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Issue 05
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March 2016

NWPC News

Northwestern College Psychology Department

Greetings from Third Floor Van Peursem Hall

Entering senior thesis data · Discussing the My Lai massacre · Training Sniffy · Observing a child for dev psych · Writing lit reviews · Making playdough embryos · Analyzing data on SPSS · Meeting with your advisor · Looking up APA formatting · Taking the Stroop test . . .

This is all happening on third floor VPH! Whether you are an alumnus, a current psychology major, or a high

school student considering our program, this newsletter is for you.

It's been a while! The NWC psychology department newsletter has been on hiatus for two years, but we're back and better than ever. Inside this edition, you'll find information about many of our impressive alumni as well as a brief update on some of our faculty (past and present). We've included details about current department events and an unveiling of our very own new logo and psychology department mug. We also

highlight some of the exciting places our students are studying and working.

As always, if you don't see yourself or a friend included in our updates, please track down one of the current faculty members. We would love to include you in future issues!

Grace and peace,

The NWC psychology department faculty



Faculty Updates

Faculty

Dr. Terry Chi is in his fifth year at Northwestern and his first cohort of advisees will graduate in Spring 2016. His research continues to be related to social factors associated with emotional distress, but he has developed a new interest in social stigma related to mental illness. During the last four years, he has studied the history of Orange City, Dutch immigration patterns in the US, and enjoys spotting Dutch names outside Orange City. He and his family feel more "at home" in Orange City as their child, Kimberlynn, attends kindergarten, and they enjoy participating in community events, especially the annual Tulip Festival. All three dress in authentic Dutch costumes, and Dr. Chi and his wife, Grace, have participated in the Adult Dutch Dancing troupe since 2014.



Dr. Chi as an angel for Halloween

Professor Andy Donahoe (former faculty) moved with her family to Petoskey, MI where her husband is the pastor of First Presbyterian Church of Petoskey. Their children,



Ryan, Moira, Kellan, and Andy Donahoe

Moira and Kellan, continue to grow and keep Andy and Ryan busy.

Dr. Laird Edman continues his work in the Cognitive Science of Religion and had an article published recently in the *Journal of Psychology and*

Dr. Laird Edman, cont.

Christianity. He will continue this work this summer at Oxford University working with Alister McGrath and 24 other faculty from around the world. Dr. Edman, Dr. Feenstra, and recent graduate Amanda Jackson have an article accepted for publication in the *Journal of Psychology and Christianity* that reports findings from a survey done with psychology departments in the CCCU which asked about how they integrate faith and learning in psychology and how they assess it. He has another article in revisions for the *Journal of the Psychology of Religion and Spirituality* that comes out of a study he did with faculty from other universities on analytical thinking and religious belief. And he continues to channel his inner rocker by playing guitar with great enthusiasm at church.



Dr. Laird Edman in Macbeth, Fall 2015

Dr. Jennifer Feenstra continues her globetrotting with a research trip to Romania this summer, collecting data from alums of the New Horizon Foundation youth development program, followed by a quick jaunt to Turkey because it's close and fascinating to explore! Last fall she presented at a study abroad conference in Berlin Germany. She serves the department as resident social psychologist and department chair.

Dr. Adrienne Forgette (former faculty) lives in Orange City and continues to serve as the Dean of Faculty at Northwestern College.

Dr. Sandie Kinsinger was off campus during the 2014-15 academic year when she completed her dissertation on the antecedents to academic hope in college students. This research will be presented in Las Vegas in March and at the APA conference in Denver in August. Her youngest son left for college in the fall and she and Mitch are adjusting to the newest developmental stage of life.



Drs. Mitch & Sandie Kinsinger

Dr. Don Lindscoog (retired faculty)

is enjoying his retirement in sunny Florida. He and his wife, Verna, continue to support the academic pursuits of NWC psychology majors through the *Carl and Hazle Lindscoog Clinical Psychology Award* which is annually given to a graduating senior who demonstrates Christian commitment and academic excellence and who has been admitted into a doctoral program in clinical or counseling psychology.

