Dean Stewart Donaldson elected president of the American Evaluation Association

SSSPE received wonderful news early this Fall when the American Evaluation Association (AEA) announced its new president: our own Dean Stewart Donaldson! Dr. Donaldson is widely recognized as one of the most prominent leaders in the ever growing field of evaluation, and was honored with the AEA lifetime achievement award for his contributions to evaluation theory. A key innovator, speaker, teacher, mentor, and researcher of evaluation, he has helped shape how scholars and practitioners think about evaluation today. For over a decade Dr. Donaldson has served on editorial boards of core evaluation journals, including the American Journal of Evaluation, New Directions for Evaluation, Journal of Multidisciplinary Evaluation, and Evaluation & Program Planning. His work has transcended across borders, acclaimed at both a national and international level.

The AEA is an international association of professional evaluators that aims to assess and improve the effectiveness of a wide range of contexts such as policies, personnel, products, and private and public organizations across the globe. Boasting over 7700 members hailing from over 60 countries, the AEA’s vision is to foster an inclusive, diverse, and international community of practice positioned as a respected source of information for and about the field of evaluation.

Thanks to Dr. Donaldson’s leadership in this field, CGU has the largest graduate program in evaluation in the world. He has served as Director of the Claremont Evaluation Center (formerly the Institute of Organizational and Program Evaluation Research, IOPER) for nearly 15 years, whose mission is to influence the direction and effectiveness of organizations and social programs, facilitate constructive social and organizational change, and enrich the quality of life in communities and organizations. “This is a well deserved recognition for decades of dedication, leadership, and work by Dean Stewart Donaldson,” said President Deborah Freund. “His election to this prestigious position acknowledges his role as an innovator in evaluation sciences and underscores his extraordinary accomplishments. He has brought CGU to world leadership in this field.”
Faculty News

Dr. Mihaly Csikszentmihalyi is Honored for a Lifetime of Achievement by APS

Earlier this year, Dr. Csikszentmihalyi was chosen to receive the James McKeen Cattell Lifetime Achievement Award for Applied Research presented in celebration of the 25th Anniversary of the Association for Psychological Science (APS). APS’s highest honor, this award recognizes distinguished scientists who have had a profound impact on the field of psychological science over the past quarter century. Cattell Fellows are chosen as a distinguished group of scientists who represent the very best that psychological science has to offer.

Dr. Csikszentmihalyi is noted for his work in the study of happiness and creativity, and is best known as the architect of the notion of Flow and for his years of research and writing on the topic. Author of over 13 books and 225 research articles, Dr. Csikszentmihalyi’s work on what makes people happy has spanned over decades. His scientific works on creativity, innovation, and what makes life worth living are cited across borders, disciplines, and professions. In his seminal work, Flow: The Psychology of Optimal Experience, Dr. Csikszentmihalyi outlines his theory that people are happiest when they are in a state of flow—a state of concentration or complete absorption with the activity at hand and the situation.

Are YOU a Binge Watcher? Dr. Csikszentmihalyi explains TV addiction

In an on-demand television culture, we have become increasingly impatient waiting for the next episode. It is not uncommon to hear others admit that they’ve watched an entire season of “Orange is the New Black” in a single week’s time. With programs like Netflix, Hulu, and Amazon Prime available to us with a click of a finger, these addictive behaviors are all but restricted. What’s going on?

Columnist Petula Dvorak of the Washington Post cited Dr. Csikszentmihalyi to answer this question. “We tend to forget that although we develop technology to make our lives easier and more comfortable, it has side effects that must be dealt with or things get out of control,” said Dr. Csikszentmihalyi in his published work, “Television Addiction Is No Mere Metaphor,” with Dr. Robert Kubey.

Dr. Kubey mirrored Dr. Csikszentmihalyi’s sentiment when Dvorak asked what could be done about her admitted tv addiction. “I think you may be insane,” offered Kubey. “A little meshuga.”

Dr. Csikszentmihalyi is a member of the American Academy of Education, the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and the National Academy of Leisure Studies. He is the founder and co-director of the Quality of Life Research Center (QLRC), a non-profit research institute that studies positive psychology - that is, human strengths such as optimism, creativity, intrinsic motivation, and responsibility.
President of SPSSI, Dr. Allen Omoto, Acknowledged by APA, SPSSI, & WPA

Dr. Allen Omoto was elected President of the Society for Psychological Study of Social Issues (SPSSI), who began his tenure from 2012-2013 and will serve his Past-President term in 2013-2014 on the Society’s Executive Committee.

