**Introducing Professor Arthur Stone**

I’m very happy to have joined USC’s Department of Psychology, where I am a member of the Social group. I am also the director of the newly-formed USC Dornsife Center for Self-Report Science (CSS), which is closely associated with USC’s Center for Economic and Social Research. Prior to joining USC, for 35 years I was a professor in Psychiatry and Psychology at Stony Brook University in New York. By way of history, my early work was concerned with improving the measurement of life events, stress, and coping with the goal of understanding how they impact susceptibility to somatic illnesses. These studies led to an interest in psychobiology with a particular emphasis on how stressful events affect endocrine and immune function. During those years I was also interested in how people self-report information about their psychological, emotional, and symptom states. This led to the development of various kinds of daily diaries that measured end-of-day and within-day phenomena, which ultimately yielded a set of techniques known as Ecological Momentary Assessment (EMA). More recently, I have been involved with the development of alternative methods for capturing the ebb and flow of daily experience – ones that may be especially appropriate for large-scale surveys -- including the Day Reconstruction Method (DRM), a questionnaire that captures daily time use and experiential data. I have also been involved with the development of self-report symptom questionnaires for use in clinical trials, as part of the PROMIS consortium of the National Institutes of Health. Understanding subjective wellbeing is an ongoing research topic of my group and we work with national and international organizations to promote and improve wellbeing assessment. I look forward to working with new colleagues in the Psychology Department and throughout the USC community.

If you have submissions for the Department of Psychology Newsletter, please email Daniel Paris at <dparis@usc.edu>.

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**Introducing Professor Morteza Dehghani**

I am very excited to be joining the department as an assistant professor. Prior to this appointment, I was a research assistant professor of computer science, and psychology at the Brain and Creativity Institute at USC. Before coming to USC, I was a Post-Doctoral researcher in psychology at Northwestern University. I received my Ph.D. and M.S. from Northwestern University and M.S. and B.S. from the University of California at Los Angeles. My research spans the boundary between psychology and artificial intelligence, as does my education. My work investigates properties of cognition by using documents of the social discourse, such as narratives, social media, transcriptions of speeches and news articles, in conjunction to behavioral studies. My research interests include: 1. Theory-based natural language processing with direct applications to moral decision-making, group dynamics and culture 2. Investigating the role of sacred values in intergroup conflict and negotiation 3. Computational cognitive modeling. I look forward to meeting you all very soon. Send me an email or stop by my office and let’s grab coffee!
Dr. Robert Chernoff has returned to USC as the Associate Director of Clinical Training. Welcome back professor!

Dr. Henrike Moll and Dr. Morteza Dehghani received a $750,000 grant over three years from the Office of Naval Research to investigate and model the emergence of counterfactual reasoning to inform artificial intelligence.

Dr. Justin Wood was awarded a National Science Foundation CAREER award for his research into how experience shapes the development of visual cognition in the newborn brain.

Dr. Adam Leventhal was selected as the recipient of the 2014 Distinguished Scientific Early Career Contributions Award from the APA Society for Addiction Psychology (Division 50).

Dr. Wendy Wood was elected President of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, which is the largest social/personality organization.

Dr. John McArdle was selected by the APA as a recipient of the 2014 Outstanding Graduate Teaching of Psychology as a Core STEM Discipline award.

Dr. Margaret Gatz was honored with a presidential citation from the APA for advancing the field in Geropsychology and research on Alzheimer's disease.

Dr. Irving Biederman was invited to present on the neural basis of shape recognition at the Workshop on Concepts, Actions, and Objects in Rovereto Italy. He was also invited to present on aesthetics and the brain at the Museum of Art in Los Angeles.

Dr. Mary Helen Immordino-Yang was awarded the Early Career Award for 2014 by the American Educational Research Association (AERA) following up her 2013 Early Career Award for Public Engagement With Science and Technology bestowed by the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

Alexandra Cram (advisor, Dr. David Schwartz) and Ilana Kellerman (Advisor, Dr. Gayla Margolin) have been awarded a USC Diploma in Innovation grant for their project titled “Social Networkology: Developing a Facebook Application to Understand Online Networks, Peer Relationships and Mental Health”

Leslie Berntsen (advisor, Dr. Laura Baker) has been named as a Teaching Assistant Fellow with USC’s Center for Excellence in Teaching for 2014-2015. In their role, Fellows are responsible for organizing programming and advocating on behalf of graduate teaching assistants across the university. If you have any requests for workshops or concerns related to undergraduate education, please reach out to her at leslie.berntsen@usc.edu.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

09/24 Graduate Student Poster Presentations and Party, SGM 9th floor
10/08 Annual Undergraduate Research Faire, 11am-2pm, SGM 5th floor
10/18 Homecoming Tailgate, Trousdale Parkway

Remember to check the department calendar on the website for more details!

(The department calendar is on the department website home page, on the right side, underneath the events calendar)


Welcome Graduate Students - Incoming Class of 2014

- Tasha Poppa, Brain and Cognitive Sciences, Advisor, Dr. Antoine Bechara
- Rodrigo Riveros Miranda, Brain and Cognitive Sciences, Advisor, Dr. Mary Helen Immordino
- Matthew Sachs, Brain and Cognitive Sciences, Advisor, Dr. Antonio Damasio
- Geoffrey Corner, Clinical Science, Advisor, Dr. Darby Saxbe
- Kelly Durbin, Clinical Science, Advisor, Dr. Bob Knight
- Jean Ho, Clinical Science, Advisor, Dr. Daniel Nation
- Sarah Stoycos, Clinical Science, Advisor, Dr. Darby Saxbe
- Sylvanna Vargas, Clinical Science, Advisor, Dr. Steven Lopez
- Belinda Yew, Clinical Science, Advisor, Dr. Daniel Nation
- Sarah Malamut, Developmental, Advisor, Dr. David Schwartz
- Franchesca Cortez, Quantitative Methods, Advisor, Dr. Carol Prescott
- Sarah Kusumastuti, Quantitative Methods, Advisor, Dr. Richard John
- Shannon Potts, Quantitative Methods, Advisor, Dr. Laura Baker
- Lucas Carden, Social, Advisor, Dr. Wendy Wood
- Oliver Fisher, Social, Advisor, Dr. Daphna Oyserman
- Eric Horowitz, Social, Advisor, Dr. Daphna Oyserman
- David Newman, Social, Advisor, Dr. Norbert Schwarz/ Dr. Arthur Stone

GASP fundraiser!

Follow the link below to order your GASP t-shirt and support your Graduate Association of Students in Psychology!

https://usccollege.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_c1mmN0aTEYw9bSd