Dr. Daniela Cambetas Syed teaches online for Northwestern and on campus in Maryland, which has given her the opportunity to teach both undergraduate and graduate classes. She enjoys travel and spent a month in Portugal this past summer with her husband and 6-year-old daughter.



Dr. Daniela Cambetas Syed



Rikki Matthew (2016), Dr. Laird Edman, & Jake Vermeer (2016)

Alumni Updates

1997

Derek Vande Slunt and Tina Jackson Vande Slunt live in Hawarden, IA. Tina has started substitute teaching now that the kids are in school, and she hopes to eventually teach full time. They have three children, Noah (12), Micah (10), and Jenna (5). Derek is in his third year at Hawarden Community Church (RCA).



Derek & Tina Vande Slunt and family

2001

Malissa Kraft lives in New Hampshire with her husband and works as a neuropsychologist on the inpatient geropsychiatric unit at the Bedford VA Hospital in Bedford, MA. She also works one day per week in private practice, where she conducts forensic neuropsychological evaluation.

2003

Kayla Davidson is currently working as a Licensed Clinical Psychologist at Central Iowa Psychological Services in Ames, Iowa. She offers a combination of therapy, supervision, and assessment. Kayla is recently engaged and planning a 2016 wedding.

2004

John Ranney graduated with his PhD in Psychology from North Dakota State University. He took a job at Gannon University as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Psychology

and Counseling. He and his wife, Regina, have two children, Andaluia (7), and Cohan (1½). They live in Erie, PA and are getting settled by the lake.

Melanie Coulter Worstell and her husband, Tim, moved back to Norfolk, NE after living in California for five years while she did art therapy at a state hospital for the treatment of adult male sex offenders. They currently manage the Abbey Christian Store, which is a book, Bible, and gift store that draws from about a two-hour radius. Melanie does all the gift ordering and displaying, so she regularly uses her artistic mind and ability!



Melanie & Tim Worstell

2005

Jessica Dornink Rollins is a marketing and technical services assistant for the Northern Business Unit of DuPont Pioneer in Mankato, MN. She married Grant Rollins in 2013. They have one daughter, Ava Jean, born in 2015.

Carrie VanderStoep Scheevel

homeschools her three kids ages 3-8, and is supporting her husband as he begins his career as a financial representative for Thrivent Financial.

2006

Ryan Holt received his M.A. in Higher Education from Geneva College in Beaver Falls, PA in 2008. He worked as the Director of Student Programs at Geneva, overseeing Student Activities, Intramural Sports, Student Government, and First Year Experience. In July 2015, he married Megan Tovar in Maryville, TN. Currently, he is the Director of New Student Orientation Programs at Belmont University. Ryan and Megan live in music city, Nashville, TN.



Megan & Ryan Holt

Holly Messenger and her husband, Arif, moved from Seattle to Des Moines in 2015 and welcomed their son, Kiran, in the fall.

Sarah Way Treft lives in Pella, IA where her husband, Scott, teaches third grade. Sarah worked at the hospital as a receptionist for the Rehab department, but after the birth of their third daughter, she chose to stay home with them. She currently works part time for the Pella Chamber as the events coordinator. Sarah and Scott have three daughters, McKyndree (5½), Lillian (3½), and Taytum (19 mos.). They continue to be active in soccer through coaching.

2007

Amanda Brown Brouwer is an Assistant Professor of Psychology at Winona State University in Winona, MN. Her PhD is in Health and Social Psychology with emphasis in areas of Quantitative Statistics and Neuroscience. In addition to teaching, she has an active research lab which explores motivation for various health behaviors and how we promote them. In fact,



Dani Maurer (2014), Bev Rubel (2014), and Ranell Rowenhorst O'Kane (2014)

Alumni Updates

Amanda Brown Brouwer (cont.) she is still working with a construct that she began researching in her Senior Thesis project at Northwestern! She is also working with the La Crosse Public Health Department to explore how



Amanda Brouwer
& Jonah

stress differentially affects the health of those in diverse demographic groups. She lives in La Crosse, WI with her husband, Scott and son Jonah (11 mos.).