SPSSI is an association of over 3000 psychologists, scientists, scholars, and practitioners who are interested in the application of research on the psychological aspects of important social issues to public policy solutions. Located in Washington, D.C., SPSSI’s mission is to bring theory and practice into focus on human problems, including fostering and funding research on social issues and disseminating research findings through scholarly journals, sponsored books, specialized conferences, and convention programs.

Dr. Omoto, a Fellow of SPSSI since 1997, has focused his research on the psychological aspects of volunteerism, civic participation, and LGBT issues over the years. He was also awarded the Distinguished Service Award from SPSSI in recognition of his dedication and commitment to the organization and the extensive work on its behalf.

Dr. Omoto was also chosen as one of 22 psychologists named to the Implementation Work Group of the American Psychological Association (APA). Tasked with developing specific plans for major restructuring of the APA governance system, the work group will represent a broad cross-section of psychologists who bring exceptional leadership skills to the work at hand. APA is the largest scientific and professional organization representing psychology in the United States. APA is the world’s largest association of psychologists, with more than 134,000 researchers, educators, clinicians, consultants and students as its members.

The Western Psychological Association Board selected Dr. Omoto as the 2014 winner of the WPA Social Responsibility Award. This award recognizes individuals who have demonstrated substantial and influential work that facilitates peace, freedom, social justice, or protection of the planet’s natural environment. Dr. Omoto will be presented the award at the WPA Conference in Spring 2014 in Portland, OR and an invitation to speak at the WPA conference in 2015 in Las Vegas, NV. Join us in congratulating Dr. Omoto for this well-deserved honor!

It is with great joy to announce that Professor Omoto and his long-time partner, David, were married on November 8th, 2013.

❤️

Congratulations to the happy couple from DBOS!!!
Dr. Jeanne Nakamura is Awarded Tenure
Professor Jeanne Nakamura was awarded tenure at CGU this year. An Associate Professor at DBOS, Dr. Nakamura received her Bachelor’s Degree and Ph.D. from the University of Chicago. Alongside Dr. Mihalyi Csikszentmihalyi, she is the Co-Director of the Positive Psychology concentration and the Quality of Life Research Center at CGU. She is also a member of the board of International Positive Psychology Association (IPPA). She helped direct the Good Work Project - a series of studies of excellence and social responsibility in professional life. She has investigated positive psychology in a developmental context, including engagement and creativity, mentoring and good work, and aging well. Her current writing and research address motivation and engagement in adulthood, the formative influences of mentoring and the formation of good mentors, and social innovation after 60 as a model for positive aging. Please join us in congratulating Dr. Nakamura!

Happy Birthday to Dr. Dale Berger!
Professor Dale Berger celebrated his 70th birthday this past year! A party was held outside Albrecht Auditorium on February 21st, 2013 for students, faculty, and friends to celebrate with him. Fun was had by all, enjoying cake, coffee, and delivering a spirited rendition of ‘Happy Birthday’ to the man of the hour.

Professor Berger teaches a range of advanced statistics courses and Psychology of Thinking. He was recipient of the Western Psychological Association (WPA) Outstanding Teaching Award (1997) and was WPA President 2002-2003. He consults on applied research methods and data analysis, and he has directed research grants from the National Science Foundation and the National Institute of Justice. Ph.D., University of California, Los Angeles.
Dr. William Crano traveled to Chulalongkorn University, Thailand with Applied Social Psychology Ph.D. student Thipnapa Huansuriya this summer to give a talk about their recent research on substance abuse factors affecting parental communication about illicit drug use. His talk, titled “Attitudes and Social Influence: Bridging Basic Research, Applied Research, and Real-work Application,” encompassed research collaborated with Dr. Jason Siegel and Thipnapa.

Their research article, “Parent-Child Drug Communication: Pathway From Parents’ Ad Exposure to Youth’s Marijuana Use Intention,” newly published in the Journal of Health Communication, used the theory of planned behavior to create an evaluative framework on the effectiveness of a set of anti-drug ads in promoting parent-child drug communication.

A lecturer at Chula U, Thipnapa and Dr. Crano also discussed a plan for the university to collaborate with student and faculty researchers at DBOS. As a result of his visit, our two programs are exploring a Memorandum of Understanding for close interactions between the schools that may benefit scholars on both sides of the Pacific.

