Congratulations!!!

On October 23, 2012, the Universitat Oberta de Catalunya celebrated the investiture of Hanna Damasio as an honorary doctor "because she symbolizes the spirit of technological innovation serving research, education and the well-being of individuals, which forms the basis of the scientific and educational work of the university." Dr. Damasio is Dana Dornsife Professor of Neuroscience and Director of the Dana and David Dornsife Cognitive Neuroscience Imaging Center and was recently named USC University Professor. Dr. Damasio is a renowned pioneer in the use of digital imaging technology for the study and diagnosis of brain lesions, and at the DNI is involved in developing the next generation of image analysis tools.

Drs. Margaret Gatz and Jack McArdle were elected fellows of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), chosen by their peers in recognition of their efforts to advance science or its applications. They join other psychology department members, Drs Irving Biederman, Kathleen Chambers, Ernest Greene and Richard Thompson who have also received this prestigious recognition.

Dr. Gatz was selected for her contributions to the study of mental health in older adults, particularly the analysis of Swedish twins to resolve gene-environment interactions in Alzheimer’s disease.

Dr. McArdle was selected for his contributions to quantitative psychology, particularly for multivariate models of lifetime cognitive growth and decline, and for leadership in psychology research organizations.

Congratulations to the USC Brain and Creativity Institute (BCI) on the dedication of the Dornsife Neuroscience Pavilion on November 6, 2012. The building embodies the case that artists, theorists and scientists need one another to tackle the biggest questions of human existence. The BCI is home to faculty, postdocs, graduate students and staff. Their areas of study include human brain development, the neural basis of social emotions, the nature of feelings and consciousness, the neural basis of decision-making, recovery from brain damage, and understanding the other.

At the December 12, 2012, Dornsife Celebration, Dr. Jesse Graham was awarded the General Education Teaching Award from the Dornsife College of Letters, Arts and Sciences for the Fall 2011 through Spring 2012 Academic Year.

"The course did a fantastic job of teaching us to think analytically about scientific evidence and arguments."

“Professor Graham is an enthusiastic and interesting lecturer. The content of the classes make the science fun to learn and interesting."

- Students in Psychology 201Lg, The Science of Happiness
Dean Steve Kay, installed as dean of USC Dornsife on November 7, 2012, has appointed Dr. Wendy Wood, Provost Professor of Psychology and Business, as Vice Dean for the Social Sciences in USC Dornsife.

Dr. Rand Wilcox delivered an invited keynote address at the University of Hong Kong, attended by well over 100 faculty and students, despite its being 5:30 pm on a Friday. The next day, he consulted with students and faculty at the university to help them take advantage of modern technology.

Dr. Toben Mintz, was named Associate Editor for the journal *Cognition* which is an international journal that publishes theoretical and experimental papers on the study of the mind. It spans the fields of psychology, neuroscience, linguistics, computer science, mathematics, ethology and philosophy.

Cecilia Fuentes was awarded an Outstanding Staff Achievement award 2011-2012 from the Dornsife College of Letters, Arts and Sciences at the Dornsife Celebration on December 12, 2012. Cecilia is the administrative assistant for the Clinical Science program in the Department of Psychology. Even though her primary position is within the clinical program, you will always find her helping with department functions, and cheerfully lending a hand where ever needed.

Dr. Philip Sayegh, Class of 2012 (advisor, Dr. Bob Knight) was selected as an intern representative for the national-level VA Psychology Training Council’s Multicultural and Diversity committee for the 2012-2013 training year. The purpose of this committee is to help shape the future of professional psychology training within the VA to account for the increasing cultural minority population and diversification of the United States.

Dr. Elizabeth Ahern, Class of 2012 (advisor, Dr. Tom Lyon) will begin a postdoc at University of Cambridge (UK).

Zhisen (Marina) Jiang (advisors, Drs. Frank Manis and Justin Wood) received the Dean Joan Metcalf Schaefer Scholarship Merit Award for 2012-2013. Her name is now engraved into the Wall of Scholars at USC in the Leavey Library.


Have you read anything good lately?


**Did You Know?**

**News & Information**

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**Articles are posted outside SGM 538**

REMEMBER to Check the Department Website Calendar for events and talks

http://dornsife.usc.edu/psyc/around_the_department/departmental-calendar.cfm