Julia Meyers Tjeerdsma completed her master's degree in school counseling and works as a counselor at Madison Elementary and is a middle school volleyball coach in Pella, Iowa. Julia, Scott, and their two children, Henry and Evelyn, will welcome baby number 3 in May.

2008

Jillian Groeneveld Combs is in Orlando working at Pioneers, an international church-planting organization. She has transitioned from Director of Recruitment (mobilizing short and long-term missionaries) to one of their Advancement Officers (doing fund-raising and advocacy for their U.S. office). Jared and Jillian have been married since 2012.

Danny Eshcol earned a master's degree in Higher Education at Iowa State University in 2010 and has been working in the field of International Students Services since then. He was married in the summer of 2014 and moved to Orlando, FL where he works at Valencia College's Intensive Eng-

lish Program and his wife is an engineering consultant for aerospace firms in the area. In their free time they also work with International Students Inc., an international student ministry reaching out to Indian students on the University of Central Florida campus.

Emily Meyerink Griese earned a PhD in Educational Psychology from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln in 2013. She completed a postdoctoral fellowship and transitioned to Assistant Scientist at Sanford Research in Sioux Falls, SD. Her research is developmental in nature, examining trajectories of peer relations (i.e., bullying) and potential sources of resilience for youth. She has 20-month old boy-girl twins, Henry and Hadley, and is married to Russ, her husband of eight years.

Kristin Lorey has been living in Los Angeles, California, for the past six years, and is currently the Director of Programs at 826LA, a writing and tutoring non-profit. Her latest big project is designing art-based writing curriculum for The Broad Museum. She currently resides with her sweet pup, Clementine, and is active in the Los Angeles literary, educational, and non-profit communities.



Kristin Lorey

Kelsey Arvidson McCollum works as an RN, BSN on a cardiac and vascular care floor



Robbie, Mason, & Kelsey McCollum

at Regions Hospital in St. Paul, MN. Her son, Mason, turned one in December.

Rachael Wittern

completed the requirements for her PhD in clinical psychology, including her internship at Tripler Army Medical Center. She recently began a residency as an Army Behavioral Health Officer at Schofield Barracks, HI.



Rachael Wittern

2009



Sarah Connolly graduated from Ball State University in July 2015 with a PhD in Educational Psychology. She currently lives in Atlanta, GA and is doing her postdoctoral fellowship in clinical psychology at Emory University School of Medicine. She is working at the Marcus Autism Center, an NIH Autism Center of Excellence. She specializes in behavioral treatment for children with autism spectrum disorder.

Rachel Posthuma George completed a PsyD at Wheaton College Graduate School. She and her husband live in Glen Ellyn, IL and are expecting their first child in March. She works as a psychologist at Meier Clinics.

Emily Keen Shade lives in Monument, CO with her husband of five years. He is a youth pastor and she is a board certified assistant behavior analyst (BCaBA) and works as a

Alumni Updates

Emily Keen Shade (cont.)

supervisor at a company that does ABA therapy for children with autism. She is working on a master's degree at Arizona State University and will graduate in the summer of 2016.

Stephanie Powell

White resides in Toronto, ON where her husband works as a geotechnical engineer. She stays busy with her daughter Quinn (1) and volunteer work through their church. The family will welcome a second child August 2016.



Eric, Quinn, & Stephanie White

2010

Destiny Kortman Boss is living in Wisconsin with husband and NWC alum, Andrew, who is a math teacher and coach at Campbellsport High School. She works with individuals with various cognitive delays and is also a job coach, in which she trains individuals with disabilities with their new jobs. Elysia (4) loves preschool. Collin (1½) spends his time exploring everything.

Eunice Paik earned a Master's in Public Health, epidemiology in May of 2013. During her studies, she interned at the Chicago Department of Public Health to work on the Natality report for the city and ran some preliminary data for the maternal and child health sector, which her capstone was based on. In the fall of 2013, she started a Master's in Healthcare Administration. She chose to go into healthcare admin-

istration because of her love and passion for the field, but also because she has a vision for what hospitals could and should look like, and hopes to contribute to that.