Dr. Crano’s travels did not stop there. Following his visit to Chula U, Dr. Crano made a presentation at the Asian Association of Social Psychology which met at Yogyakarta, Indonesia. He gave a presentation at the European Society for Prevention Research in Paris, France, served on a doctoral committee at the EMLYON Business School in Lyon, France, delivered a three-day workshop and keynote address and Substance Abuse Prevention in Almaty, Kazakhstan for the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, and plans to do the same in Abu Dhabi in March 2014 for the nations of the Middle East. Currently, he is working on a Substance Abuse Curriculum Development project for the 23 Colombo Plan Nations for the U.S. Department of State and will be delivering a workshop in Bangkok in January on media and substance abuse prevention.

Dr. Crano was recently asked to join the Society for Prevention Research International Task Force (ITF), which brings together research, practice, and policy for improving international health. “The ITF brings together colleagues and encourages global health collaborations. They have a particular interest in ensuring that research findings are shared, that practitioners and policy makers have opportunities to engage researchers in interactive dialogues, and that all parties appreciate and understand the respective challenges in communicating research findings and to the research community,” says Dr. Crano.
Dr. Andrew Lac will offer several new statistics courses at DBOS this semester. In addition to being a DBOS alumnus, Professor Lac has authored over 50 publications in peer-reviewed journals, as well as book chapters and an encyclopedia entry. His current focus is on scale development and validation, with 4 multidimensional inventories published in journals. He has also taught at Loyola Marymount University and Whittier College.

New Courses Offered by Professor Lac

Multilevel Modeling (2 units)
Multilevel modeling (MLM), also known as hierarchical linear modeling (HLM), is undertaken to statistically analyze variables that are hierarchically structured at different levels. Children are nested within families, and these families are nested within towns, for example. Topics will include specifying and building models, interpreting fixed vs. random effects, estimating growth curves, and understanding problems caused by failure to take into account the intra-class correlation. The final project requires a 15 to 20 page manuscript based on a dataset with nested variables.

Quantitative Content Analysis (2 units)
Content analysis is a method for systematically identifying features and themes in text and information drawn from other communication modalities. The course will emphasize the conversion of qualitative information to quantitative variables. Topics include sampling domains of content, manifest and inferential coding, inter-rater reliabilities, measurement validity, and other methodological issues. For the final paper, each student is expected to propose a topic applied to an Internet medium, conduct a full-scale content analysis using a sizable sample, perform a multiple regression or path analysis on the quantified variables, and write a 15 to 20 page manuscript.

Advanced Experimental Design (4 units)
Randomized experiments serve as the “gold” standard for making inferences about the causality of predictive relationships. Topics include creating manipulations, factorial designs and statistical interactions, implicit association tests, longitudinal experiments, Internet experimentation, group-randomized experiments, and other topics. The practical constraints of experimental research are emphasized. For the final project, each student is expected to design a factorial experiment, create stimuli involving audiovisual manipulations, recruit participants and randomly assign them to conditions, and write a 15 to 20 page manuscript. The manuscript must be submitted to a peer-reviewed journal by the last week of class.
CGU Welcomes Dr. Kendall Bronk to the DBOS Faculty!

Kendall Cotton Bronk is an educational psychologist interested in positive youth development and the moral growth of young people. For the past 12 years she has investigated these topics through the lens of young people’s life purposes. Her research has explored the relationship between life purposes and healthy growth, ways young people discover life purposes, and the developmental trajectory of youth with strong commitments to various life purposes. A surprising finding emerged from her longitudinal research on the topic; many of the young people with life purposes ended up becoming entrepreneurs. In order to fill a personally meaningful social need, they launched their own businesses. Consequently, Bronk’s research has more recently focused on how young business leaders develop and on the important role of humility among effective entrepreneurs. In addition to her substantive interests, Bronk has also helped define and outline the parameters of the exemplar methodology, an approach that allows researchers to gain a view not only of typical and deficient growth, but also of exemplary development, which is critical for a full understanding of human development. Bronk teaches undergraduate, masters, and doctoral classes on adolescent development, lifespan development, and research methods. After graduating with a BS from Northwestern University, Bronk earned her doctorate from Stanford University. She has served as Associate Professor of Educational Psychology and Director of Minor in Psychology of Human Development at Ball State University, Indiana.
Current Student Highlights

**Jes Snavely Wins SPSSI Award**
Social Psychology Ph.D. student Jes Snavely received an award from the Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues’s (SPSSI) Grants-In-Aid program. In its effort to support scientific research in social problem areas related to the basic interests and goals of SPSSI, the committee encourages proposals involving projects that involve: (a) unique and timely research opportunities, (b) underrepresented institutions, graduate students, and junior scholars, (c) volunteer research teams, and are (d) actual, not pilot, projects.

