Welcome to ......Dr. Alice Eagly

My visit to the psychology department this year is enabled by a sabbatical leave from my regular position in the Psychology Department at Northwestern University. I received a full year sabbatical leave as a reward for my years of service as Department Chair. With that service having ended this summer on August 31, I am still in recovery mode as I luxuriate by enjoying days that are not filled with meetings and administrative problem-solving. Instead, I am calmly working away in my 10th floor SGM office. I am hoping for a clear enough day that I can see the ocean from my windows.

For those of you who have no idea about what I do, let me explain that I am a social psychologist. Over the years of my academic career (as I held positions at Michigan State, Massachusetts at Amherst, Purdue, and Northwestern), I have specialized in two general areas: the study of attitudes and of gender, separately and together. My best-known work on attitudes is a 1993 book that I wrote with Shelly Chaiken, *The Psychology of Attitudes*. I also developed a methodological specialization in meta-analysis, which I have applied to many research literatures in social psychology. My most recent meta-analysis, which concerns the effects of attitudes on selective exposure to information, appeared in July in the *Psychological Bulletin*.

In the attitudes area, my current major interest is selectivity in information-processing. Attitudes thus affect what information people are willing to receive, how they interpret and evaluate the information, and their memory for it. Another interest, combining my work on attitudes and gender, concerns the somewhat differing attitudes that women and men have on many social issues. This year I hope to complete a study of the attitudes of women and men on environmental issues that is based on data from the United States and Switzerland.

The study of gender has been the major focus of my research during the last decade. My overall goal is to understand when, how, and why gender affects everyday social behavior. Several of these projects have pertained to leadership, and these culminated in a book that I wrote with Linda Carli, *Through the Labyrinth: The Truth About How Women Become Leaders* (Harvard Business School Press, 2007). This book reaches out to bring the extensive social scientific research on gender and leadership to general readers. Currently I am completing a meta-analysis of studies of the masculinity of cultural stereotypes of leaders and managers.

This year I will be working with Wendy Wood, who has newly joined the USC faculty. Wendy and I will be examining the ultimate origins of sex differences and similarities in social behavior, a central question in the science of human evolution. We have written on this topic quite a few times already—most prominently a 1999 article in *American Psychologist* and a 2002 article in *Psychological Bulletin*. Our articles and chapters on this subject have elicited extreme reactions—both positive and negative. The article and book that we are planning will respond to our critics and incorporate the new research that has become available.

Some people have asked how I am adjusting to Los Angeles. Well, LA is not entirely new to me. In fact, I was born very close to USC, at the California Hospital. For those of you who want to know something of the old Los Angeles, I am a good source. Returning here is an amazing experience, especially to see how vibrant USC is and to live in the midst of the burgeoning South Park neighborhood. The new Los Angeles sometimes matches up with my memories of the old Los Angeles. Yet, even the bits of the old are transformed: Consider that the small bubbling puddles of the La Brea Tar Pits having become huge ponds of tar featuring large statues of mammoths. And of course there are those palm trees that now reach way up into the sky.

Welcome: Dr. Alice Eagly

REMEMBER ! Every Wednesday Morning is Coffee and Pastry in Room SGM 501
9:00 AM—11:00 AM

SPECIAL GUESTS AT 9:30 AM—10:00 AM
Bring Questions and Comments!

SEPTEMBER 23—CHARISSE CORSBIE MASSAY
CHARISSE WILL DISCUSS THE ALTERNATIVE SUBJECT POOL
AND HER TRAVELS TO AFRICA—SGM 514

Newsletter at a glance
- Welcome: Dr. Alice Eagly
- Wednesday Coffee
- Spotlight: Incoming Graduate Student Class
- Did you know?
  - “Have you read anything good lately?”
- Upcoming Events
WELCOME NEW GRADUATE STUDENTS—2009

Larissa Borofsky (Advisor, Dr Gayla Margolin)

Priyanka Joshi (Advisor, Dr. Norman Miller)

John Keefe (Advisor, Dr. Steven Lopez)

Ilana Kellerman (Advisor, Dr. Gayla Margolin)

Jennifer Labrecque (Advisor, Dr. Wendy Wood)