Jared Schmidt graduated from Minnesota State University-Mankato with a Master's of Science in Applied Anthropology. His thesis focused on fieldwork conducted at the Garden of One Thousand Buddhas in Arlee, MT, and examined how Tibetan Vajrayana Buddhist traditions, material culture, and heritage have been in-



fluenced through diaspora at this developing pilgrimage site on the Flathead Indian Reservation. Following graduation, Jared began coursework at the University of Wisconsin-Madison's Department of Comparative Literature and Folklore Studies to pursue a PhD in Folklore.

Darci Vander Woude Van Dyke

graduated from the University of North Dakota in Grand Forks, ND, in August 2015 with a PhD in Clinical Psychology after completing her pre-doctoral internship at Black Hills VA Health Care System. At the end of August, she started a position as a psychology resident at the Sioux Falls VA Health Care System. Darci, Jess, and Sierra (2) welcomed Ellyse in January.

Brittany Van Eck is currently living in Fairbanks, AK, and in her fourth year as a Resident Director at the University of Alaska Fairbanks. After graduating from Northwestern, she

moved to Azusa, CA, where she earned her MS in College Counseling and Student Development.

From there she

moved to Fairbanks.

As an RD, she supervises Resident Assistants, Desk Attendants, and Peer Mentors (student tutors), and lives in a residence hall of about 300 first-year students. Brittany writes, "I never imagined I would end up here, but Alaska is just what I need: open space, grand adventure, constant opportunities for learning, and people who need each other to make it through the long winters."



Brittany Van Eck

Ingrid Carlson Wurpts is in the last stages of dissertation writing and plans to graduate in May with a PhD in Quantitative Research Methods from Arizona State University. Her dissertation is a simulation study examining the performance of contextual multilevel models, which can be used to simultaneously assess between-person differences and within-person fluctuation over time.



Ingrid Wurpts

2011

Chelsey Bohr is a doctoral candidate in the Counseling Psychology PhD program at West Virginia University in Morgantown, WV.



Ryan Morgan & Chelsey Bohr

She is employed as a graduate assistant at the university counseling center and primarily works with students seeking therapy and/or assessment services. Her research interests include studying predictors of eating disorder recovery. Additionally, Chelsey works

Alumni Updates

Chelsey Bohr (cont.) on a team of graduate students with the CJIS division of the FBI examining factors affecting unprovoked law enforcement ambushes. She and the team presented preliminary findings in a symposium at APA in Toronto. Chelsey was recently engaged to Ryan Morgan of Pelican Rapids, MN, and is planning a May 2016 wedding.

Rebecca Piatt Gesink lives with her husband, Jon, and their son, Clay (2), in West Des Moines, IA. She is an RN at Blank Children's Endocrinology Clinic in Des Moines. Rebecca notes, "I find so many ways in which I use my psychology degree in



Jon, Rebecca, & Clay Gesink

my nursing. It has helped me better understand my patients and connect with them on a deeper level, and I use it regularly as a mom."

Hollyann Elton Huygens earned a Master of Arts degree in Counseling from Sioux Falls Seminary. She recently moved back to Cedar Rapids, IA where she is working at a pregnancy support center. She is in the process of pursuing an internship so she can work toward licensure in Iowa. Her son, Davey, had his first birthday on January 17th.

2012

Nic Leither is attending Iliff School of Theology in Denver, CO working towards an MDiv. Since leaving Northwestern, he has picked up rugby and fly fishing as hobbies. His wife, Tamara, graduated from a MSW pro-

gram in Duluth, MN and is now working for Denver County as a Child and Family social worker.

Rebecca Bagley Mangold is a bilingual LMHC therapist at Creative Living Center in Rock Valley, IA.