Jes’s project aligned with one of SPSSI’s policy priority areas, interpersonal violence. In particular, Jes conducted an interview study exploring meaning making, character development, information processing style, and similar processes through which people have been known to transform personal experiences of crisis into prosocial behavior.

“This funding supplements ongoing work with individuals who had experienced a health-related crisis and are now volunteering,” shared Jes. “We want to explore how motivations, behavioral outcomes, narrative themes, and other factors may vary depending on the nature of the crisis.”

This year, SPSSI's Grants-in-Aid program will include a small number of grants earmarked especially in support of research related to SPSSI’s current policy priorities: interpersonal violence, marriage equality, and immigration reform. Proposals within these priorities will receive special consideration, though submissions are not limited to these areas of focus.

**CGU Hosts YMCA Leadership Symposium**
For a second year, Claremont Graduate University hosted a YMCA Leadership Symposium, titled *Addressing Social Needs Through Civic Engagement*, held on April 3rd - 5th and a follow-up symposium on November 12th - 14th. At the first meeting, YMCA executive gave talks such as “Building for Democracy: How Community Organization Can Help Close the Civic Achievement Gap” and “Strengthening ‘The Nation’: What Playing Indian Can Teach Us About Ourselves and How to Lead in an Increasingly Diverse America.”

To support its mission to strengthen community building, the YMCA chose fifty executive officers from over 1,700 Y branches across the country to participate. DBOS was chosen as the forum, providing a collegial environment of community, strong leadership, and applied knowledge for the Leadership Symposium. The YMCA is a charitable non-profit organization whose purpose is to improve the quality of community life.

The leadership symposium was held for attendees who want to gain new insights into the Y’s cause, work within a societal context, and gain a deeper understanding of the nature of communities for more informed decision-making as Y leaders.

Seven TAs from DBOS including Michael Condren, Monica Montijo, Angela Mouton, Aly Lopez, Matt Dubin, Kim Perkins, and Natasha Wilder were charged with the task of facilitating the brainstorming, discussion, and development of “white papers” written by the executive attendees. White papers are technical or business benefits documents that introduce a challenge faced by readers and present a strong case for a particular approach toward problem solving. YMCA executives applied what they learned from the invited speakers and their own research to write white papers. The best papers, selected by blind reviewers, were then shared at the follow-up symposium in November.
Elise Fenn Wins Student Grant-In-Aid Award

Applied Cognitive Psychology student Elise Fenn was selected to receive a grant for her research by The American Psychology-Law Society Grants-In-Aid Committee (a division of APA) for her proposal, “Social Contexts for Detecting Deception: Factors that Moderate the Effectiveness of and Imposed-Cognitive-Load-Approach”.

As student member of the association, Elise will receive an award of $750 to fund her research.

Elise is interested in examining how the social context of an interview affects one’s ability to appear truthful; for instance, is there a difference when being interviewed by a same- or different-race interviewer? “We predict that certain groups of participants interviewed by someone of a difference race will look more like liars, regardless of their actual veracity,” explained Elise. “One explanation for these results is that liars and truth tellers who are interviewed by someone of a different race may experience more mental difficulty, causing subjects to appear as though they are guilty even when they are innocent.”

Her future objective with this line of research is to develop interview techniques that “protect the innocent but catch the guilty.” While current deception research has developed successful cognitive load paradigms that allow researchers to distinguish between liars and truth tellers, Elise pushes forward by examining the moderating role played by social context between interviewers and respondents.

Her mentor, Dr. Kathy Pezdek, sends out regular emails to her research lab encouraging students to stay active in psychological associations and apply for grants such as this one. The AP-LS Grant in Aid for Students accepts proposals for small grants to support empirical graduate research that addresses important psychological issues.

Marian Liu is Selected To Receive Ethnic Minority Dissertation Award

Developmental psychology student Marian Liu was chosen to be a 2013-2014 Ethnic Minority Dissertation Fellow in the College of Arts and Sciences by the University of San Francisco (USF). Each academic year, the USF Provost’s Office invites scholars from underrepresented ethnic minorities to apply for the USF Ethnic Minority Dissertation Fellowship.

In this program, scholars are expected to complete their dissertation on a diversity related research topic, while teaching one course per semester in the school where they are placed. Through this program, promising scholars from diverse backgrounds become familiar with the responsibilities of a USF faculty member.

