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High Tech with a Human Touch  $^{TM}$ 

School of Psychology Fall 2008, Volume 18, No. 2

# The School of Psychology is celebrating Florida Tech's 50th anniversary.

Mark your calendars for February 6–7, 2009!

To register, visit http://411.fit.edu/psy50 or call (321) 674-8104 and ask for Debora

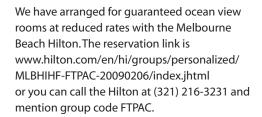


# **Get Ready for Our Biggest Alumni Event Ever**

The School of Psychology is celebrating Florida Tech's 50th anniversary, so mark your calendars for Feb. 6–7, 2009. Join us on the sunny Florida Tech campus in the middle of winter for education and fun starting Friday evening and lasting all day Saturday.

Some of the events include:

- Free APA-approved
  Continuing
  Education Credit Workshops
- Reception with live music and free drinks
- Saturday night dinner banquet with silent auction, dance lessons and Florida Tech President Dr. Anthony Catanese
- Live music by "Slacktone" from L.A. in Florida Tech's very own amphitheatre, the Panthereum
- Outdoor BBQ and best of all ... it's all free!



Four exciting APA-approved Continuing Education Workshops will be offered at no charge from 9:30 a.m.–4 p.m. A total of four Continuing Education Units will be awarded for attending all four workshops. The workshops will be presented as follows:

#### Workshop # 1: 9:30-10:30 a.m.

"Legal and Ethical Lessons Learned in Practice" presented by: Jose Martinez-Diaz, Ph.D., BCBA Arthur Gutman, Ph.D. Todd R. Poch, Psy.D., MALD

Workshop # 2: 11 a.m.-Noon "Assessment Across the Disciplines in Psychology" presented by: David A. Wilder, Ph.D., BCBA Richard Griffith, Ph.D., Director I/O Program Radhika Krishnamurthy, Psy.D., President Section IX APA DIVISION 12 (2008)

#### Workshop # 3: 1:30-2:30 p.m.

"Technology, Psychology and the Aging Population" presented by: Frank M. Webbe, Ph.D. G. Susanne Bahr, Ph.D.

#### Workshop # 4: 3-4 p.m.

"Iraqi Veterans: A Continuum of Issues at Home and Work" presented by: Kevin Mulligan, Psy.D., Colonal USAF (ret.) Richard Elmore Jr., Ph.D., Director of Clinical Training Lisa Steelman, Ph.D.



of Technology

# **New Developments at the Scott Center for Autism Treatment**

#### Mary Beth Kenkel, Ph.D., Dean

The Scott Center for Autism Treatment, with the threefold mission of service, training and research, will serve the east central region of Florida and provide essential services for persons with autism spectrum disorders (ASD) including diagnosis and assessments, early intervention, treatment of severe behavior problems and feeding disorders; social skills training, speech and occupational therapies; individual, group, and family counseling; and medical consultations.

Currently we are providing a limited range of autism services as we await completion of the construction of the \$5.4 million, 20,000-squarefoot building that will house the Scott Center for Autism Treatment. The building was made possible by a gift from a trustee donor and from funding from the federal Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration.

Dr. Ivy Chong has been hired as the program director for the center. Dr. Chong received her M.A. and Ph.D. in behavior analysis from Western Michigan University and has worked in the area of developmental disabilities and autism for the past 12 years. Her research interests focus on language acquisition, skill acquisition and the assessment and treatment of problem behavior. Dr. Chong is a Board Certified Behavior Analyst and is a Licensed Psychologist in the state of Michigan, where she spent the last four years supervising an outpatient treatment program for preschoolers diagnosed with ASDs in metro-Detroit. Born and raised in Winnipeg, Canada, Dr. Chong was delighted to relocate to sunny Florida to serve as the program director for the Scott Center for Autism Treatment, which will officially open its doors in the new building in summer 2009.

Clinical psychology faculty member Dr. Paula Wolfteich is supervising an assessment team of advanced clinical Psy.D. students who will provide comprehensive diagnostic and evaluation services for children with ASDs and their families. Dr. Wolfteich has over 15 years of experience evaluating young children with autism and other developmental disorders, working in a variety of settings including the Developmental Center for Infants and Children at Arnold Palmer Hospital in Orlando and as an early intervention provider in Georgia prior to joining the faculty at Florida Tech. The team will also provide supportive counseling services to these families who often experience a great deal of stress as they cope with the multitude of



lvy Chong, Ph.D.

service needs these children require and still try to maintain a sense of normal family life.

While we gear up for the expansion of services that will be feasible with the new building, we have devoted much effort to the training part of the center's mission. We provide monthly workshops on autism issues, free to the public, with 60–90 people attending each. Additionally, we hosted our second annual autism conference, described in the accompanying article. Our first major fundraiser for the Autism Center will be held on April 3 at the Pumpkin Center in Cocoa Beach. We have been gratified from the outpouring of interest and support for the center. It will fill a tremendous need for services, training and research on autism spectrum disorders.

# **Alumni and Student Recruitment**

#### Tom Shea, Director of Graduate Admissions

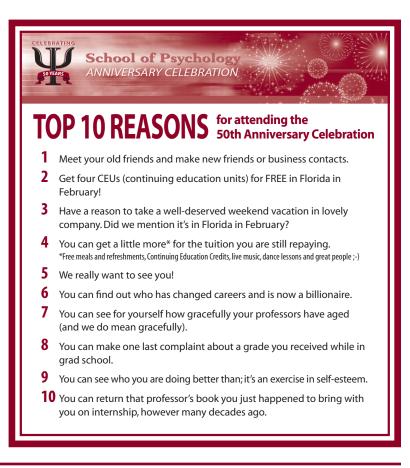
There is no better salesperson than a satisfied customer.

The Graduate Admissions Office invites any and all alumni to introduce prospective students to Florida Tech by inviting them to visit www.fit.edu or to contact the office directly at grad-admissions@fit.edu for specific information on individual graduate degree programs.

Also, alumni may request glossy graduate admission brochures and catalogs to place in their office reception areas (i.e., doctors, dentists, lawyers, engineering firms, etc.) to help promote the visibility of Florida Tech. Alumni may wish to share graduate admissions literature, particularly about online programs, with their director of human resources or submit information to a company newsletter about Florida Tech degree programs.

Overseas alumni are often helpful in attracting students by sharing admissions literature and catalogs with their local secondary schools or university career offices. In addition, assistance may be needed to help admission staff at university fair programs.