Mariah

Tappe lives in Redwood Falls, MN and works at Greater Minnesota Family



Mariah Tappe & a co-worker

Services as an Early Childhood Mental Health Practitioner where she does preschool day treatment and in home counseling. She is involved with the Early Childhood Coalition of Redwood County, The Circle of Courage working with juvenile youth, and serves on the Board of Directors for Good Earth Village. She was a mental health panelist at Minnesota Association for Children's Mental Health (MACMH) in 2015.

Dana Franken Visser worked full time for Hope Haven for three years where she became a supervisor involved in case management and creating/implementing new goals for the persons she served. In this job, she not only used her knowledge of psychology, specifically Motivation



Dana, Paul, & Kyla Visser

and Emotion and Psychopathology, but also gained valuable skills in being a leader/supervisor. In July 2015 she began a Doctoral Program at the University of

South Dakota for Occupational Therapy. She often thinks back to Research Methods and other psych classes where a high value was placed on correct APA format. It has come in handy being back in school and she often helps other students who didn't learn it as well as she did! She, her husband, Paul, and daughter Kyla (3) live in Orange and will welcome a second child in March of 2016.

2013

Amie Estelle Davis Angus has been working at Hope Haven as a residential counselor with adolescent youth for the past two years. She still resides in Orange City. In 2015 she married Jen Angus, and continues to fuel her brain with any educational materials she can find.

Devon Cadwell has been working in Hope Haven's Mental Health Department since graduation, originally as a mental health specialist, where he worked with adults with mental illness and children with behavioral challenges. In 2014, he and a co-worker began a program called Day Hab (Hab is short for habilitation). The program resembles a therapy group for adults with mental illness. He studied groups for his Northwestern senior thesis and the research for that project is something he considers every day.



Devon Cadwell

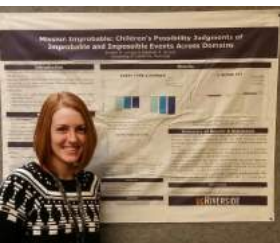
Rachel Krause began a Master of Arts program in Clinical Mental Health Counseling at Northern State University in Aberdeen, SD.

Brett Leifson works as a bedside trauma RN at Chandler Regional Medical Center in Chandler, AZ and is married to Jessica (2011). Brett, Jessica, and Paige (3) will welcome a

Alumni Updates

second child October 2016. Brett is also in graduate school at Eastern Kentucky University working on a Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner degree with an anticipated graduation date of May 2017. His goal is to be a clinical nurse practitioner after passing his ANCC credentialing exams.

Kirsten McConnell Lesage is a doctoral student at UC-Riverside. In January 2016 she presented a poster in Budapest, Hungary at the Budapest CEU Conference on Cognitive Development, and also gave a talk at Centre for Brain and Cognitive Development at Birbeck, University of London. Both the poster and her talk



Kristen McConnell Lesage

stem from her second year project and master's thesis which she will be defending later this spring.

Megan Ott has a master's degree in Clinical Counseling from Rosalind Franklin University, Chicago, and is currently at the University of Northern Iowa in her first year of the Ed.S program in school psychology.

Jenny Welch moved to Colorado Springs, CO in 2014 and works as a Lead Therapist at Alpine Autism Center doing ABA therapy with children with Autism. She hopes to earn a master's degree in ABA therapy, Jenny writes, "Everyday I use the skills and knowledge I attained at Northwestern, especially in relation to leadership."

Sadie Mennen Wright married Jeremy Wright on May 24, 2014. She graduated with a Masters in Counseling, school counseling track, from Ball State University in Muncie, IN spring 2015 and is currently employed as a full time Professional School Counselor at Driver Middle School in Winchester, Indiana.

2014

Malea Beeson is completing a Masters of Professional Counseling program at the University of Oklahoma. She is getting hands-on counseling



Evan Stoesz & Malea Beeson

experience through interning at two sites, Catholic Charities in Oklahoma City and Bethesda, Inc. in Norman. She is blessed with a graduate assistantship position with the Center of Educational Development and Research (CEDaR), which helps graduate students and faculty coordinate, execute, and manage their theses, dissertations, and research studies. Her knowledge of research methods, statistics, SPSS, and Qualtrics got her the job, and she is so thankful for the Psychology department at NWC for teaching her those skills. After graduating in May 2016, she and Evan Stoesz (2014) will marry and move to the Twin Cities where she will pursue licensure.