As a full-time faculty at USF this academic year, Marian teaches research methods on elder mistreatment and plans to finish her dissertation in Spring. She is exploring protective factors against elderly financial exploitation, focusing on the role played by interpersonal relationships.

Much of her research at CGU examined social issues surrounding older adults. Marian aims to identify characteristics of resilient older adults. “Hopefully my findings will be useful in building prevention or intervention programs against elder financial exploitation,” she explains. “I would like to investigate the process of interpersonal interactions in financial exploitation cases, and maybe work with victims recovering from the trauma.”
DBOS Students Nicole Porter and Matt Galen Take a Trip to South Africa

This year DBOS Ph.D. student Matt Galen (Evaluation and Applied Research Methods) traveled to South Africa to work as a lecturer for the School of Management at the University of Cape Town (UCT) where he taught a course titled, “Statistics for Monitoring and Evaluation.” Students hailed from all regions of Africa, including DRC, Zimbabwe, Kenya, and within South Africa.

During his stay, Matt redesigned UCT’s school website and delivered lectures to faculty members on technological tools and methods that can be used to improve their current program evaluation practices. He also took advantage of an opportunity to partner with a local management consulting firm, where he helped develop a sustainable monitoring and evaluation system for the New Partnership for Africa’s Development (NEPAD), a large economic development program of the African Union.

Nicole Porter, also an Evaluation and Applied Research Methods Ph.D. student, joined Matt in South Africa, and was able to contribute to UCT’s research on employment trends and evaluation competency among alums from the school’s Master’s program in program evaluation. She analyzed surveys of program alums and wrote a report for the Department of Management Studies. Nicole is currently in the process of working with the department to develop the report into a publishable article.

Nicole and Matt worked closely with Dr. Joha Louw-Potgieter at UCT, a professor of the School of Management Studies who helps direct the research and coursework related to program evaluation in the department.

“I really enjoyed teaching the course and working with the faculty,” shared Matt about his experience at UCT. “It was a real challenge to make statistics accessible and to find interesting examples relevant to program evaluation. I found that there are all kinds of tiny details that add to the challenge of teaching in another country.”

Nicole is currently analyzing her data collected at UCT, and hopes to translate her findings into a publishable work. Her goals is to apply her research to improve the fit between training for program evaluators and skills demanded of them on the job. She plans to expand on her experiences at UCT to develop a more global picture of evaluator competencies in the future.
Joleen Archibald Shares Her Experiences as a PhD Student Navigating the Field of Leadership

“These past six months have been very rewarding, as I continued to hone my skills and expand my network in the leadership field. I have been able to elevate my skill sets and make significant accomplishments in three distinct areas. This growth as an academic, a researcher, and as a practitioner will serve me well as I work towards the successful completion of my PhD and a career in the leadership field.

As an academic, I succeeded in getting two of my tools approved this semester. The first was my evaluation tool, Sophomore Leadership Experience program evaluation: A marker used to indicate KLI’s impact on leadership development of the students at CMC. The second was my qualitative tool; Organizational change in the construction industry: Corporate environmentalism and corporate social responsibility.

As a researcher, I traveled to Montreal, Canada for the International Leadership Association’s conference on Leadership for Local and Global Resilience: The Challenges of a Shifting Planet. While attending the conference, I presented my master’s thesis Pygmalion, Transactional, and Transformational Leadership: The Effect of Leadership Style on Team Potency and Performance. This was accomplished in the conference during a poster presentation series.

As a practitioner, I have presented two workshops on qualitative research. The first was sponsored by Kravis Leadership Institute at Claremont McKenna College. This workshop was an introduction to qualitative analysis using Atlas.ti. The second was sponsored by the Center for Neuroeconomics Studies at Claremont Graduate University. This workshop focused on video analysis using Atlas.ti.

I have experienced tremendous growth both personally and professionally this semester. I attribute these successes to me finding the right balance between working with steady determination while setting realistic goals and time frames. Although it should be obvious, it can be easy to work long hard hours without being efficient. I am constantly stepping back and looking at my work and workload, so I may reassess and keep the focus on my end goals.

Overall what I learned from this semester is that it is important to have a combination of determination and realistic goals, enabling me to work smarter and not harder.”