Jia Li (Advisor, Dr. Toben Mintz)

Aditya Prasad (Advisor, Dr. Justin Wood)

Erin Shelton (Advisor, Dr. Jack McArdle)

Kilho Shin (Advisor, Dr. Bosco Tjan)

Kulwinder Singh (Advisor, Dr. Biing-Jiun Shen)

Vanessa (Advisor, Dr. Antoino Damasio)

Caitlin Smith (Advisor, Dr. Stanley Huey, Jr)

Miao Wei (Advisor, Dr. Zhong-lin Lu)

GASP organized a USC Scavenger Hunt for the new first-year students on student orientation day. Teams were formed and students went out onto the campus to locate important locations and landmarks. Armed with cameras they documented their finds!

The GASP committee this year includes Jason Goldman, Rachel Beattie, Carlyn Carter, Louise Cosand, Phil Sayeh, Andrea McColl, Susan Geffen and Jennifer Labrecque. Gurveen Chopra is the GASP representative to GPSS.

The Director of Graduate Studies and GASP faculty advisor for 2009-2010, is Dr. Steven Lopez.

If you are interested in being involved you are encouraged to show up and join in the fun!

Upcoming GASP Events:

Next GASP committee meeting: Thursday, September 24, 2-3pm, SGM 514 (open to all)

Next GASP happy hour: Wednesday, September 30, 6pm, at The Lab, http://thelab.usc.edu
• Dr. Miranda Barone has been nominated for the USC Parents Association Outstanding Teaching and Mentoring Award. Award to be presented during Parents Weekend, Thursday October 22, 2009.

• Drs Justin Wood, Toben Mintz, and Stanley Huey, Jr. were awarded grants from USC’s Advancing Scholarship in the Humanities and Social Science Program. Read more on the Psychology website home page.

• Dr. Antonio Damasio was interviewed by David Brooks at the Aspen Ideas Festival. Listen to "This Time With Feeling" at http://www.aifestival.org/audio-video-library.php?menu=3&title=551&action=full_info

• Kelly Young-Wolff (Advisor, Dr. Carol Prescott) received an NSRA titled “Interaction of Genes, Stress, and Cognition in the Development of Alcoholism” for Fall 2009

• Martin Reimann (Advisor Dr. Antoine Bechara) has received a Google/WPP Research Fund, Research Grant, “How do consumers determine what is relevant? A psychometric and neuroscientific study of online search and advertising effectiveness”.

• Dr. Antonio Damasio was awarded an honorary degree from Copenhagen Business School in March, 2009, and received the Richard Wollheim Memorial Award from the British Psychoanalytic Council in June, 2009.

Have You Read Anything Good Lately?


Full articles are posted outside SGM 538. Please send your newest / best publications to Twyla Ponton, ponton@usc.edu
UPCOMING EVENTS

GASP/ Preparing Future Faculty Events

“Applying for Pre-doctoral Fellowships from the National Institutes of Health”
Presenter—Carol Prescott, Ph.D.
Tuesday, September 22, 2009
SLH 102 - 4 pm—6 pm

“Responsible Conduct of Research”
Including: Data management and How to determine authorship in student/faculty publications
Presenter—Susan Rose, Executive Director, OPRS
Wednesday, September 30, 2009
HNB 100—12 pm—1 pm

“Work/Life Balance”
Presenters—Susan Turk Charles (UC Irvine, School of Social Ecology) and Carrie Bearden, Ph.D. (UCLA, Department of Psychiatry)
Thursday, October 15, 2009
SGM 414 - 4 pm—5 pm

COLLOQUIA

October 7
Dr. Harris Cooper
Professor and Chair
Department of Psychology and Neuroscience, Duke University
“Ethical Issues in the Conduct and Reporting of Meta-Analysis”
SGM 414
1:00 –2:00 pm

October 21
Dr. Richard Davidson
Vilas Professor of Psychology and Psychiatry
University of Wisconsin, Madison
“Order and Disorder in the Emotional Brain”
HNB 100
12:00-1:00 pm

For up-to-date department calendar items visit:
http://college.usc.edu/psyc/around_the_department/departmental-calendar.cfm