Rachel Muilenburg Kinsinger is completing a graduate program in Child Life at Loma Linda University in Loma Linda, CA. In December she finished classes and began an



Rachel Muilenburg Kinsinger

internship at Blank Children's Hospital in Des Moines. She graduates in June with a M.S. as a Child Life Specialist. She recently went on a Child Life trip to Hangzhou, China, to

educate nursing staff about using Child Life as well as medical play with the patients in the hospital. They also focused on the topic of grief, because the nurses were interested in research that suggests a new way of caring for a dying child. Rachel and her husband, Graham, live in Indian Wells, CA, where he is the marketing coordinator of the Indian Wells Tennis Garden and BNP Paribas Open.

Amanda Kirsch is a member of the Lutheran Volunteer Corps, serving in Washington, DC as a program associate at Brainfood, a local non-profit youth development organization. Brainfood is dedicated to youth empowerment and building community through food and cooking. She is a frontline youth worker and instructor for some of the after school and summer cooking programs serving high school students. In the fall, she was invited to represent Al Amana Centre and NWC's Oman Semester by attending and speaking at The President's Interfaith and Community Service Campus Challenge National Gathering, hosted at the White House and Howard University. She was honored to be included.



Amanda Kirsch

Dani Maurer has been living and working in Boulder, CO, but will be moving to Nashville, TN to begin the MED degree in Higher Education Administration at Vanderbilt University's Peabody College fall 2016.

Alumni Updates

Ranell Rowenhorst O'Kane worked at the Orange City Area Health System as a Quality Assurance Tech after graduation where she learned a lot about managing people and a business. On October 3rd,

2015 she married Ryan O'Kane and they moved to Maple Grove, MN where she is currently job searching and exploring the cities.

Sarah Simmons spent a year volunteering with Lutheran Family Services through the AmeriCorps program, working with refugees from Bhutan, Burma, Somalia, and elsewhere. Since September she has accepted another term of service with College Possible and now works with underserved students, helping them get to and through college. Both jobs are in Omaha, NE.

2015

Tracy Chapman works at the Diversity Office at the University of South Dakota and is working on a master's in Clinical Mental Health Counseling.

Gilberta (Gee) Daka works at The Bridge Transitional Housing in Orange City, IA, as a Residential Assistant. Her job has helped her form meaningful relationships with the residents, and as a result, she has a clear understanding of what it means



Gee Daka

to struggle with addiction, mental health issues and abuse in general.

Amanda Jackson is an Intake Specialist for Seasons Center for Behavioral Health. She helps families determine what services and providers are the right fit for their children's needs. She also assists with psychological testing as a Psychometrician, testing people for attention and memory difficulties and other problems. Amanda and fiancé, Joe Gernant, are planning a June wedding. She hopes to apply for graduate school in the fall and plans to pursue a doctorate in Clinical Psychology specializing in assessment and psychological testing.



Joe Gernant & Amanda Jackson

Nicole Elbers Thompson celebrated her one-year anniversary with her husband, Josh, in December and they are currently living in Boise, ID. She is enjoying the simple life of working in a bakery right now and is applying to school counseling graduate programs for the fall at both the University of South Dakota and Boise State University.



Nicole & Josh Thompson

Mica Graves is an Admissions Counselor at Northwestern College. She and Blake Foxley were engaged in Paris and are planning their wedding.



Blake Foxley & Mica Graves

Shuen-En Ho is currently enrolled in the PhD program in Clinical Psychology at Seattle Pacific University in Seattle, WA. Her research mentor is Dr. Jacob Bentley, who is a rehabilitation and health psychologist. She was involved in a WPA conference presentation on Somali refugee health and has been working on a study on immigrant healthcare. She writes, "I am gaining knowledge every single day, so it is very fulfilling."

