

Announcements

The annual meeting of the Human Behavior and Evolution Society will be held in Detroit from June 24-27 at the Detroit Marriott in the Renaissance Center. The host committee for the conference is composed of Drs. Todd Shackelford, Viviana Weekes-Shackelford, Lisa Welling, and Melissa McDonald. The conference has received the generous support of the Oakland University Office of the President, Office of the Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost, College of Arts and Sciences, the Center for Biomedical Research, and the University of Michigan Evolution and Human Adaptation Program. We hope to see you there!



DETROIT/2020

HUMAN BEHAVIOR & EVOLUTION SOCIETY

Dr. Melissa McDonald was recognized as an "Impact Player" by OU student-athletes and staff, and honored with other nominees at the Jan 16th OU Women's Basketball Game.

The McDonald PEP Lab goes bowling!



Congratulations to Nicole Barbaro who successfully defended her dissertation: "The associations between attachment orientations and intimate partner violence perpetration and victimization: An individual, dyadic, and behavior genetic approach." Nicole is pictured above with her primary advisor, Todd Shackelford, and her other committee members, Jennifer Vonk and Virgil Zeigler-Hill.

Events

Feb 12, 3-4 PM: Research Colloquium with Todd Shackelford. Lake Superior Room of the OC.

Presentations

Welling, L.L.M. (January 2020). *Testosterone, dominance, and men's face preferences*. Invited research colloquium at Wayne State University

Psychology Department Basketball Outing!





PSI CHI

The PSI CHI office is located in Pryale Hall.

PSI CHI, the International Honor Society in Psychology, was founded in 1929 with a mission of recognizing and promoting excellence in the science and application of psychology.

PURPOSE

To encourage, stimulate, and maintain excellence in scholarship of the individual members in all fields, particularly in psychology, and to advance the science of psychology.



GOALS

To provide academic recognition to its inductees. Augment and enhance the regular curriculum.

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LATEST IN PSYCHOLOGY

The *Psychological Science* journal published a study in which researchers found that children displayed more self-control in the classic Marshmallow Test when in a cooperative setting. This classic task includes placing a marshmallow (or other treat) before a child and giving them the option of (1) eating the treat immediately, or (2) waiting for the researcher to return to receive a second treat for their patience.

Koomen, Grueneisen, and Herrmann (2020) altered the task and tested it on children from Germany and from a tribe in Kenya. Some children, acting as a control group, were asked to complete the classic test, while others were paired with another five- or six-year-old. The two children played a balloon toss game to become familiarized with each other, and then

were set in separate rooms. The children were told that each partner would receive a second cookie if they *both* waited for the researcher to return. This is a risky decision because the child is not only relying on him or herself—rather he or she must hope their partner also refrains from eating the cookie.

Koomen and colleagues (2020) found that children from both cultures who were assigned to the interdependence condition had significantly more self-control than those who did not depend on a partner. This suggests that children as young as 5 or 6 feel a social obligation to not let their peers down.

Another recent study suggested that adolescent exposure to air pollution may be a risk factor, along with genetic and other environmental factors like

substance abuse, for schizophrenia.

The disorder is characterized by hallucinations and delusions, disordered thinking, and an emotional disconnect and affects less than 2% of the population.

The present study by Horsdal et al. (2019) published in the *JAMA Network Open* journal investigated air pollution levels in Denmark until 2012 and collected data on more than 23,000 individuals born between 1981 and 2002. Participants provided the necessary genetic data and mental health records, and the researchers used data on air pollution.

As hypothesized, Horsdal and colleagues (2019) found that individuals who were exposed to higher levels of air pollution during their childhood had a higher risk of developing schizophrenia. In total, a little more than 3,500 participants developed schizophrenia.

The researchers reported that these results were unrelated to the other risk factors they controlled for, like the genetic component. This means that growing up in an area with poor air quality increases an individual's risk of developing schizophrenia regardless of whether he or she has a genetic predisposition to developing the disorder in adulthood.

RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES

***Dr. Michele Parkhill-Purdie** is looking for new undergraduate students who are interested in gaining new experiences as a research assistant. Her lab focuses on trauma, rape, aggression, and sexual health.

RAs should: be enrolled in or have completed PSY 2500, have a GPA of 3.0 (+), be willing to volunteer several

hours a week, and be reliable, punctual, and responsible. For more information regarding this application process, please email Sarah at samayville@oakland.edu.

*The PTG Lab headed by **Dr. Kana Taku** is looking for 2 research assistants for the winter semester. You can contact Dr. Taku at taku@oakland.edu.

***Dr. Lisa Welling** is looking for bright young minds interested in human relationships, hormones, and social behavior. If you are looking to gain research experience as an RA, you can contact Dr. Welling at welling@oakland.edu. RAs should: be enrolled in or have completed PSY 2500, have a GPA of 3.0 (+), be willing to volunteer 8-10 hours a week, and be reliable, punctual, and responsible. More information can be found on the lab website: www.wellingresearchlab.com.

***Dr. Melissa McDonald** is looking for undergraduate research assistants to join the Personality and Evolutionary Psychology (PEP) Lab as volunteers or for course credit. The lab examines questions related to moral decision making, prejudice and discrimination, and sexual conflict. If you are interested, please contact Dr. McDonald at: mmcdonald@oakland.edu.

GET INVOLVED

We are currently looking for several student **Liaisons** for the Winter 2020 semester!

For more information on what this position requires, and how to start the process of becoming an officer, email our President Emanuel or our Vice-President Nicole.

We are also actively seeking new members to join Psi Chi! Joining Psi Chi means joining an elite group of those interested in Psychology as a passion, academic, and career interest. Membership is valid for life, and provides members access to special awards, grants and scholarships not offered to non-members.

Eligibility for undergraduate students

include:

1. Registration for major or minor standing in psychology (or for a program psychological in nature)
2. Completion of 46 credits of college courses
3. Completion of 16 credits of psychology courses
4. Ranked in the top 35% of one's class (typically a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.31, but will vary by class year)

5. A minimum psychology GPA of 3.0 (on a 4.0 scale) in all psychology courses

STAY UPDATED

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/oaklandpsichi/>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/oaklandpsichi>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/2387864673/>

FEBRUARY EVENTS

Tuesday (2/4): February meeting from 12-1 in the Oakland Center Room 125

Wednesday (2/12): Dr. Shackelford will be presenting at a Research Colloquium in the Lake Superior Room of the Oakland Center from 3-4

Tuesday (2/18): Workshop on Personality Traits from 11:30-1:30 in the Ambassador A Room (Room 157)

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