Current Student Jennie Giron talks about her experience coordinating an empowerment workshop for at-risk female youth

This past fall, Jennie created and facilitated a 7-week women empowerment workshop entitled the Girl’s Leadership Circle, for 20 at-risk female students at a local high school in the Pomona School District. Using teachings from Positive Psychology and Leadership literature, the young girls engaged in exercises and activities in which they discussed their values and interests, created goals for their future, plans for how to reach their goals, and discussed potential obstacles to those goals and ways to overcome those challenges. Jennie worked with the girls on how they can use their strengths, resiliency from experiences, and personal resources to fortify who they are and get them to where they want to be.
Natasha Wilder Attends Summer Research Institute at Stanford University

Positive Organizational Psychology Ph.D. student Natasha Wilder attended CCARE Summer Research Institute hosted by Stanford University and co-sponsored by the Telluride Institute this summer. At this institute Natasha participated in a five-day conference aimed at advancing research on compassion and altruism through collaboration, dialog, inquiry, education, and research.

The CCARE Summer Research Institute recruits scholars, researchers, and practitioners from a breadth of disciplines, including neuroscience, genetics, economics, and psychology, with the long-term goal of supporting young scientists whose research examines compassion, altruism, and prosocial behavior.

North of Normal: Monica Montijo and Angela Mouton Explore the Peak of Human Experience and Love

Positive Psychology Ph.D. students Monica Montijo and Angela Mouton plan to visit six continents in six months to gather over 200 stories to answer the question, “What Is Love?”

“Our goal is to interview people from the cafes of New Orleans to the Outback of Australia, from the markets in Bangkok to the wild of Southern Africa, from Machu Picchu to the South of France. We want to know what the ‘peak experience, love, and pursuit of passion’ means to different people around the globe.” To do so, these researchers plan to use their CGU training to gather data, photos, and video footage of their interactions. They plan to produce a documentary of their interviews, a pictorial journey of their travels, and finally, write a book providing an in-depth analysis of their findings.

Taking a note from their mentor and ‘Godfather’ of Positive Psychology, Dr. Mihalyi Csikszentmihalyi, “The meaning of ‘Love’ has shrunk to mean the affection between men and women, and - hopefully - between parents and children. And not much else. But that is not enough...we forget that there is so much to love in this world.” The two have launched a website documenting their travels and touching base with followers (www.waddayalove.com) and are seeking support at www.kickstarter.com (search North of Normal).

Angela is a former environmental lawyer born and raised on the plains of South Africa via Aotearoa New Zealand and London. Monica is a former Harvard softball champion, and high school teacher and coach from the desert of Arizona.
Thank you to our SSSPE volunteers for making the Winter Party a success!

SSSPE Holiday Party is a Success

This year SSSPE hosted a Winter Party for DBOS and DPE students, faculty, friends, and family. The two schools held the event on December 13th in the Edmunds Ballroom at Pomona College. On this formal occasion, students and faculty from both schools came together to enjoy a nice meal and the wide range of talents housed in both schools. A talent show featured a wide array of performances among our student bodies, and a toy drive was organized to promote goodwill and a season of giving. Talent included students from all concentrations and acts, with performances including the cello, improv, cultural dances, and the Chinese fiddle.

In addition, new toys were donated to Steven’s Hope for Children who work closely with local hospitals including Loma Linda University medical Center, San Antonio Community Hospital, Kaiser Permanente, and City of Hope.

A special thank you goes out to our dedicated team of SSSPE volunteers: Andrew De Jesus, Christopher Rios, Edith Ramirez, Estefany Gutierrez, Jennie Giron, Joey Torres, Mark Hughes, Raymond Leach, Richard Dollwet, Sarah Culbertson, Sarah Rubiaco, Shayla Velthuis, Susan Mangan, and William Dan. Without your help, the event would not have been as spectacular!
Winter Party
DBOS & DPE
END OF THE YEAR LUNCHEON
**Alumni News**

**Christie Chung Awarded Tenure at Mills College**

Since her graduation from CGU, alumna Dr. Christie Chung has been busier than ever. She was awarded tenure in May, 2012 at Mills College in Oakland, CA. Mills College is an independent liberal arts college founded in 1852 and was ranked fifth among regional universities in the West by *U.S. News & World*.

Christie is now on her first sabbatical break from teaching, and has been spending her time traveling around the globe. "I feel like I have been traveling non-stop!" she says. Just to name a few, she's already touched base in Washington, D.C.; Honolulu, HI; Venice, Florence, Rome, Bologna, Italy; Paris, France; Montreal and Toronto, Canada; Hong Kong, China; and Bangkok, Thailand.