Contact Tom Shea, director of graduate admissions, at tshea@fit.edu or at (321) 674-8027 if you are interested in promoting Florida Tech to prospective graduate students.



# 2008 Autism Conference: The Many Faces of Autism

#### Sarah Schewitz, third-year clinical Psy.D. student

On Oct. 3–4, 2008, Florida Tech's School of Psychology hosted the annual Autism Conference, The Many Faces of Autism. Dean Mary Beth Kenkel and Ivy Chong, program director at Florida Tech's Scott Center for Autism Treatment, opened the conference by presenting the results of the first-ever national survey of the public's knowledge and understanding of autism, which was commissioned by Florida Tech's School of Psychology. Results from the poll can be viewed at http://research.fit.edu/scottcenter.

The keynote address was presented by Drs. Robert and Lynn Koegel of University of California, Santa Barbara. Dr. Lynn Koegel is the author of *Overcoming Autism* with parent Claire LaZebnik. Drs. Lynn and Robert Koegel were the recipients of the first annual Children's Television Workshop Sesame Street Award for "Brightening the Lives of Children." In addition, Dr. Lynn Koegel recently appeared on ABC's hit show "Supernanny" working with a child with autism.

In their presentation, the Koegels explained their researched intervention procedures relating to several core areas that appear to be particularly helpful in intervention for autism, including improving motivation, responsivity to multiple cues and selfinitiation of social interactions. Other presentations included:

"Ordinary Families Doing Extraordinary Things" by Juli C. Liske

Juli is the author of the book, *The Eye of the Hurricane: Finding Peace Within the Storm of Autism.* After finding out their child had severe autism, Juli and her husband set out to research, design and implement their own intensive and comprehensive home

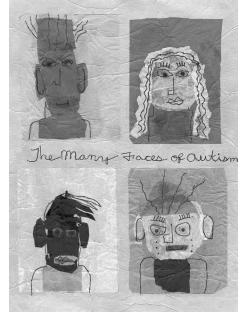
behavioral program—which yielded unprecedented results. As a testament to their success, 8-year-old Benjamin closed the conference by playing three pieces on the piano.

"Experimental Approaches to Behavioral Assessment" by Dr. Brian Iwata

Much of Dr. Iwata's research has focused on the functional (experimental) analysis of severe behavior disorders. This approach to assessment and treatment is one of the most significant advancements in behavior analysis over the past 20 years and is now considered the standard in the field for both clinical research and practice. Application with common problem behaviors such as self-injury and aggression were illustrated.

In addition to the presentations, workshops were also provided for parents and professionals alike to learn about many the different areas of the treatment of autism. Workshop presenters included Drs. Robert and Lynn Koegel, Florida Tech ABA Program Chair Dr. Jose Martinez-Diaz and Florida Tech ABA faculty member Dr. Patrick McGreevy.

Back row, from left: Juli Liske, Mark Harvey, Brian Iwata, Robert Koegel, Patrick McGreevy; Front row, from left: Celeste Harvey, Lynn Koegel, Jose Martinez-Diaz, Dave Wilder, Mary Beth Kenkel



Florida Tech hosted an artwork contest to recognize the talents of children with autism spectrum disorders (ASD). Aidan Leary, age 11, won the contest with the artwork above.



# **Florida Tech Working With the FBI**

#### Sarah Schewitz, third-year clinical Psy.D. student, and Marshall Jones, M.S., Forensic Psychology Faculty Member

On May 6–8, 2008, forensic psychology faculty members Marshall Jones, M.S., and Vanessa Edkins, Ph.D., co-hosted a working conference in conjunction with the FBI's Behavioral Science Unit about Global Hostage-Taking in the 21st Century. Attendees included individuals from several federal and military organizations with tasks and missions dealing with hostage taking and hostage recovery and support. Organizations represented include the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Department of Defense, the United States Department of State and select academics and researchers.

The research project will examine the various types of hostage taking ranging from domestic family to international terrorism. The multidisciplinary approach will ultimately assist in understanding the hostage takers as well as hostages with the end goal being a comprehensive understanding of the psychological and other motives involved and possible techniques and best practices for response. Jones is assisting with project logistics, research design and reliability for the qualitative methods, while Edkins is lead on the research database and statistics. Undergraduate student Amanda Anderson provided support for the conference in May, while Thaddeus Clancy will liaison between the FBI and Florida Tech as one of his assignments while he serves as the first FBI intern from Florida Tech to procure a highly competitive internship position with the FBI BSU in Quantico.

# New Faculty in the School of Psychology

#### Dr. Todd Poch, Assistant Professor, Clinical Psychology Program

Psy.D., Clinical Psychology, University of Denver, 1994 M.A.L.D., Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, Tufts/Harvard Universities, 1968 M.A., Tufts University, 1967 B.A., Knox College, 1960

Dr. Todd Robert Poch is a forensic and clinical psychologist who practices nationally in a firm, which includes both psychiatrists and neuropsychologists. Licensed in five states, Dr. Poch specializes in forensic evaluations, expert testimony, and jury survey and selection. He has been qualified as an expert witness in numerous high profile capital murder trials both at the state and federal levels. Dr. Poch is also listed in the National Register of Health Care Providers and holds a Certificate of Professional Qualification in Psychology from the Association of State and Provincial Psychology Boards. Trained as a linguist (he speaks French, German, Thai and Laotian), Dr. Poch served in the military (U.S. Army, Colonel, 06) as both a line commander and as a foreign area specialist certified for both Western

Europe and Southeast Asia. Dr. Poch was also conferred the title Knight Commander of the Most Noble Order of the Crown of Thailand by the King of Thailand. Dr. Poch served as the CEO of the Defense Language Institute, with administrative responsibility for 500 students, 1,000 faculty and 44 different languages and Commander of the Army Installations in New York City. As a highly decorated Vietnam veteran, Dr. Poch has a special interest in the diagnosis and treatment of posttraumatic stress disorder and traumatic brian injury and is active in both the treatment of and advocacy for combat veterans. As a linguist, he also has an interest in and has lectured abroad on the neuropsychology of language acquisition. In addition to his forensic work, Dr. Poch maintains a private practice located in Melbourne, Fla., where he sees patients by referral. His clinical practice focuses on patients who are dealing with major life changes, professional issues, substance abuse issues as well as those recovering from traumatic experiences. In his private life, Dr. Poch is an athlete and



Todd Poch, Psy.D.

avid sailor taking his 43' sailboat the *Lasata* (Iroquois for Place of Peace) to the Bahamas and beyond as often as his work and weather allow. Dr. Poch will join the clinical psychology program as a part-time faculty member, with major responsibilities in the forensic psychology concentration.