Allison Klabo is currently working on a M.S. in Clinical Mental Health Counseling at Marquette University in Milwaukee, WI. She is in a practicum this semester working in an eating disorders unit at Aurora Psychiatric in Wauwatosa, WI. She hopes to eventually work with this population after earning her degree.

Paige Machado is fulfilling a dream working at Disneyland's California Adventure and living in Long Beach!

Scott Van Ravenswaay began work on a MDiv at Western Seminary in Holland, MI. He lives in the Friendship House near campus with adults with developmental disabilities.

December 2015 Graduates

Andrew Fick is living in Orange City and working at Noteboom Electric and Refrigeration.



Heemstra hecklers—
Andrew Fick far right

Kimberly Korver is moving to Denver, CO, will be married in June, and hopes to find a job that reflects the "people-oriented" nature of psychology.



Kimberly Korver

NΨC Department Highlights

2015 Commencement Address Delivered by Psychology Alum

JP Sundararajan (2000) was invited to give the 2015 commencement address at Northwestern. After graduating with a psychology degree, he earned a MDiv from Western Theological Seminary and was ordained in the Reformed Church in America. He serves as India-Asia Director for Audio Scripture Ministries and splits time between Holland, MI and Bangalore, India. He and his wife, Katy, have two children Leila and Reuben.



Student Commencement Response Given by NΨC Grad



Below is an excerpt from the student response offered by psychology major, Scott Van Ravenswaay, at the 2015 commencement ceremony.

"Try as I might, I could never quite seem to figure out where my profes-

sors stood on many of the topics and issues they were sharing in class. Their refusal to reveal their systems of thought and instead expose me to many of the differing but relevant voices out there has helped me to learn. I can now look at issues from all sorts of different perspectives and gain a more holistic understanding of God's created world that is truly my own. I feel ready to go from this place without needing someone to tell me how it is as I encounter new and different things. I've received the tools and experience necessary to adequately integrate all that I see and learn."

Professors and Student Present Research

Dr. Edman, Dr. Feenstra, and December 2014 graduate Amanda Jackson presented research at the Christian Association for Psychological Studies conference in April 2015. They reported findings from a survey conducted with psychology departments in the Council for Christian Colleges and Universities (CCCU) which asked about how they integrate faith and learning in psychology and how they assess it. A paper on the same topic has been accepted for publication in the *Journal of Psychology and Christianity*.



Dr. Edman, Amanda Jackson, & Dr. Feenstra

And in case you're wondering, Dr. Edman reports, "It's clear NWC does [integration of faith and learning] well compared to most."

Professor and Graduate Meet at Conference

Dr. Jennifer Feenstra and Dr. Amanda Brown Brouwer (2007) connected at the 2015 Society for Personality and Social Psychology Annual Convention. Dr.

Brouwer is Assistant Professor of Psychology at Winona State University in Winona, MN. Her dissertation research, which she began as a psychology major at Northwestern, has been published in the journal of *Self & Identity* and examines the self-as-doer model in relation to healthy eating habits. You can find more information about this research by googling Dr. Brouwer and the self-as-doer construct.



Dr. Feenstra & Dr. Brouwer

NWC Department *Highlights*

NWC Psychology Student Research

Students graduating from the Northwestern College Psychology Department frequently comment about their thorough training in psychological science. In addition to the research methods and statistics sequence of courses (PSY215 & 216), seniors conduct their own independent research studies, which they present on campus and in other regional and national venues. Below is a listing of recent topics examined by our students.