In the Psychology Department at Mills College, Christie is Director of the Mills Cognition Laboratory (MCL) where she and her research assistants design behavioral experiments to examine underlying cognitive mechanisms that constitute age-related changes in memory. Currently her lab is investigating the effects of age, culture, weight consciousness, and sexual orientation on emotional and flashbulb memory.

As Director of MCL, Christie fosters her lab assistants’ research, resulting in many presentations at psychology conferences around the world. Researchers from her lab have recently presented at the APS Conference in Washington, D.C., the APA Convention in Honolulu, HI, and the Psychonomic Society Annual Meeting in Toronto, Canada.

Though the primary theme is memory, three lines of research have developed in Christie’s lab. Firstly, she and her research assistants have a series of studies examining the patterns of emotional memory and aging across cultures; in fact, they have found compelling evidence for disparate emotional memory patterns among residents of the U.S., China, Hong Kong, and Afghanistan. Secondly, lab members have focused on flashbulb memory - for instance, remembering exactly what you were doing when you heard the news about 9/11 - and how cultural views play a role in the encoding and retrieval of those memories.

Finally, members of her lab are investigating the effects of weight consciousness on cognition, particularly among young women and their implicit memory.
Alumna Stacia Stolzenberg Wins Outstanding Dissertation Award

Alumna Dr. Stacia Stolzenberg and recent graduate from the applied developmental psychology program won the Outstanding Dissertation Award from The American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children (APSAC) for her dissertation titled, "Courtroom Discussions about Children’s Sexual Abuse: An Examination of Prior Conversations about Disclosures, Non-Disclosures, and Perpetrator Statements to Children about Abuse.”

APSAC is the leading national organization supporting professionals who serve children and families affected by child maltreatment and violence. Stacia was presented the award during the APSAC Colloquium in Las Vegas, NV in June during the Friedrich Memorial Lecture Luncheon and Awards Ceremony.

Since her award, Stacia continues to build on her research. She was recently selected to receive the Provost’s Postdoctoral Scholar Research Grant by the USC Office of Postdoctoral Affairs for $25,000 to continue her work, and hopes to hear from the NIH on another grant decision soon.

Stacia is currently a Postdoctoral Research Associate at the University of Southern California in the Gould School of Law where her research focuses on investigating how memory factors affect the credibility of children’s testimonial evidence, encouraging accurate disclosures of children’s abuse without increasing false allegations, and assessing productive procedures for children’s involvement in dependency court proceedings.

Aris Karagiorgakis Honored for His Research

Cognitive Psychology alumnus and Assistant Professor of Psychology at Black Hills State University (SD), Dr. Aris Karagiorgakis was selected to receive an award recognizing his research this Fall. He was presented with the award and a plaque by the Dean of the College of Education and Behavioral Sciences, Dr. Patricia Simpson at the ceremony. “Aris has mentored more than two dozen students in research projects, resulting in 17 students qualifying to present their research at the National Conference of Undergraduate Research,” said Dr. Simpson.

Aris is a tenure-track assistant professor at BHSU, hired right after graduation from CGU (class of 2010). Though BHSU is primarily a teaching university, Aris has successfully recruited many bright students to get involved in research and attend conferences. “Our school is committed to sending our students to the annual National Conference on Undergraduate Research to present their work, all expenses paid, and I send about 2-6 students each year,” said Aris. The research topics are quite eclectic; he is currently mentoring a project examining the role of art therapy in eye witness accuracy in police lineups.

Two years ago, Aris partnered with a community coalition to win a $625,000 grant to study substance abuse and perceptions among teens, resulting in numerous projects and conference presentations for his students and himself. Despite all of his success at BHSU, Aris has not forgotten his time at DBOS. “I’d say at CGU, specifically Drs. Kathy Pezdek and Dale Berger, have over-prepared me for life as a mentor, faculty, teacher, and researcher. I am making a difference, and I have them to thank.”
Michele Schlehofer, Ph.D. (Applied Social Psychology) is an Assistant Professor at Salisbury University, MD where her teaching interests include applied social, health, and community psychology, research methodology, and statistics. She works with Dr. Tina Brown Reid of the Nursing Department on a community outreach initiative in the area of breast health, and also conducts social psychology research on how people cognitively process health messages.

Stacy Hawkins, Ph.D. (Applied Social Psychology) is a Research Scientist at Northrop Grumman on the U.S. Army’s Research Facilitation Team stationed in Monterey, CA. She plays a central role on a large grant examining positive health among soldiers in the Armed Forces, focusing on the influence of psychological and physical health assets on physical health, illness, health care utilization, and health care expenditure.