#### Dr. Julie Gross, Assistant Professor, Psychology

Ph.D., Counseling Psychology, New York University, 2007

M.S., Ed.S., Counseling and Human Systems, Florida State University, 1997 B.A., English, University of Florida, 1995

Dr. Gross' career has been in the area of forensic psychology. She comes to Florida Tech after serving as the senior forensic psychologist for the Sexually Violent Predator Program of Florida (also known as the Jimmy Ryce Act). Previously she served at a forensic psychiatric inpatient unit at Florida State Hospital where she conducted therapy and assessments and testified to the court on issues of residents' competency to stand trial, commitment for hospitalization and other forensic matters. While there, she received a number of awards for her outstanding work and contributions.

Besides her substantial clinical experience, Dr. Gross has served as an adjunct instructor at several universities, teaching psychology, statistics and research methods courses to undergraduate and graduate students. Dr. Gross' research focuses on the relationships among psychiatric diagnoses, personality variables and criminal behavior. In addition to her faculty duties, Dr. Gross will serve as the undergraduate psychology internship director and is currently chair of the continuing education committee. In her spare time, Dr. Gross is a supporter of fine arts, theater and independent films, and enjoys traveling, fitness and cooking. However, recently she has primarily focused on mounting an organized offensive against fire ants in her garden.



Julie Gross, Ph.D.

#### Dr. Kevin Mulligan, Professor and Chair, Clinical Psychology Program

Psy.D., Clinical Psychology, University of Denver, 1986 M.S., School Psychology, Southern Connecticut State University, 1982

B.A., Psychology, Providence College, Providence, RI, 1977 Recently retiring from the U.S. Air Force after 23 years of service, Dr. Mulligan spent the last two years as Chief of the Community Behavioral Health Division for the Air Force Medical Operations Agency under the Office of the Surgeon General. There he was responsible for all community-based mental health programs and plans across the Air Force, including the suicide prevention program, the alcohol and drug abuse program and combat stress control. Before

#### New Faculty in the School of Psychology, continued

#### continued from page 4

that, he served as the Mental Health Flight Commander (Mental Health Department Chair) of the 60th Medical Operations Squadron, David Grant Medical Center at Travis Air Force Base where he was responsible for the provision of mental health services (inpatient, outpatient, substance abuse, family advocacy) to 88,000 beneficiaries at a tertiary care medical center. From 2003–05, he served as the Commander of the 436th Medical Operations Squadron at Dover Air Force Base where he oversaw the health and mental health care of the 16,000 beneficiaries. Dr. Mulligan is a licensed psychologist and has a diplomate in clinical neuropsychology. He has been a clinical assistant professor at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences and directed a clinical psychology residency program at Malcolm Grow Medical Center at Andrews Air Force Base. Dr. Mulligan will be chair of the Clinical Psy.D. program, responsible for the neuropsychology courses and practica.

#### Dr. Guy Bruce, Assistant Professor, Behavior Analysis Programs

Ed.D., Educational Psychology – Behavior Analysis, University of West Virginia, 1991 M.S., Interdisciplinary Studies – Behavior Analysis, University of North Texas, 1988 B.A., Social Science, University of North Texas, 1981

Dr. Bruce's research and consulting has focused on the design and testing of behavior analytic tools and strategies to help organizations and individuals achieve desired results. His goal is to help individuals and organizations achieve their goals through the use of positive methods to improve their performance. Dr. Bruce is a Board Certified Behavior Analyst who has consulted with agencies that care for people with intellectual disabilities to help them achieve desired outcomes such as successful transitions to less restrictive environments, functional independence and employment. He is the author of Instructional Design Made Easy, a workbook for designing more efficient learning programs and is

currently developing a Web-based tool that would allow teachers and schools to evaluate how efficiently their students are acquiring the knowledge and skills they need to achieve academic and vocational goals. He is also developing and testing Web-based tools to help people of all ability levels improve their health by changing their eating and activity choices. Dr. Bruce is an experienced teacher, having served on the faculties of Monmouth College and Saint Cloud University, where he taught both undergraduate and graduate courses in behavior analysis. In these courses, he applies instructional design procedures and tools to help his students increase their learning efficiencies. He has been married to the same woman for 17 years (so far, so good), raised one stepson and granddaughter, is the servant of one cat and spends his free time practicing kickboxing and yoga, reading novels, listening to classical and jazz music, and watching movies.



Kevin Mulligan, Psy.D.



Guy Bruce, Ed.D.

# School of Psychology Offers a Rat Maze at 50th Anniversary President's Picnic

On Sept. 20, 2008, Florida Tech held its 50th anniversary President's Picnic at the Panthereum, Florida Tech's very own amphitheatre. The School of Psychology undergraduate students along with faculty member Dr. Susanne Bahr displayed a mouse maze made by Tabitha Bond and Kevin Ramminger (from computer sciences) where visitors could test their navigational skills using a remote control mouse. Undergraduate student Amanda Coburn made a board game about human perception called "The Hearing Game," and Tabitha Bond brought her three pet mice for people to look at and play with. The Undergraduate Student Committee responsible for the displays included Tabitha Bond (chair), Amanda Coburn and Megan Compton. Student volunteers included TJ Kupchick, Crystal Griffin, Amber Ebberts and Albert Eres.

> Back row, from left: Amanda Coburn, Megan Compton, Dr. Bahr, Crystal Griffin; front row: Tabitha Bond



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### **Brevard Healthcare Forum**

#### Kristi Sands Van Sickle, Psy.D., Executive Director

In today's highly competitive health care market, there is still one place where Brevard County's major health care organizations consistently come together to collaborate. Each month, the Brevard Healthcare Forum, a county-wide coalition of health care decision-makers sponsored by Florida Tech's College of Psychology and Liberal Arts, meets to share data and expertise in order to identify and address the area's most pressing health care issues. These decisionmakers currently include representatives from Health First, Parrish Medical Center, Brevard County Health Department, Brevard Health Alliance, Circles of Care Inc., Devereux Florida and the Healthy Start Coalition.

