Spotlight on Shared Space—Social Behavior Lab

The Social Behavior Lab (SBL) is a collaborative research facility located on the 8th floor of SGM. Completed in 2010, this new space is the product of a total remodel and reorganization in which individual lab spaces were demolished, and a new shared space concept was implemented. Under this shared concept, faculty members have pooled their resources to improve technology and create superior facilities. These include a variety of useful spaces: individual testing rooms, large group rooms, a computer lab, psychophysiology labs, an experimenter control room, an A/V control room, and a conference room.

One of the primary benefits of sharing resources through a collaborative space is the ability to enhance technology throughout the lab. The SBL currently maintains a variety of cameras (including pan/tilt with hi-resolution and clandestine), psychophysiology equipment (EEG, EMG, ECG, and SCR), a full computer lab, millisecond keyboards for reaction time measurement, wireless mice, and several software packages for running experiments and analyzing data (DirectRT, MediaLab, Matlab, AcqKnowledge).

The SBL is also a particularly efficient space. Because the large space is shared flexibly among a pool of users, rooms are rarely left empty during peak times, and researchers can generally find a space when they need one. The lab is regularly used by a core group of about 20 people including the four social faculty members along with their post-docs and graduate students. Guests from other areas of psychology are also welcome to use the lab. The SBL has hosted five researchers from the department already this semester, including both faculty members and graduate students.

Scheduling time in the SBL is a simple process. Anyone can look at room availability on the Online Scheduling tab of the SBL website: [http://dornsife.usc.edu/cf/labs/social-behavior/reserve_room.cfm](http://dornsife.usc.edu/cf/labs/social-behavior/reserve_room.cfm). From there, Social Area faculty, students, and staff can log in directly and make their own reservations. Guests from other areas of the department should instead contact the Lab Coordinator (stones@usc.edu) with their contact information along with their reservation request.

Details about the reservation process can be found on the SBL policies page here: [http://dornsife.usc.edu/labs/social-behavior/forms-and-policies/](http://dornsife.usc.edu/labs/social-behavior/forms-and-policies/)

For questions about lab policies or resources, or for a tour of the lab, please contact Jen Labrecque (labrecqu@usc.edu).

For more information about the lab, please see the SBL website: [http://dornsife.usc.edu/labs/social-behavior/](http://dornsife.usc.edu/labs/social-behavior/)
Have You Read Anything Good Lately?


Have You Read Anything Good Lately?


Did You Know?

- **Dr. Mike Dawson** was featured in a USC Dornsife news story on developing an early warning system that could help prevent schizophrenics from experiencing psychotic episodes. [http://dornsife.usc.edu/news/stories/1514/preventing-relapse/](http://dornsife.usc.edu/news/stories/1514/preventing-relapse/)

- **Dr. Carol Prescott** received a grant from the National Institute on Aging, "A 55-Year Follow-up of Project Talent Twins, Siblings and Classmates". Project co-investigators at USC include Drs. Margaret Gatz, and Jack McArdle in Psychology and Eileen Crimmins, Phin Gerontology

- **Dr. Steve Lopez** and his research team of Drs. Concepcion Barrio, (USC Social Work), Bill Vega (USC Social Work), Doe Mayer, (School of Cinematic Arts), Jodie Ullman, (CSU San Bernardino), and Alex Kopelowicz, (UCLA Psychiatry) received funding from National Institute of Mental Health for a five year project entitled "Reducing the Duration of Untreated Psychosis through Community Education." They will launch a campaign to increase psychosis literacy in a Spanish-speaking community in San Fernando and assess whether it reduces the time for persons with first-episode psychosis to receive appropriate care.

- **Alexandra Ycaza** (advisor, Dr. Mara Mather) has been selected to participate in a panel of four researchers at the upcoming Society for Neuroscience conference on November 10, 2013 in San Diego, CA based on her abstract "Estrogen treatment after menopause protects against stress-induced impairments in working memory". The panel will discuss sex differences and hormones.

- M.S. in Applied Psychology student **Moeka Komachi’14** has been Highly Commended in the Social Innovation category of the international Undergraduate Awards. Her submitted paper made recommendations for improving education for dyslexic students in Hong Kong. Moeka will be one of 100 students to attend the Undergraduate Awards Summit in Dublin, Ireland in November.

**REMEMBER to Check the Department Website Calendar for events and talks**
[http://dornsife.usc.edu/psyc/departmental-calendar/](http://dornsife.usc.edu/psyc/departmental-calendar/)

Moeka Ko-