Announcements

The beginning of the academic year is an exciting time. In particular, we meet the new first year class and see the considerable enthusiasm in their eyes. This year we are also pleased to introduce a new faculty member, Daniel Nation. Finally, we welcome a new Director of Clinical Training, Steve Lopez, and express considerable appreciation to outgoing Director, Gayla Margolin. Although Gayla is stepping down as DCT, we are fortunate that she is still very much around to share her wonderful gifts with our program. As the new year begins, let us celebrate the new members of the clinical area and demonstrate our considerable appreciation for Gayla Margolin.

Professor Darby Saxbe recently was honored as one of the Rising Stars in psychological science. The American Psychological Science recognized Darby as one of the field’s young and very promising researcher.

Congratulations Darby!

Be sure and attend our first brown bag September 9th from 11:30-12:50. All brown bags will be held in the PSC meeting room. The theme will be welcoming the new students and faculty. We will have two student panels. The first will be comprised of the first year students who will each be asked to describe themselves. The second panel will be made up of veteran students who will share their wisdom with the new students. Finally, Professor Nation will serve as the discussant and reflect on the students’ comments and offer some wisdom of his own.

Clinical Faculty Meetings

- Sept. 4th & 18th
- Oct. 2nd & 16th
- Nov. 6th & 20th
- Dec. 4th

Faculty meetings are scheduled in SGM 901

Please send agenda items to: quinly@usc.edu
Welcome New Students

Laura Garcia Cardona
California State University San Bernardino

Sohyun Han
Wellesley College

Gabrielle Lewine
Boston College

Hannah Lyden
University College London

Luiza Vianna Mali
University of California Irvine

Jeffrey Newell
University of California Berkeley

Welcome Dan Nation

We are very fortunate that Daniel Nation has joined the clinical area as a new Assistant Professor. He brings an interdisciplinary perspective to the study of neurodegenerative disease and cardiovascular risk factors drawing on cell culture, animal, human clinical, and neuroimaging approaches. His research interests will serve to strengthen the clinical aging area. In addition, Professor Nation fills an important teaching responsibility in the area through his Assessment course. The first year students in particular will get to know him well. Prior to his appointment at USC, he was a Postdoctoral Research Fellow in the Department of Psychiatry at the VA San Diego Healthcare System. He received his BA from UC Santa Cruz in 2001 and his PhD from the University of Miami in 2009. He completed his clinical psychology internship at the VA Medical Center in San Diego where he specialized in neuropsychology. Please go out of your way to introduce yourself to Professor Nation and welcome him to our clinical science family.
Thank You Gayla ...

With the new academic year there are transitions. One important transition is that Gayla Margolin is stepping down as Director of Clinical Training and I am assuming that role. In this brief note, I want to thank Gayla for her significant contributions as DCT. There is much to be thankful for but I am only going to highlight 3 major contributions. First, she aptly guided us through the APA and PCSAS accreditation process for which we received high marks and full accreditation form both organizations. We are particularly proud of the PCSAS accreditation as we are among the first 7 science-based clinical psychology programs in the nation to be so accredited. Second, Gayla brought aboard new faculty members that have strengthened our program considerably, including Shannon Couture, Darby Saxbe and Dan Nation. I predict that we will look back at these hires as central to the prominence of our program. Last, and most important, Gayla provided a nurturing and supportive environment to help our students grow. Her personalized send-off to students going on internship at the Leibovitz meeting last spring reflects how much she cares about the development of each student. What is truly amazing is that as DCT Gayla maintained her excellent level of research, teaching and mentorship. On behalf of the clinical area, I want to thank you Gayla for your outstanding stewardship of our clinical program.

Steve Lopez

Good Luck Steve ...

As I welcome Steve as our new DCT, I want to express how truly grateful I am for the opportunity to serve as DCT. It has been a privilege to serve alongside our faculty who are so passionate about what they do and so committed to the program. The highlight, however, was working with you—the students—who repeatedly inspired me with your enthusiasm, creativity, generosity, and collaborative spirit. I am very happy that the DCT position is rotating into such wonderful and capable hands. Steve has been ready to take the position for over a year. He will put his own mark of wisdom, hard work and good will on the program. And, importantly, he tells great jokes, which we all will enjoy. If you ever find yourself wondering, “what do I talk about to our new DCT?”, try baseball. Steve is an avid fan and was co-captain of his college varsity baseball team. I am very pleased to be a player on Steve’s current team and look forward to Steve’s leadership as he motivates us to be the best possible program we can be. One additional thing to know about Steve is that he is incredibly generous—please see the pledge he made USC Psychology Department during one of our recruitment-of-new-faculty dinners :)

Gayla Margolin

I, Steven Lopez, happily give 0 million(s) dollars to the USC Psychology Department.

Steven Lopez, Jr.