In addition to the data and expertise offered by these local health care organization leaders, the Forum shares a strong partnership with the Health Council of East Central Florida Inc. The Health Council is one of 11 Local Health Planning Councils created in 1982 by Florida Statute and serves Brevard, Orange, Osceola and Seminole counties. Based upon a recent review of county health assessment data, the Forum identified childhood obesity, adult chronic drinking and access to primary health care as priority issues in Brevard County and has worked to develop initiatives around these problems.

The first of these was a free family event called "Get Active! Brevard." The event was co-sponsored by the Forum and Brevard County Parks and Recreation to address childhood obesity by educating families about nutrition and physical activity, connecting them with community resources and empowering them to move toward a healthier lifestyle. Activities included lectures for parents on what they could do to promote healthy behaviors in their children; cooking, dance and sports demonstrations; vendor booths; and physical activities (climbing wall, skate ramp, obstacle courses and soccer drills).

Initiatives are also being developed related to chronic drinking. A workshop for health care providers committed to train other providers in these interventions was held in July 2008 at the School of Psychology. The training was based on a National Institute of Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA) program called "Helping Patients Who Drink Too Much." An online version of the program is available at www.niaaa.nih.gov/Publications/ EducationTrainingMaterials/VideoCases.htm for those who are interested.

Health care access issues have proven more challenging to address in the current economic environment. However, the Forum continues to work closely with its members including the Brevard Health Alliance, Brevard's only federally qualified health center, to increase access to primary health care. The Brevard Health Alliance was recently awarded grants to open a pediatric clinic in Palm Bay and a new community health center in Cocoa.

In addition to the above workgroups, one outgrown of the Forum since its incep-



Kristi Sands Van Sickle

tion in 1995 has been a highly successful Patient Safety Task Force. Most notably over the years, this group has developed a pandemic flu plan for Brevard County, trained hospital staff on infant abduction, standardized the emergency codes and wristband colors used by all of the hospitals, and developed and implemented training program on the prevention of surgical fires. The Patient Safety Task Force is currently assisting the three Brevard County health systems in a joint effort to make all their campuses tobacco-free by the Great American Smokeout on Nov. 20, 2008.

As we negotiate economically difficult times, the health of our communities rests on our ability to make well-informed decisions and to use our limited resources effectively. It is through collaborative relationships like those forged through the Brevard Healthcare Forum that we are able to maintain critical information links within our communities and collect the necessary data upon which to create initiatives and pool our resources to help improve the health of all Brevard County residents.

# Alumni Outreach in the I/O Psychology Program

Richard Griffith, Ph.D., Director, Industrial/Organizational Program

When evaluating the effectiveness of the I/O program, it quickly becomes apparent that the strength of the program is our people. Our students have invested a tremendous amount of energy in research, consulting and continuous improvement efforts. Our staff are top notch, and the faculty have all burned a little midnight oil to build the foundation of the program. Finally, our alumni have served as our ambassadors to the I/O community and have provided opportunities to our students such as internships and research data.

While much of our focus has been on the internal environment of the program, we thought it was time to invest in our alumni. We are now putting the finishing touches on some tools that will allow you to stay in touch with your cohort group and help the program grow while you are engaged in your professional life.

We recently unveiled our new Florida Tech alumni social networking Web site, which works like a myspace for our graduates (http://floridatechioalumni.ning.com). Alumni can connect with old friends, share photos and files, and keep each other informed of career changes and opportunities. We recently sent out the invitations to join the site, and we hope you take a minute to stop by and set up a profile. If you have not received an invitation, please e-mail me (griffith@fit.edu) and I will get you set up.

Keep an eye out for a new alumni job board where you will be able to post jobs available at your organization where they can be viewed by graduating students and alumni.



Thanks for being such great representatives of the program and for all you do to help the I/O program reach our goals! I look forward to seeing you at the School of Psychology's 50th Anniversary event in February 2009 and at SIOP in New Orleans.

# Florida Tech School of Psychology Bestowed 15 Doctorates

#### Sarah Schewitz, third-year clinical Psy.D. student

Florida Tech's School of Psychology graduated 15 students with doctor of psychology degrees on Sept. 6, 2008. Dr. M. Victoria Ingram, the school's Alumna of the Year recipient, gave the commencement address in the university's Gleason Performing Arts Center.

Dr. M. Victoria Ingram received her doctorate in clinical psychology from Florida Tech in 1997. She completed her predoctoral internship at the Eisenhower Army Medical Center in Augusta, Ga., and went on to serve 10 years as an active-duty Army clinical psychologist. During this time, she completed the APAaccredited Walter Reed Neuropsychology fellowship program and later served as the program director of the Walter Reed Army Medical Center Clinical Psychology Internship Program. It was as director of the internship program that Dr. Ingram realized the need for additional funding to augment the scope and depth of the training. She collaborated with the APA Education Directorate to develop the Department of Defense Graduate Psychology Education (D-GPE) program and the eventual establishment of the Center for Developmental Psychology, a consortium of the Uniformed Services University of Health Sciences and 10 military medical centers dedicated to training military and

civilian psychologists and interns on how to deliver deployment-related behavioral health services to military personnel and their families. Dr. Ingram's program development effort and strong advocacy on Capitol Hill resulted in the award of \$3.4 million of congressional monies to the program in 2006. Dr. Ingram's professional contributions in developing the multisite center were formally recognized in 2006 when she was awarded the APA's highest honor, a Presidential Citation.



Back row, from left: Martha Fernandez, Justin Koenitzer, Thomas Trent DeVore, Edan Critchfield, Scott Muhs, Timothy Fortney, Joy Mobley, Amanda Grossenbacher; Front row, from left: Christine Cooper, Amy Wolf, Heather Allen-Wilder, Kelsey McCoy, Krista Puente Trefz

Most recently, Dr. Ingram served as the lead researcher on traumatic brain injury and posttraumatic stress disorders for the 2007 President's Commission on Care for America's Wounded Warriors. She remains very active in patient care, research and training and is also in the process of establishing a postdoctoral residency in clinical psychology at Womack Army Medical Center. The 2008 Psy.D. graduates are: Drs. Heather Allen-Wilder, Christine Michelle Cooper, Thomas Trent DeVore, Edan Andrew Critchfield, Martha Attwood Fernandez, Timothy Donald Fortney, Amanda Sue Grossenbacher, Justin Conrad Koenitzer, Kelsey Leigh McCoy, Joy Amanda Mobley, Scott William Muhs, Michelle Louise Prell, Krista Puente Trefz, Amy Teresa Wolf and Sherri Michelle Yoder.