Bettina Casad, Ph.D. (Applied Social Psychology) has accepted a position at the University of Missouri - St. Louis as Assistant Professor in Psychology. She examines stereotyping, prejudice, and discrimination from both the target’s and perceivers perspectives. Bettina was awarded the 2013 Western Psychological Association Outstanding Early Career Research Award.

Justin Hackett, Ph.D. (Applied Social Psychology) departed from University of Houston-Downtown (TX) to accept an Assistant Professorship in Psychology at California University of Pennsylvania (PA). He is currently pursuing his research interests in political psychology, personal values and behavioral decision making, and social identity.

Stacia Stolzenberg, Ph.D. (Applied Developmental Psychology) is currently a Postdoctoral Research Associate at the University of Southern California in the Gould School of Law. Her research interests focus on child maltreatment at the intersection of policy and law. Her teaching interests include child development, law and psychology, research methodology, and socio-emotional development.

David E. Rast, III, Ph.D. (Applied Social Psychology) is a Lecturer in Organizational Psychology and Leadership, and Director for the MSc in Leadership at the Institute of Work Psychology at Sheffield University Management School. David was also recently appointed Associate Editor of the Journal of Applied Social Psychology.

Alumni Newsfeed: What Have You Been Up To?

Applying the Science of Psychology and Evaluation Across the Globe
Conferences & Symposia

DBOS Professional Development Workshops
The Claremont Evaluation Center’s annual Professional Development Workshop Series was a huge success, featuring 22 workshops on Evaluation and Applied Research Methods by speakers from around the globe. From August 25th - 30th, 2013, this longstanding series provided practical and theoretical training in evaluation and applied research through one-day workshops, taught by esteemed academics and practitioners who shared their knowledge and experience with avid researchers, evaluators, students, and working professionals. Previous years have consistently brought hundreds of participants to Claremont from across the globe, representing an exciting cross-section of the private and public sectors. This year marked our highest attendee turnout to date. Over 350 participants joined us in person, and over 700 attended online! This year, through the EvalPartners Initiative, DBOS was able to award scholarships to individuals from under-developed countries to let them join online.

IPPA Conference Held in Los Angeles
This year the International Positive Psychology Association (IPPA) held its Third World Congress on Positive Psychology at the Westin Bonaventure in Los Angeles from June 27th - 30th, 2014, drawing many scholars, practitioners, and researchers from CGU.

DBOS students and faculty had a strong presence at this year’s meeting, presenting their burgeoning research to fellow researchers. Dean Stewart Donaldson served as the Congress Chair, and Drs. Csikszentmihalyi and Nakamura served as the Co-Chairs for the Scientific Planning Committee. DBOS students Michael Condren and Damian Vaughn served as the Co-Chairs for the Local Arrangements Committee.

The World Congress on Positive Psychology was created for anyone interested in learning about the "thriving science" and how it is changing the lives of individuals, communities, and institutions around the globe. Every other year, IPPA hosts a global conference of positive psychology researchers and practitioners. The 1st and 2nd World Congresses on Positive Psychology were held in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, in 2009 and 2011, respectively. The 3rd World Congress took place June 27-30, 2013, in Los Angeles, California.

The internationally diverse audience consisted of researchers, clinicians, educators, students, business owners, coaches, consultants – anyone committed to the science and practice of positive psychology.

28th Annual Claremont Symposium on Applied Social Psychology
The 28th Annual Claremont Symposium on Applied Social Psychology (March 1, 2014) brought together a group of distinguished scholars to discuss the emerging interdisciplinary field of diversity science. Topics included developmental, cross-cultural, socioeconomic, and multietnic approaches to the study of diversity and highlighted new applications to health care, organizations, education, and law. The symposium concluded with a discussion of the current state of the field, new approaches to integrating science and practice, and avenues for future exploration.
SAVE THE DATE! — AUGUST 23-27

CLAREMONT EVALUATION CENTER’S PROFESSIONAL WORKSHOP SERIES IN EVALUATION AND APPLIED RESEARCH METHODS

This year, the Claremont Evaluation Center’s Professional Development Workshop Series on Evaluation and Applied Research Methods will take place on August 23-27, 2014.

Previous years have consistently brought hundreds of participants to Claremont from across the globe, representing an exciting cross-section of the private and public sectors. In recent years, we have expanded our offerings to provide extensive online participation to make these workshops even more accessible. This year, almost all the workshops will be offered online as well as in-person!

Please visit http://www.cgu.edu/workshops for more information.