

*CHP Kudos: Accomplishments, Awards, and Good News
Spring Semester 2009*

GRADUATIONS

Natalie Cross and Lauren Vázquez received their Ph.D. degrees during the Advanced Degree Ceremony on May 2, 2009. Both were hooded by their mentor, Dr. Sam Sears.



The following 2nd Year students received their Master of Science Degrees at the Advanced Degree Ceremony on May 2, 2009:

**Leah Clionsky
Matt Cohen
Nate Ewigman
Ryan Fussell
Kate Junger
Nicole Kahhan
Daniel Kay**

**Megan Lipe
Kathryn Ross
Tim Sannes
Amanda Seib
Chris Sozda
Zvinka Zlatar**

STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

Megan Crawford (1st year student) first-authored the lead article for the April issue of the *Journal of Head and Face Pain*:

Crawford M.J., Lehman L, Slater S, Powers S.W., Kabbouche M.A., LeCates S.L., Segers A., Manning P., Hershey A.D. (2009) Menstrual migraine in adolescents. *Headache: Journal of Head and Face Pain*, 49, 341-347.

Jenna B. Dietz's (1st year student) first publication just came out from a study she worked on at her undergrad institution (University of Delaware). The reference is:

Moser, J.M., Krompinger, J.W., Dietz, J, Simons, R.F. (2009). Electrophysiological correlates of decreasing and increasing emotional responses to unpleasant pictures. *Psychophysiology*, 46, 17-27.

Lindsey Kirsch-Darrow, (5th year student), has a “hot off the press” first author publication in the journal *Movement Disorders*

Kirsch-Darrow, L., Zahodne, LB, Hass C., Mikos A., Okun, M.S., Fernandez, H.H., Bowers, D. (2009) How cautious should we be when assessing apathy with the Unified Parkinson's Disease Rating Scale? *Movement Disorders*, Apr 15; 24(5): 684-688.

Kim Miller, a 2008 graduate from our program, just had her dissertation published in the journal *Neuropsychologia*. Kim is currently completing a post-doc at the Martinez VAMC in California.

Miller, K.M., Okun, M.S., Marsiske, M., Fennell, E.B., & Bowers, D. (2009). Startle reflex hyporeactivity in Parkinson's disease: an emotion-specific or arousal-modulated deficit? *Neuropsychologia*, 47, 1917-1927.

Gila Reckess (4th-year student) & **Laura Zahodne** (3rd year student) just had a chapter published in a new book that came out the third week of April:

Reckess, G., Zahodne, Z., Fennell, E., and Bowers, D. (2009). The Role of the Psychologist in Dystonia. In Okun, M.S. (ed.), *Dystonia: A Guide to Practical Management*. Demos Medical: NY.

Kathryn Ross: (2nd year student). Kathryn is first author or co-author on 3 papers that have been accepted for publication in *Eating Disorders*:

Ross, K.M., Shivy, V.A., & Mazzeo, S.E. (in press). Ambiguity and judgments of obese individuals: No news could be bad news. *Eating Disorders*.

Murawski, M.E., Milsom, V.A., Ross, K.M., Rickel, K.A., DeBraganza, N., Gibbons, L.M., & Perri, M.G. (in press). Problem solving, treatment

adherence, and weight-loss outcome among women participating in lifestyle treatment for obesity. *Eating Disorders*.

Ross, K.M., Milsom, V.A., Rickel, K.A., DeBraganza, N., Gibbons, L.M., Murawski, M.E., & Perri, M.G. (in press). The contributions of weight loss and increased physical fitness to improvements in health-related quality of life. *Eating Disorders*.

Melissa K. Stern (4th year student) was first author on the following article:

Stern, M.K., & Wiens, B.A. (2009). Ethnic differences in adolescent perceptions of and attitudes toward substance use. *Journal of Ethnicity in Substance Use*, 8, 54-69.

Anna Yam (1st year student) reports this new publication on her work with Williams Syndrome:

Haas, B. W., Mills, D., Yam, A., Hoeft, F., Bellugi, U. and Reiss, A. (2009) Genetic Influences on sociability: heightened amygdala reactivity and even-related responses to positive social stimuli in Williams syndrome. *Journal of Neuroscience*, 29(4), 1132-1139.

Laura Zahodne (3rd year student) just had her master's thesis published in *The Clinical Neuropsychologist*:

Zahodne, L., Okun, M.S., Foote, K., Fernandez, H., Kirsch-Darrow, L., & Bowers, D. (2009). Cognitive declines one year after unilateral deep brain stimulation surgery in Parkinson's disease: a Controlled study using reliable change. *The Clinical Neuropsychologist*, 23 (3), 385-405. [epub 2008, Sept 23]

Laura also has a "hot off the press" first author publication in the journal *Movement Disorders*.

Zahodne, L.B., Young, S., Kirsch-Darrow, L., Nisenzon, A., Fernandez, H., Okun, M.S., and Bowers, D. (2009). Examination of the Lille Apathy Rating Scale in Parkinson disease. *Movement Disorders*, Apr 15; 24(5), 677-683.