# **Outstanding Alumni**

#### Sarah Schewitz, third-year clinical Psy.D. student

Recently, many of our alumni have been awarded for their achievements in the field, and we would like to congratulate them.

**Scott Meit** '89 Psy.D. was the recipient of Division 12 Section 8's "Ivan Mensh Award for Distinguished Achievement in Teaching." Section 8 is the Association of Psychologists in Academic Health Centers. Scott was a recipient of our program's Distinguished Alumni award/commencement speaker in 2002.

Mike Kohn '00 Psy.D. of the EVMS Dept. of Psychiatry was awarded the "William R. Goldman Clinical Supervisor of the Year" award at the Internship Commencement Dinner. He was selected by the 2007–08 internship class of which another Florida Tech alum, Justin C. Koenitzer '08 Psy.D., was a part.

**Robert Ruchinskas**, Psy.D., and classmate **Pat Gorman** '93 Psy.D. were both elected as Fellows in APA Division 22 last year.

On July 14, 2008, only four years after attaining state licensure, **Scott Mathias** '01 Psy.D. earned the distinction of achieving Diplomate status in Clinical Psychology from the American Board of Professional Psychology.

**Jerry Thompson** '97 Psy.D. received a scholarship from the Gulf Coast Foundation of Venice to attend the Duke University Fuqua School of Business Leadership Program in August 2008.

**Michele N. Carroll** '96 Psy.D. received an award from the Mississippi Psychological Association for her three-year term as president-elect, president and immediate past-president on Sept. 26, 2008, at the Annual MPA Convention.

Alan Keck '84 Psy.D. received the Outstanding Contributions to Psychology in Public Interest award from the Florida Psychological Association at the July convention for his work promoting APA's Public Education Campaign to Florida psychologists. In January 2007, he was appointed chair of their Committee for Professional and Public Information, later adding the title of Public Education Campaign Coordinator. This is the second time Alan has received this award from FPA. The first time was in 1992, in recognition of his work as Founding Chair of FPA's Crisis Response Network, Florida's precursor to APA's Disaster Response Network.

J. Peter Leeds '07 Ph.D., I/O Psychology, received a performance award for his development and presentation of a training program on the Civilian Leader Improvement Battery while he was with the U.S. Army Civilian Personnel Evaluation Agency (AG-1 CP). The ceremony took place at a Town Hall meeting in Alexandria, Va.

In June 2008, **Elizabeth N. Huddleston** '98 Psy.D. became the first recipient of a newly established award in her honor from the Broughton Hospital Internship Program. The "Elizabeth N. Huddleston Excellence in Internship Training Award" is presented for dedication and commitment to the Broughton Hospital Psychology Internship Program.

# **Alumni Updates**

#### 1981

#### Burton N. Seitler, Ph.D., Clinical

As director of the Child and Adolescence Psychotherapy Studies (ChAPS) program of the New Jersey Institute, in Teaneck, N.J., I have been fortunate in being able to hold a number of conferences on important topics like ADHD, autism, trauma and adolescence. I am proud to announce that I will be hosting a conference March 15, 2009, in Teaneck, N.J., titled, "Experiencing and Overcoming the Unimaginable: Psychoanalytic Understandings of Resilience in Young People." Our featured speaker will be Dr. Henri Parens, current director of Parenting for Emotional Growth, in Philadelphia. When he was 12, Henri escaped from Auschwitz. Somehow, he was able to endure without "going crazy," even after losing his mother and the rest of his family. In addition, Dr. Alexander Levy will describe his experiences as a "hidden child" and how he managed to get on with his life, and Dr. Jack Schwartz will present a current psychotherapy treatment case that illustrates some of the essential threads within the resiliency tapestry.

I hope those Florida Tech alums, as well as current students who, by some chance, happen to be in the Northern New Jersey area next March, will attend our conference. In any event, students or alums who are interested in finding out what opportunities exist for professionals in my area of the woods are always welcome to contact me by e-mail: binsightfl@aol.com.Wishing all of you affiliated with Florida Tech much success.

#### 1984

#### Regina Conklin, Ph.D., Clinical

Joe and I celebrated 26 years of marriage this year! We shared an intimate weekend in Sarasota. Last year for our 25th, we went to Rome on a pilgrimage and had a party at the house complete with live music. Regina completed and self-published her album "ARISE" in March 2008. This is a Christian album Regina co-wrote



and she sings the vocals. Check it out at www.askforasign.com. The children are both USF students this semester. Vanessa graduated with a B.A. in theater, specializing in costume and stage in December 2008. Grayson is a junior majoring in philosophy. Regina spent 15 years working for CIGNA Behavioral Health, moved on to working at a chemical dependency residential treatment center and is currently between jobs hopeful about where she may land following upcoming interviews. I have attached a pic of Joe and I out on our anniversary.

#### Eric A. Zillmer, Psy.D., Clinical

Dr. Zillmer who is the Carl R. Pacifico Professor for Neuropsychology and Drexel University's director of athletics was invited to assist in

shaping an exhibit called The Museum of Projective Personality Testing at Manifesta7. The exhibits associated with Manifesta7 span four cities in northern Italy and are considered one of the highlights for international contemporary art—bringing together over 100 artists, scholars and intellectuals. Zillmer's exhibit was part of the Soulshow and was located in Trento's historic Palazzo Delle Poste building.



Together with Sina Najafi, curator for the project and editor of the international art journal Cabinet, Zillmer provided several examples of Projective Personality Tests including a number of psychological Rorschach records of Nazi War criminals from his book *The Quest for the Nazi Personality*. This is Zillmer's first international art exhibit after having shown Military Psychology at the Philadelphia International House and Open to Interpretation—The Art and Science of Inkblot earlier this year, together with John Langdon, at Drexel's Perlstein Gallery. Manifesta7 is scheduled to show 100 days, from July 19 to Nov. 3, 2008. (www.manifesta.org).

