individual pathology and intimate relationship functioning.



Caitlin Davey, CLIN (K. McShane)

I completed my undergraduate degree in Psychology (BA) at McMaster University and will now be pursuing my MA in Clinical Psychology. My area of interest is in Indigenous mental health including psychotherapies that can be used to most effectively treat Indigenous populations.



Julian House, SCI (S. Want)

I did my undergraduate degree at the London School of Economics and Political Science but I took all of my psychology courses at the University of Toronto. I plan to be investigating the psychological effects of mass media exposure/participation at Ryerson.



Dianne Lam, SCI (M. Reed)

I specialized in psychology as an undergraduate and earned my degree at the University of Toronto Scarborough. Currently, I am interested in the relationship between vision and Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder.



Emma MacDonald, CLIN (N. Koerner)

I completed my Bachelor of Science at St. Francis Xavier University in Antigonish, Nova Scotia. My area of research interest is Anxiety and I will be working with Dr. Naomi Koerner.



Lucy McGarry, SCI (F. Russo)

I completed my Bachelor of Science degree at the University of Toronto. I am interested in emotion and the arts and I will be working with Dr. Frank Russo.



Elizabeth Pawluk, CLIN (N. Koerner)

I graduated from the University of Western Ontario with an Honours Specialization in Psychology. I look forward to working with Dr. Naomi Koerner in the Cognition and Psychopathology Lab. My main research interest is anxiety disorders.



Syb Pongracic, CLIN (T. Ornstein)

I obtained my B.Sc. at the University of Toronto at Mississauga. Dr. Ornstein is my supervisor in the fields of cognitive neuroscience & neuropsychology. My interests include functional neuroanatomy, neuroimaging, neuropsychological testing, memory, anxiety disorders and statistics.



Jennifer Rouse, CLIN (W. Pickren)

I graduated with my BA from Carleton University, but I also completed half of my coursework at Brock University. My research interests include health care delivery systems, health psychology, anxiety disorders and depression, and the history of psychology.



Raj Sandhu, SCI (B. Dyson)

I completed my H.B.Sc at the University of Waterloo. My area of research interest is in cognitive neuropsychology. Dr. Ben Dyson will be my supervisor.



Becca Stein, CLIN (J.P. Boudreau)

I completed my undergraduate degree at U of T. I'm entering the clinical stream under the supervision of Dr. Jean-Paul Boudreau. My research interests relate to infant perception and goal-directed behaviour, and I am excited to be joining the CHILD lab.



Linda Truong, SCI (L. Yang)

I have a BSc. from the University of Toronto. I'll be joining Ryerson as a Master's student under the supervision of Dr. Lixia Yang. I am interested in studying cognition and I hope to improve the memory abilities of older adults through training/intervention.



Sonya Wanklyn, CLIN (D. Day)

I completed my undergraduate degree at York University. I am thrilled to be working with Dr. David Day, and my primary research interests revolve around the area of forensic psychology.



Leanne Wilkins, SCI (T. Girard)

I completed my undergraduate degree at the University of Toronto. My research interests relate to attention and memory functioning in schizophrenia and my graduate supervisor is Dr. Todd Girard.



Andrea Woznica, CLIN (K. Vickers)

I completed my Honours B.A. in Psychology at the University of Western Ontario. I am looking forward to working with Dr. Kristin Vickers, and my research interests include the cognitive and physiological correlates of anxiety disorders.

PhD1 Students



Taryn Moss, CLIN (C. Carney)

I completed my undergraduate degree at Wilfrid Laurier University and my Master's degree from the University of Toronto. Currently, I am working with Dr. Colleen Carney and my research interests include cognitive vulnerability to insomnia and depression.



Matilda Nowakowski, CLIN (L. Atkinson)

I completed my Bachelor in Health Sciences and graduate studies in experimental psychology at McMaster University. My research interests include developmental psychopathology, anxiety disorders, and depression. I am very excited to be a part of the Clinical Psychology program at Ryerson!

PSA welcomes new students to RU!



Welcome, young mind, to Psychology! The Psychology Students Association (PSA) is your go-to group, filled with veteran cerebrates who are brimming with experience. Whether you're looking to pick some brains about handling the course load, or you're more interested in switching off for a while with a few good friends, the PSA delivers. With study sessions, movie nights, and an open crew of executives, the Psychology Students Association is always interested in helping you get to the bottom of your brain. We're always looking for some fresh minds, so feel free to drop in at our weekly exec meetings, or drop us a line at psa@ryerson.ca.

And keep an eye out for those snappy Psychology Department buttons! Not only are they free, but they'll let you see which of your classmates knows the difference between their id and their ego! Don't repress, celebrate your newfound Psycho-social status! Ψ

Your PSA 2009-2010 Executive Team

Massimo Di Domenico
President, 4th Year

Erica Milton
Vice-President, 3rd Year

Jonathan Gray
Information Officer, 4th Year

Nathalie Burnier
Executive, 3rd Year

Noel Huthmacher-Lugo
Executive, 3rd Year

Jenny Liu
Treasurer, 2nd Year

Gaby Kostova
VP Student Life, 2nd Year

Hannah El-Khatib
Executive, 2nd Year

Katya Shori
Liaison of Psychology Abroad,
2nd Year

Congratulations!

Congratulations are in order for our exceptional students in our Graduate, Undergraduate, and Certificate Programs in Psychology!

The 1st BA in Psychology Graduating Class: Spring 2009 Convocation

Hiba Abdel-Jawad
Christopher Beniuk Cooper
Stacy Brough
Jorge Gomez
Richard Guy
Matthew Juniper
Vanessa Ounapuu
Miria Zangirolami Munoz

CPA 2009 Undergraduate Thesis Poster Conference Award:

Adina Berindean-Coroiu, Class of 2009 (Fall)

CCDP 2009 Teaching Assistant Award:

Andrea Wilkinson, MA2, Class of 2009

**Community Involvement Award -
Regent Park Due of York Public School:**
Joe (Nangiulai) Hamid, 4th year

Dennis Mock Student Leadership Awards:

Vanessa Oanapuu: BA, Class of 2009
Matthew Juniper: BA, Class of 2009
Mike Maksimowski: MA2, Class of 2009

Psychology Exchange Program Scholarship:

Katya Shori, 2nd year
University of Umeå, Sweden

William Glassman Prize in Psychology:

Jonathan Gray, 5th year

G. Raymond Chang School of Continuing Education - Academic Excellence Prize:

Eric Hiroyoshi Iba
Certificate in Psychology
&

Carol Henderson
Certificate in Mental Health and Addictions

Save the Date!

Thursday October 29th, 2009

PGSA Research Symposium

1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. (PRTC)

followed by

Graduate Psychology Program Open House

6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. (SCC-115)

55 Gould Street (Student Campus Centre)

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