STUDENT AWARDS/HONORS

PHHP Research Day Awards

Research Grants:

The following students won awards at the Public Health and Health Professions Research Day:

Stephanie Garey: (1st year student) “Alpha-Amylase and Cortisol in Women with Endometrial Cancer: Comparing Diurnal Profiles in Relation to Stress.” (\$1,000/Dr. D. Pereira mentor).

Stacy Dodd: (4th year student) “Ambivalent Social Support and Cortisol in Women with Endometrial Cancer” (\$1,000/Dr. D. Pereira mentor)

Posters:

Megan Lipe: (2nd year student). “The Relationship between Caregiver Health Beliefs and Adherence in Pediatric Asthma.” (Mentor: Dr. D. Pereira).

Kathryn Ross: (2nd year student) “Comparing Self-Monitoring and Questionnaire Assessments of Dietary Intake.” (Mentor: Dr. M. Perri).

Lisa Nackers: (3rd year student) “Impact of Initial Increase in Physical Activity on Long-Term Change” (Mentor: Dr. M. Perri).

Lindsey Kirsch-Darrow (5th year student): “Longitudinal Change in Apathy after Deep Brain Stimulation for Parkinson’s Disease” (Mentor: Dr. D. Bowers).

Sandra Mitchell (4th year student): “Neuroanatomical Influences on Executive Functioning in Dementia” (Mentor: Dr. C. Price).

Other Student Honors

April Hamm (1st year student) has been awarded the Ford Foundation Pre-Doctoral Award. This national competition is open to students in all fields of study, and selection decisions are made without regard to race, ethnicity, religion, gender, sexual orientation, etc. This award is granted to individuals

who plan to pursue careers in research and teaching and who intend to use diversity to enrich the education of all students.

Lindsey Kirsch-Darrow's presentation at the annual meeting of the International Neuropsychological Society in February 2009 was tagged a "**poster of merit**"

Kirsch-Darrow, L., Marsiske, M., Okun, M.S., Foote, K., Bowers, D. (2009, February). *Longitudinal change in apathy following DBS for Parkinson disease*. International Neuropsychology Society, Atlanta, GA.

Laura Zahodne's presentation at the American Academy of Neurology was selected as one of the "*highlights*" of the AAN meeting. This is viewed as extremely prestigious by the neurology crowd.

Zahodne, L., Okun, M.S., Foote, K., Fernandez, H., Rodriguez, R., Kirsch-Darrow, L., Wu, S., & Bowers, D. (2009, April). *Greater improvements across quality of life domains following unilateral deep brain stimulation surgery in GPi as compared to STN: Results from a randomized, controlled trial in Parkinson disease*. American Academy of Neurology, Seattle, WA

FACULTY GRANTS

Dr. Cate Price received the following grant:

National Parkinson Foundation, 11/01/08-10/30/09 (0.1 calendar). Non-cardiac surgery and PD: A "Proof of Principle" Study. Role: Principal Investigator, 1% effort, pilot funds; \$24,000

Dr. Price was also:

- Selected Attendee for Travel and Stipend Funding to the Advanced Psychometrics Methods in Cognitive Aging conference, University of Washington Friday Harbor Laboratory
- Invited Workshop Presenter on Post-Operative Cognitive Dysfunction to the International Neuropsychological Society annual conference, Atlanta, Georgia

FACULTY AWARDS/HONORS

Dr. Ronald Rozensky has been elected vice chair of the HRSA, Bureau of Health Professions' committee that advises Congress on funding priorities for the

education and training of health professionals. [see APA Monitor article <http://www.apa.org/monitor/2009/04/personalities.html>] . His appointment to the committee, made by the Secretary of Health and Human Services, has been extended an additional year so that he can chair the committee's work that is currently focused on healthcare reform. Also, Dr. Rozensky has been nominated for President of the American Psychological Association; the election will take place later this year.

Dr. Russell Bauer is the 2009 President Elect of the International Neuropsychological Society.

Dr. Brenda Wiens has had two groups of students volunteer with her this academic year at Camp Boggy Creek:

December 5-7 – Stacy Dodd, Kristen Grabill, Stacey Simon, Courtney Lewis, Monica Stevens, Amanda Seib, Megan Lipe

March 27-29 – Stacy Dodd, Megan Crawford, Alison Zisser, Jenna Dietz, Lizabeth Jordan, Anna Yam, Nicole Ginn

She has published the following:

Stern, M. K., & Wiens, B. A. (2009). Ethnic differences in adolescent perceptions of harm and attitudes towards substance use. *Journal of Ethnicity in Substance Abuse, 8*, 54-69.

Dr. Wiens will also be serving as Historian for the University of Florida's Phi Beta Kappa chapter starting this fall.

DOCTORAL PROGRAM NEWS

On May 1, 2009, the Ph.D. Program in Clinical Psychology received "full-and-7" reaccreditation from the Commission on Accreditation (CoA) of the American Psychological Association. The next reaccreditation site visit will be in 2015. Congratulations to all faculty, staff, students and CHP colleagues who contributed to the reaccreditation process. Special thanks to Dr. Jim Johnson (Doctoral Program Director) and Viki Solt (Program Assistant) for their leadership of this effort.

GO GATORS!!