#### 1988

#### Lori Kadish Wirth, Psy.D., Clinical

My latest update is I've spent the last 5 and 1/2 years taking a break from psychology (at least officially) and focusing on being a full-time mom. My husband Don and I have an 8-year-old son, Karl, and a 5 1/2 year old daughter, Jamie. I have been fortunate enough to take a break from work and raise my children to be the best they can be. I am pleased to say they are



both turning out incredibly well. I guess all those years of Florida Tech psych training come into play even if I don't get paid! I spend a lot of time chauffeuring them from activity to activity, making sure they are not overwhelmed, being involved in their school (i.e., PTA and class mom stuff), extracurricular activities (I am a Daisy Leader and assistant soccer coach) and have the pleasure of watching them grow bigger and smarter while I try to remember all my organizational skills. We spend a lot of family time together and still enjoy vacations at the Jersey Shore. I look forward to seeing what all my former classmates are doing when I receive my copy of Journey so please write in or e-mail me at Lor725@aol.com. I plan on going back into private practice sometime next year.

#### 1989

#### Jay J. Chrostowski, PsyD, Clinical

I assumed a new position in May of this year, which was created to reflect my duties at Aurora Behavioral Health Services. In addition to directing our APA-accredited, predoctoral psychology internship program, I also direct our postdoctoral fellowship in behavioral medicine. I coordinate the placements of many psychology practicum and social work field placement students in multiple settings as well. I also provide consultation to master's level therapists at several of our outpatient clinics in the metro Milwaukee area. My clinical practice is now limited to assessment, primarily with a geriatric population. My wife Sandy is the senior pastor at Galilee Lutheran Church in Pewaukee, and we have two global partner congregations (in Tanzania and El Salvador). Our oldest daughter, Rachel, is in her freshman year at Marquette University (secondary education and English) and our youngest daughter, Sarah, started 8th grade and is thinking of child psychology as a career.

#### 1993

#### Robert Ruchinskas, Psy.D., Clinical

I have left my position of the past 14 years as an associate professor and director of psychology training at Temple U. School of Medicine. I am currently an associate professor at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey. I run the neuropsychology service/memory assessment program at the New Jersey Institute for Successful Aging.

8

#### 1995

*Kirk Stucky, Psy.D., Clinical* Hurley Medical Center (HMC) is a 493-bed, university-affiliated, urban teaching hospital for Michigan State University (MSU) and maintains cooperative affiliations with the University of Michigan and Henry Ford Health System. In 1999 the consortium



was the first program in the nation to receive five-year specialty accreditation from the American Psychological Association (APA) as a postdoctoral training program in clinical health psychology. In 2002 HMC was the first hospital in the United States to obtain Center for Medicare/ Medicaid Services (CMS) funding for fellowship training. More detailed information regarding this milestone accomplishment for psychology training can be found in a recently published article (Stucky, Buterakos, Crystal, Hanks, 2008). Below is a picture of the HMC faculty and fellows.

#### 1997

#### Jill (Page) Moore, Psy.D., Clinical

Hello! In the latest edition of Journey, I saw that there are numerous new Army psychologists from Florida Tech. Anyone stationed at Landstuhl Army Medical Center in Germany? I am currently living in Germany. My husband, Randy, is stationed at Landstuhl, and we expect to be here for at least the next three years. Prior to moving to Germany, I was adjunct faculty at St. Thomas Aquinas College in New York. It was a great job, and I hope to find a similar position here in the near future. For the time being, I am staying busy with our three boys (8, 5 and 2) and trying to get settled in our new home. I would love to hear from any former classmates or any of the Army psychologists who may be in the area (or coming to the area). We are renting a big, old house in a German village with lots of room for guests. If you would like to come to Germany, come on over! My e-mail is jillmoore5@mac.com.

#### Jerry Thompson, Psy.D., Clinical

I am currently the president/CEO for Coastal Behavioral Healthcare Inc., a 501c(3), private notfor-profit organization specializing in the delivery of mental health and substance abuse services to over 6,000 people a year in Southwest Florida.

#### 1998

#### Elizabeth N. Huddleston, Psy.D., Clinical

In July of this year, after 11 professionally rewarding years at Broughton Hospital, I left my role as psychology department director and internship training director. My partner and I have relocated to Asheville, N.C., and I have taken a job at the VA Medical Center in Asheville. My new role is quite challenging as the recovery coordinator for our veterans and those returning from Iraq and Afghanistan. I have also been named as the assistant internship training director at the Asheville VA Medical Center, as we are beginning a new internship program and applying for APPIC membership and APA accreditation. I would love to hear from my former classmates and look forward to seeing alums and faculty at the next APA conference!

#### 1999

#### Michele Conner (Rutan), Psy.D., Clinical

A couple years ago, I was promoted to program director of Astor Counseling Services, where I am responsible for supervising five outpatient counseling centers for children ages 2–21. My newest adventure is running a program for youth who engage in sexual harm. It's definitely a challenge especially since I never imagined working with this population. I started at Astor nine years ago after graduation. I can't believe how quickly the time has gone. My son Billy is six years old and in first grade. He's quite energetic and involved in all kinds of sports and cub scouts. He somehow convinced me to be the den leader. I certainly didn't know how much work that one involved ... but it's really fun. My daughter Emma is three and quite independent and strong-willed. She loves gymnastics, princesses and looking pretty. She's too smart for her own good. Bill and I have been married for seven years and are having a great time. Hope everyone is doing well.

#### 2000

#### Jodi R. Owen, Psy.D., Clinical

For almost seven years, I've been clinical director of Capital Area Counseling Services Inc., one of 11 CMHCs in South Dakota. I have held Sec-Treas office for three years in SDPA, have been president-elect, president, past-president and was just recently elected to represent SDPA in the APA Council of Representatives. I begin my three-year term in 2009.

Last spring I was approached by our local Democratic party and asked if I would run for House of Representatives for our district. After much soulsearching, I decided to go for it. So far, the polls say the race is pretty close. I'm a Democrat in a very Republican area, so it's very exciting. Attached is one of my advertisements. I hope to be in Legislative Session this winter representing the three-county district where I live, although this will mean reducing my work hours drastically. I still play in a band, am restoring a 1905



Victorian house and do foster care for Humane Society dogs. Needless to say, life is BUSY, but very rewarding. A career in psychology allows for all of this, so good luck to those of you pursuing this goal!

#### 2002

#### Lauryn (Sarnes) Nussbaum, Psy.D., Clinical and Brian Nussbaum, Psy.D., Clinical

Greetings from the Tampa area. The Nussbaum family is doing well. Hard to believe that Aaron is already in preschool. He keeps us on our toes and laughing every day. Both Brian and I are working for James A. Haley VA. We are psychologists at one of the community-based outpatient clinics. Additionally, Brian has a private practice that he is at a few nights a week. Outside of work we have been



keeping ourselves busy—we recently took a Disney Cruise followed by a trip to Disney World (Aaron's first time). Brian and I also manage to still get to Vegas about once a year. In case anyone is wondering, Zamboni is still neurotic and hasn't slowed down too much. Hope everyone is well.