Fall 2014

Gilberta Daka

Sexual attitudes, beliefs and practices as influenced by age and closeness to God

Kate Eick

The relation between ADHD, working memory, SCT, and one's susceptibility to inattention blindness

Aaron P. Galloway

Effects of abbreviated mindfulness-based stress reduction program on perceived stress among college students

Mica Graves

Daughter development after loss of the father

Shuen-En Ho

Idea of God and its effect on forgiveness of others and self

Amanda Jackson

Self-injury: Associations with recalled parenting style and hope

Allison Klabo

Women's body image, eating behaviors, and interoception as a mediator

Andrew Kraayenbrink

Why we forgive: Religiosity, mindfulness, and rumination, as predictors of forgiveness

Naoko Oura

Impact on self-esteem by cultural differences in educational and interpersonal contexts

Scott A. Van Ravenswaay

The strengthening of self-control through religiosity versus spirituality

Leah A. Wielenga

To know and be known: Mindfulness, authenticity, and ego identity status

Spring 2015

Paige Machado

The relationship between involvement, self-efficacy, and academic achievement

Jordan Swain

Parental bonds, media susceptibility, and body image in women

Nicole Elbers Thompson

Trauma, religious coping, and living environment

Fall 2015

Andrew Fick

Embodied worship: The relationship of body posture, prayer, and the experience of God

Jenna Kitchenmaster

Connecting in the digital age: The relationships between belongingness, attachment, media and social media use, and well-being

Kimberly Korver

Feminine gender norms

Richaela Matthew

The relationship of ascribed humanity and spirituality and illness explanation with stigma on illness labels

Samantha Nelson

The relationship of parent-child relationship and college student anxiety, depression, effortful control, and distance from home



NWSC Department Highlights

Northwestern College Psychology Department Mugs!

In the spring of 2015 we developed a logo to represent our department and you can proudly display it with your very own NWSC psychology mug! Dr. Feenstra has mugs available for purchase on campus (VPH308) or will mail one to you if you live out of the area.



Pick up on campus—\$5.00

Mailed to your door—\$15.00

(email your address to

Dr. Feenstra: jfeenstr@nwciowa.edu for delivery)

2015 Siouxland Undergraduate Research Conference

Psychology majors and minors attended the Siouxland undergraduate Research Conference at Dordt College in April 2015. See the previous page for senior thesis titles, some of which were presented at the annual conference.



Shop-n-Bowl: Yes, Please!

Springtime in the NWC Psychology department means a trip to Goodwill for some new duds and ten frames of bowling—wearing those new purchases. The event wouldn't be complete without a few snapshots. Here is the evidence from 2015. (The 2016 shop-n-bowl event is coming up. Join us if you're in the area! Contact a faculty member for details.)



Flashback: Who Remembers This?



STATZ RAPPERS <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JS9GmU5hr5w>

"Ya got the difference on the top and the error on the bottom."



Alex Mullenburg (2014), Dani Maurer (2014),
Mica Graves (2015), & Rachel Mullenburg Kinsinger (2014)

Signs of Success

Photo Essay:



Kara Fifield (2009) completed the Counseling Psychology MA program at Bethel University in St. Paul, MN in 2015.

Val Kleinjan (2013) is at South Dakota State University pursuing a MS in Communication Studies and a MS in Mental Health and Rehabilitation Counseling



Rachael Wittern (2008) completed the requirements for the PhD in Clinical Psychology from Fuller Theological Seminary in 2016.



Sarah Connolly (2009) completed a PhD in School Psychology at Ball State University in Muncie, IN in 2015.



Ingrid Carlson Wurpts (2010) is completing a PhD in Quantitative Research Methods from Arizona State University.

Megan Ott (2013) completed a MS in Clinical Psychology at Rosalind Franklin University of Medicine and Science in Chicago and is currently pursuing an EdS in School Psychology at the University of Northern Iowa.



Sarah Simmons (2014) works with College Possible in Omaha, NE where she helps underserved students get to and through college.

Sadie Mennen Wright (2013) earned a MA in Counseling Psychology with a concentration in School Counseling from Ball State University in 2015.



Just for fun, we rounded up some photos of our graduates beside the signs where they work or have attended graduate school. It's not an exhaustive representation (ask a faculty member sometime and we'll brag about our students like proud parents), but it will give you an idea of the exciting places our psychology majors go after graduation. Take a look!



Rachel Muilenburg Kinsinger (2014) completes a MS in Child Life at Loma Linda University in Loma Linda, CA in 2016. She is currently finishing her internship at Blank Children's Hospital in Des Moines. (Rachel is third from the right.)