Spotlight on the Social Behavior Lab

The USC Social Behavior Lab, located on the 8th floor of the Seeley G. Mudd building, is a communal lab facility that supports undergraduate students, graduate students, and faculty conducting behavioral research. Current projects in the lab address questions such as: What is the effect of disgusting environments on moral judgments—does physical disgust spread to moral distain? Does plate size really influence the amount that people eat, or do they compensate for small plates by eating more in the future? And under what conditions do consumers form habits to use everyday products, such as shampoo?

The lab features over 15 testing rooms, which include individual testing rooms, large group rooms, a computer lab, and psychophysiology labs. Equipment available for use includes AXIS network cameras, clandestine cameras, Dell computers running Windows 7, and physiology equipment measuring up to 8 channels of Electroencephalogram (EEG), facial Electromyogram (EMG), Electrocardiogram (ECG), and galvanic skin response (GSR).

Although the lab does not charge user fees, faculty with grant funding are asked to provide maintenance support for the lab equipment. We also are in need of funds to support basic lab activities.

Students and faculty in the Department are welcome to use the lab. Studies conducted within the lab must have approval from the University of Southern California’s Internal Review Board. Researchers and assistants interacting with human participants should have received CITI training. It is the responsibility of the primary investigator to ensure that (a) the lab space and equipment are properly maintained during scheduled times, (b) keys and access codes are protected and used safely, and (c) policies and procedures are followed.

For more information regarding the policies and use of the Social Behavior Lab and to make a reservation, please visit http://dornsife.usc.edu/labs/social-behavior/home/.

For additional information not found on Social Behavior Lab website, please contact Dr. Wendy Wood at wendy.wood@usc.edu or the Lab Coordinator, Shane Triplett, at srtriple@usc.edu.
- **Kelly Young-Wolff** (advisor, Dr. Carol Prescott) will receive a 2012 Phi Kappa Phi Student Award at the 31st Annual Academic Honors Convocation in April 2012. This prestigious award was based on her quals paper which was published in *Clinical Psychology Review* titled, “The influence of gene-environment interactions on alcohol consumption and alcohol use disorders: A comprehensive review.”

- **Dawn McDaniel, PhD 2010** (advisor, Dr. Stan Huey) was recently cited in a Reuters article on gang homicides. [http://www.reuters.com/article/2012/01/27/us-study-gangs-homicides-idUSTRE80Q02720120127](http://www.reuters.com/article/2012/01/27/us-study-gangs-homicides-idUSTRE80Q02720120127)

- **Matthew Sutherland** (advisor, Dr. Mara Mather) and Mara Mather, PhD were featured in the February 2012 APA Psychological Science Brief [http://www.apa.org/science/about/psa/index.aspx](http://www.apa.org/science/about/psa/index.aspx)

- **Ravi Iyer, PhD 2011**, currently a post doc in the department, will be presenting on moral psychology at South by Southwest in March 2012. [http://schedule.sxsw.com/2012/events/event_IAP8965](http://schedule.sxsw.com/2012/events/event_IAP8965)

- USC Davis School of Gerontology dean **Gerald C. Davison, Ph.D.** and assistant clinical professor Aaron Hagedorn, Ph.D, were among the international experts chosen to pen a chapter for the World Economic Forum’s Global Agenda Council on Ageing Society’s newest publication, *Global Population Ageing: Peril or Promise?* Davison and Hagedorn’s chapter addresses gerontechnology—the interdisciplinary study of the interaction of technology and the unique challenges and needs of older people.

- **Vivian Seyranian, PhD** has been awarded a 2012 Haynes Faculty Fellowship for her proposal titled, “Promoting Water Conservation Through Social Identity Framing”.

- **Carol Prescott, PhD** received a pilot award from the USC-UCLA Center of Biodemography & Population Health for her project, “Estimating Genotype Resemblance of Spouses and Assortative Mating for Alcohol Use in the Health and Retirement Study”.

---

### Have You Read Anything Good Lately?


---

*Articles are posted outside SGM 538*
Department of Psychology
~~~Colloquium Series 2011 -2012~~~

- **March 21**
  
  Dr. Kevin Ochsner — *Department of Psychology*
  
  *Columbia University*
  
  *HNB 100 - 12 pm*

- **May 8**
  
  Dr. Sheri Mizumori - *University of Washington*
  
  *Keck Distinguished Lecture Series in Biological and Psychological Sciences*
  
  *HNB 100 -12 pm*

**Announcements**

- **March 22 –23**
  
  Saks Institute for Mental Health Law, Policy and Ethics and the Burton Blatt Institute - Spring Symposium
  
  *USC Gould School of Law, Faculty Lounge - Room 433*
  
  *9:00 am—5:00 pm*

- **April 5**
  
  **Multidisciplinary Colloquium Series —Andrus School of Gerontology**
  
  *Dr. Christopher Hertzog, 12 noon, Gero 224*

- **April 5**
  
  **Dr. Sarah Creel—University of California at San Diego**
  
  *Director of Language Acquisition & Sound Recognition Lab*
  
  *SGM 414—12:00 pm - 2:00 pm*

- **April 19**
  
  **Dr. David Moore—Pitzer College**
  
  *Director of the Claremont Infant Study Center*
  
  *VKC 258—12:00 pm—2:00 pm*

**Lunch Series - Preparing Future Faculty - GASP**

- **March 20**
  
  **Professional Networking**
  
  *Dr. Jesse Graham, Dr. Darby Saxbe, & Dr. Joseph Priester*

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

**Have an idea for GASP programming?**

Email Susan, **sgeffen@usc.edu**

---

**REMEMBER to Check the Department Website Calendar for more details**

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