# Janice Pimentel, Psy.D., Clinical (Classes of '01 and '02-long

story for those of you who don't remember it) I have been VERY busy with professional and personal adventures. My last update was shortly after John and I adopted our three children in 2004. Since then, I have been promoted to director of forensic services at Northeast Florida State Hospital and have opened a private practice in Jacksonville focusing on evaluations and counseling for infertility and egg donation. My kids are keeping me on my toes. Ema, 19, graduated from high school in 2007 and is getting ready to move to Georgia where her boyfriend is in college. James, 17, just took his SATs and is on track for going to USF next year on an ROTC scholarship along with his Bright Futures scholarship. Dylan, 15, is a freshman at Paxon School for Advanced Studies, the "eighth highest rated high school in the country" as he likes to brag. Also in the last 14 months, I have trained for and competed in my first two sprint triathlons, and I took first place in the Savannah Sprint Triathlon for my competition division in October 2007. I'm trying to compete in maybe two more this year and then train again over the winter for next season. I want to do six next season but that may be a little TOO ambitious! My e-mail is doctor@JaxPsychology.com. I've lost track of almost everyone, so please write!

#### Stacy Larson Baron, Psy.D., Clinical

My colleague, Pam Haefner, LCSW, and I have started a group called Thrive Under 5, Family Support from Pre-Birth through Preschool. The group helps young families with general care and support through postpartum groups, infant massage groups and parenting groups as well as more clinical individual work when warranted, including testing. In addition, I recently became a HypnoBirthing instructor where I instruct women in self-hypnosis to have a relaxing, comfortable birth. My next step is become trained in HypnoFertility, which I plan to do in 2009. I have worked very part time since my first son, Aidan, was born in 2002 and now that Kyra will be going to kindergarten in one year, and Holden will be starting preschool then as well, I am looking to get my career flourishing. Tim, my husband, is still working from home, which is a blessing and a curse! I am kidding of course. We are still in Leesburg, Va., and I see Laurentia annually and still keep in touch with most of my classmates through our listserve and now Facebook! Hope this finds everyone well!

#### 2003

#### Jolene King, M.S, Industrial/Organizational Psychology

After graduation, I returned to my home in Barbados in 2004 and worked until October 2005 in insurance, independent consulting and HR. Afterwards, I emigrated to England where I still reside. I worked in HR from 2006 and took a year off to complete an M.A. in human resource management (CIPD accredited) from the University of Derby. The intention is to continue to gain work experience in the human resource field and gain my professional HR qualification—CIPD.

#### Kristi (Wortham) Catalfamo, B.S. Psychology

City: Land o Lakes, FL (Tampa area); Married (Vincent); 1 Dog-ter (Abby); Plants: Just killed one, but got three replacements. Wish me luck! Moved into our brand new house; Career: Clinical Research Site Manager (CRSM) for Pfizer pharmaceutical company. Work from home with local travel.

#### 2004

#### Amanda (Massie) Emerson, B.A., Psychology

After graduation, I dabbled around for a while trying to decide what to do with my career. Since working with autistic children had left me frustrated by the limit to which I could make a difference, I decided to switch my career to one that makes me feel



like I make a positive difference in multiple lives all day long: nursing. I graduated in 2007 from nursing school as class valedictorian and quickly received my Florida State Registered Nurse license. I was hired at Holmes Regional Medical Center two months before I even graduated from nursing school. I took my knowledge of psychology to my new job as a neurology nurse and did quite well there for over a year. I have since become a trauma nurse and love it! I was also married in 2005 to another Florida Tech alumnus, Jeff Emerson. We now live very happily in Melbourne.

#### 2005

#### Josh Pritchard, M.S., Applied Behavior Analysis

I'm currently in Jordan supervising a practicum of a cohort of master's students. Pictures are available at: www.behaviorstudent.com/pictures.

#### Anita Sahgal, Psy. D., Clinical

Hi everyone! My husband and I moved to the Tampa Bay area in January and so far we have really enjoyed our time here. I'm still in college mental health and continue to enjoy that. I am now working at the University of South Florida. We're planning to buy a home in the near future, which we are very excited about.

#### Emily Marovich, M.S. and Greg Tupper, M.S., Industrial/Organizational Psychology

We just recently got married in May! I have attached a picture of

us at the wedding with some fellow Florida Tech I/O grads and students. Greg is working as the HR Consultant at Tesoro's Los Angeles Refinery. He has been with Tesoro Petroleum since 2005 and at this refinery since May 2007. I am working at Accenture in the management consulting area, in particular specializing in



organizational and talent management. My current client is Chevron where I am working on a large global supply chain optimization project as the org design and now change management lead. Greg and I are still living in Redondo Beach, Calif., which is just south of LA right on the beach and we love the area!

#### 2006

#### Sharon Fernando, Psy.D., Clinical

I have moved halfway across the world to Singapore. I work for the government here via the Institute of Mental Health, Woodbridge Hospital, and am currently within an executive level (which means if I work hard enough, senior psych in the next four years or so). I'm working on the forensic side and have been doing psych evals for competency for



trial, etc. Also work in a polyclinic once a week. I absolutely love it here since the weather is rather tropical, food is amazing and have made friends from all over the world. I'm also attempting to learn Mandarin. Singapore is an amazing city since there is a mix of both the East and the West. I get to eat dim sum and then go ballroom dancing :O) If you have any questions, you can always get in touch with me. I've enclosed a pic of me now, which is probably unrecognizable from the ones before, since I have lost 11kg in my four months here.

#### Greg Waugh, Psy.D, Clinical

A warm hello to all my colleagues back in Melbourne. I am enjoying life here in Arizona. My job at the Arizona state prison for women is

progressing very well. In January 2009, we will graduate our first female inmates from the sex offender program that I coordinate. It's been a long road for these ladies, and I am very proud of them for all the work they have done. We have 35 women still in the program who will be ready to graduate next year. In addition to my work in the prison, I have been working with male offenders since April at New Horizons Counseling Service in Phoenix. Great group of people to work with and a very challenging population as well. I miss Florida and all my friends and family who are still there. Take care and write.

