Welcome back to another issue of our newsletter! There is SO MUCH good news to share this semester! Members of our department have been doing many exciting things - in areas of teaching, milestones, articles, research, new jobs, and new members of the department, we have many exemplary individuals to recognize this month!

We would especially like to recognize:

- Dr. Dara Musher-Eizenman
- Dr. Sherona Garrett-Ruffin
- Dr. Melissa Keith
- Dr. Scott Highhouse
- Victoria Riesgo
- Dr. Jari Willing
- Josh Ricker
- Alexandra Schmidt
- Kylee Smith
- Dr. Casey Cromwell
- Jenny Grant Weinandy
- Timothy Patrick
- Dr. Rich Anderson
- Frances Griffith
- Tracy Sims
- Sharon Simon
- Dr. Catherine Stein
- Maria Kalantzis
- Lingfei Luan
- Emily Ferrell
- Wes Barnhart
- Camille Hoagland
- Kaylyn Flanigan
- Kristi Thompson

Read about our department’s wonderful accomplishments under Good News.

UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS

- J. Grubbs | 12/6
- T. Kelso | 1/25
- A. Gordon | 1/28

CONTACT OUR OFFICES

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- Sue Wax (Budget Coordinator) 419-372-2303 | suewax@bgsu.edu
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- Paula Watson (Graduate Secretary) 419-372-2306 | pwatson@bgsu.edu
Departmental updates: I will be meeting in December with student representatives of the diversity committee, and faculty who have completed the ALLIES training to discuss potential initiatives to be funded by the Diversity and Inclusion Initiatives fund. If you have suggestions or questions, please email me at cjtomps@bgsu.edu.

BGSU has adopted a new Land Acknowledgement statement, described at: https://www.bgsu.edu/land-acknowledgment. During the development of this statement, feedback was provided by Faculty Senate, Undergraduate Student Government, Graduate Student Senate, Classified and Administrative Staff Councils, and other groups.

Land Acknowledgement statements have become increasingly common at universities—whether delivered orally at conferences, included in written email signatures, or noted in other academic contexts. At their best, they offer a reminder of a hard truth that is not often voiced. From the BGSU Land Use Statement website: “Ohio has no state or federally recognized tribal nations within its borders. This contributes to a perceived absence of Native peoples in the state. Many people assume that Native presence in Ohio is not a contemporary issue, and nothing could be further from the truth.”

Land Acknowledgement statements have also been criticized as performative and can feel like a self-absolution. I am reading the Land Acknowledgement for the most SCRA (APA Div. 27) Biennial Conference, as a rich source of critique and reflection (note: the author is speaking to a Canadian audience, but I find it just as relevant in the U.S.): http://www.scra27.com/publications/tcp/our-members/.

I encourage all of you to visit the BGSU Land Acknowledgement Statement website at https://www.bgsu.edu/land-acknowledgment. In addition to the statement itself, there are links to many different resources and related readings. I am still reflecting before I decide whether and how to use the new BGSU statement. I look forward to conversations with those of you who would like to reflect along with me.

CAROLYN’S CORNER

Congrats to all of us on making it through the Fall semester! It was great to see so many of you in person this Fall. It’s also still been an adjustment, and I am grateful for the patience and continued flexibility so many of you have demonstrated.

Special thanks to Dara Mushер-Eizenman for her 17 years of service as Vice Chair for Undergraduate Instruction. This role involves planning schedules, coordinating advising, curriculum development, Preview Days, department symposium, and perhaps most importantly working directly with undergraduate students to help them navigate the major and overcome any crises that come along.

Thank you also to Sherona Garrett-Ruffin for volunteering to step into this role in January. Dr. Garrett-Ruffin has many years of experience in teaching and administrative roles working with undergraduate students, and has some exciting new ideas! Stay tuned!

Pictured: Dara Mushеr-Eizenman
GOOD NEWS!

TEACHING

Dr. Sherona Garrett-Ruffin described recent success with a Canvas quiz she delivers near the end of the semester. The quiz reminds students of critical parts of the syllabus they may have forgotten (such as, she drops their two lowest quiz scores!), which cuts down on end-of-semester panicked emails. As part of the quiz, Dr. Garrett-Ruffin asks students to describe three things they have learned over the semester, and she finds inspiration in their responses. She notes how many first-year students describe applying course content to their academic careers: time management, memory and learning strategies, managing technology, work-life balance and goal setting. She also writes, “as a Teaching Professor, my heart sings with joy when students newly exposed to psychology talk about the value of theory!” Dr. Garrett-Ruffin has other ideas about the uses and benefits of an end-of-semester quiz about the course itself—ask her about them!

ARTICLES

- Special congratulations to Dr. Melissa Keith. She is co-author on an article directly addressing the critical issue of bias in graduate admissions, targeting a wide audience: Woo, S. E., LeBreton, J. M., Keith, M. G., & Tay, L. (2021). Bias, fairness, and validity in graduate admissions: A psychometric perspective. Perspectives on Psychological Science. https://psyarxiv.com/w5d7r/

RESEARCH

- Students Frances Griffith, Tracy Sims, with undergraduate Sharon Simon and Dr. Catherine Stein had their paper “Working Mothers’ Accounts of Everyday Life while Sheltering-in-Place during COVID-19” accepted to the Association of Women in Psychology conference.
- Maria Kalantzis submitted a grant proposal to the Dr. Phillip Kayal Arab American Research Fund, to validate existing measures of eating pathology in Middle Eastern/North African populations. Good luck, Maria!

NEW JOBS - GOOD LUCK ON YOUR ENDEAVORS!

- Lingfei Luan is starting her postdoctoral fellowship at Northeastern University.
- Emily Ferrell was awarded a T32 NIH postdoctoral fellowship at the MUSC’s National Crime Victims Research and Treatment Center.

MILESTONES

- Wes Barnhart is receiving his M.A. in December
- Camile Hoagland is receiving her M.A. in December
- Victoria Riesgo is defending her prelim in December
- Kaylyn Flanigan successfully defended her prelim in November
- Kristi Thompson is proposing her prelim in December
- Lingfei Luan is graduating with her Ph.D. in December

NEW MEMBERS OF THE DEPARTMENT

Welcome to Arthur Weinandy, son of Jenny Grant Weinandy and Sam Weinandy! Congrats Jenny and Sam!

Pictured: Arthur Weinandy