#### Andrea Whitaker, M.S., Applied Behavior Analysis



I've been working consistently as a contract behavior analyst working with children and families in Orange and Seminole County. I've also become a Certified Case Manager during this time.

#### Danielle Quinn, B.A., Forensic Psychology

I was a member of the women's basketball team while I attended

Florida Tech. After I graduated, I declared eligible for the WNBA draft in 2006, and I participated in the pre-draft camp in Cleveland, Ohio. Unfortunately, I was not selected, so then it was time to obtain new goals in life. I worked at Patrick Air Force Base Fitness Center as a program manager for a little over a year. I assisted all the active duty men and women with workout programs, etc. I wanted to step



out of the realm of sports and fitness and challenge myself for what I really went to school for and that is to become a criminal investigator. I was hired in May by the Brevard County Sheriff's Office. I am currently working at the Criminal Investigation Division/Crime Scene Unit as a crime scene technician. I thoroughly enjoy my job and the opportunities I have gained thus far. When I am not playing CSI, I am participating in marathons, triathlons and 5K races.

#### 2007

#### Marcia Norman, Psy.D., Clinical

Hi all—Just wanted to say hello and let you know what I have been doing. I am still in Orlando and now finally done with my residency. I have taken a position as children's outreach manager at Park Place Behavioral Healthcare. I supervise seven other therapists, and we work under a federal grant doing therapy with kids in school. It is great because not only do I get to work with kids, we can see them all because they don't have to have insurance! I am also approved and scheduled to take the EPPP—hope that works out ... the last hurdle. I hope to hear from all of you: normans2go@aol.com.

#### Lauren Beaulieu, M.S., Applied Behavior Analysis

After I graduated, I worked on the Neurobehavioral Unit at Kennedy Krieger Institute for a year and just started the Ph.D. program in behavior analysis at Western New England College with Greg Hanley as my adviser.

#### J. Peter Leeds, Ph.D., Industrial/Organizational Psychology

I left the U.S. Army to take a promotional opportunity as a research psychologist with the U.S. Merit Systems Protection Board (MSPB), Office of Policy and Evaluation in Washington, D.C. So far I have authored two articles for the *Issues of Merit* newsletter. I was also the project analyst for the Longitudinal Study and the Career Advancement Study soon to be released as an MSPB report. Personally, I just returned from a scuba diving trip to the Philippines.



#### Jody B. Palmer, B.A., Psychology

Since graduating, I have gone from part time to full time at the Brevard Zoo. I also was promoted to coordinator of children's play, where I will be the supervisor over the new multimillion dollar children's aquatic play exhibit, Paws On: Build, Explore, Splash, Touch—opening early 2009. I am thankful to Florida Tech for my education as well as the opportunity to meet my Florida Tech alum husband, Brandon. We live in Palm Bay and have two mastiffs, Bella and Wrigley.

#### Erica (Hess) Nolan, M.S., Applied Behavior Analysis

Erica is happy to report her marriage to Sean Nolan in May 2008. Soon after graduation, she worked in the field of early intervention in the Orlando area with children with developmental disabilities and their families. She was recently hired as a behavior analyst to implement new treatment options for families of children with developmental



disabilities using telehealth technology. This approach incorporates using live, interactive, two-way video and audio conferencing to deliver remote behavior analytic services to individuals in their homes. This new technology will allow behavior analysts to intensively train and empower parents to implement behavior programs and aid in their child's progress. This method of service delivery has been recognized as the wave of the future in applied behavior analysis. I miss everyone and hope everyone from our '07 class is doing well.

#### 2008

#### Justin Koenitzer, Psy.D., Clinical

Internship year at EVMS in Norfolk, Va., was an excellent experience. If you are considering this internship site, please do not hesitate to contact me to talk more about it. Following internship, my wife Alice and I had some free time over the summer to hike and play tennis in Vermont, and we are now readying ourselves for the fall art and cinema festivals in the greater Northampton, Mass., area. I've recently taken a position as assistant professor of psychology at Holyoke Community College in Western Massachusetts and love the job thus far. I've been given the reigns on our college's PSI BETA organization and am hoping to sit on the local IRB. I'm also busying myself with preparation for licensure in Massachusetts. The cold hand of winter is slowly creeping up; should any of my fellow clinical colleagues get the urge to ski, please look us up. Our door is always open, and there's usually hot cocoa inside ...

#### Michelle L. Prell, Psy.D., Clinical, B.A. (2004)

I finally got my final degree from Florida Tech! I'm currently working as a staff psychologist at a state psychiatric hospital (Broughton Hospital) in Morganton, N.C. I really like the job but am looking to relocate back to Florida as soon as the opportunity arises. My fiancé Björn and I are getting married



on March 8 in Florida so things have been really busy planning a wedding from up here! We will also have a wedding this summer in his home country of Sweden. The picture is of Björn and I on our most recent trip to Sweden this July. Another alum, Rachel Butler Russell '07 came to visit us there! Hope everyone is doing well!

#### Krista Puente Trefz, Psy.D., Clinical

Since graduating, I was fortunate to obtain a postdoctoral fellowship providing counseling services at the Women's Center. I enjoy my job and am happy I get to live in Melbourne full time with my husband Greg Trefz.



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#### Where are they now?

Do you know a former alum who has said to you "I don't ever get a copy of *Journey*." Or "I wonder why so-and-so doesn't write to me from Florida Tech anymore." Well—maybe they are among the missing. Each semester when we send out *Journey*, we receive a multitude of address updates and a goodly number of "return to sender—address unknown." If you know someone who may not have let us know of their recent move, or recent change in e-mail—call them, e-mail them, contact them in some way and ask them to get in touch with us. We are always interested in hearing what our alumni are up to, where they are headed and what wonderful accomplishments they are making. Let us hear from you. We want to expand our alumni update section. Send your information any time throughout the year, not just when you hear from us about the next issue of *Journey*.

Take care, be well and keep in touch. Send your updates to jmccray@fit.edu.

P.S. Your pictures are a welcome addition, please include yourself in the pictures of your children and pets ... after all ... we went to school with you!

#### Please renew my support for the coming year.

#### I continue to fully support the Florida Tech School of Psychology's goal of providing graduate research assistantships and resource support for training and research in the department's important programs.

I give my annual support to Florida Tech's School of Psychology for the coming year in the amount of:  $\Box$  \$50  $\Box$  \$75  $\Box$  \$100  $\Box$  Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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