

# The Inkblot

Berry College

October 2007

## Welcome to the Psych Lab!

By Jennifer Rumell

There have been a lot of changes made in the department this semester, many within the lab itself. We have three new workers: Kurt Bryan, Melissa Szabo, and Grant Miller, and Dr. Pynn has assumed the position of lab coordinator. Also, in hopes of making the lab a more inviting atmosphere for students, we added a couch.

Though there are many new faces in the lab, our job remains essentially the same. We are here to help students and faculty with research, writing papers, and using SPSS. A new responsibility we have this year is to assist the George Scholars with their research. We are excited about this opportunity! All students are encouraged to come use the computers, textbooks, journals, and GRE test prep materials. Also, if you're looking for an internship or information on grad schools, come in and take a look around.



## Townhall Meeting and Major Showcase

By Jennifer Rumell

On October 3rd at 5:00 pm, the department will be hosting its annual Townhall Meeting. This is an important event for all majors and minors to attend because topics such as curriculum, the George Scholars fund, new roles within the department, and much more will be discussed. There is also an opportunity for open discussion between students and faculty.

After the Townhall Meeting is finished, students are encouraged to stay and take part in the Major Showcase. Representatives from Psych Society, Psi Chi, and the George Scholars will be there, as well as all of the faculty members. Best of all, there will be a taco bar catered by Moe's for all students to enjoy.

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## PSYCHOLOGY LAB STAFF:

### Lab Coordinator:

- Dr. Julie Johnson-Pynn

### Lab Workers:

- Jennifer Rumell
- Kurt Bryan
- Melissa Szabo
- Grant Miller



Dr. Pynn



Dr. Hughes with his beloved Disney mugs.

## Dr. Julie Johnson-Pynn

By Grant Miller

### Academic Background:

Masters & Doctoral studies were completed at the University of Georgia in Bio-Psychology.

### Courses taught at Berry:

Human Sexuality, Introduction to Psychology, Research Methods and Statistics, Foundations of Education and Psychology

### Advice from students:

Take Dr. Pynn's research methods class during the summer.

### Current Research Projects:

Youth environmental activism and positive youth development from a cross-cultural perspective. She is also the coordinator of the Psych Lab and the George Scholars.

### Plans for the future:

Dr. Pynn plans to continue her research in East Africa and take students abroad for Maymester.

### Fun facts:

In Dr. Pynn's free time, she is a yoga instructor off campus and a hired belly dancer a couple of nights a week at a few local bars and eating establishments (Chili's on Monday nights).

### Favorite quote:

"In work and life create relationships, generate interests, and create change".

## Dr. Alan Hughes

By Kurt Bryan

### Academic Background:

Dr. Hughes earned his undergraduate degree from Berea College in Kentucky. After this, he went on to earn his Master's Degree at Western Kentucky University. Finally, Dr. Hughes received his Ph.D. in perception and neuroscience at the University of Louisville.

### Current courses taught at Berry:

Research Methods 1 & 2, Biological Psychology, Intro to Psychology, Neuropsychology

### Why he chose Berry:

Dr. Hughes chose to teach at Berry for several reasons. First, Berry College is very similar to his beloved Berea College. Secondly, when hearing Berry's mission statement, it really hit home to him. He feels like it is something he can really believe in and take to heart. Lastly, Berry College is much closer to his family who reside in Kentucky.

### Plans for future research:

Dr. Hughes plans to study visual perception in his time here at Berry. In addition, he plans to conduct research on how activity in particular neural pathways in the human retina affect visually mediated behavior.

### Fun Facts:

1. Disney freak
2. Ran 100 meter dash in 10.5 seconds
3. Avid cult member of Mac clan
4. Possesses an abnormal amount of soft pastel shirts
5. Self-proclaimed "metro-sexual"

### Personal Quotes:

"All PCs should be set ablaze."  
- Dr. Alan Hughes

"If I could be a pumpkin, I would."  
- Dr. Alan Hughes

## Dr. Michelle Haney

By Kurt Bryan

### Academic Background:

Dr. Haney received her undergraduate degree from Oglethorpe University. A few years later, she went on to pursue her Master's Degree at UGA in school psychology. Following this, she worked in the Cobb county school system as a school psychologist. However, she felt a desire to pursue her education even more. So, while still working as a school psychologist, she earned her Ph. D. from Georgia State, with a cognate in developmental learning disorders.

### Current courses taught at Berry:

Intro to Psych, Lifespan Development, Interdisciplinary Studies 300, Exceptional Child, Child Development, Human Sexuality, Orientation to Psychology, Integrative Seminar, and Psychological Testing. Dr. Haney is also the coordinator of the Interdisciplinary Studies Program.

### Current Research Projects:

Dr. Haney is interested in studying after school care for children with special education needs. Often children with developmental disabilities are excluded from after school care, and this can be very hard for families with two working parents. She feels a calling to support families with special needs children.

### Plans for the future:

Dr. Haney is collaborating with Mary Neidrach, the Berry Elementary School Kindergarten teacher, this May to take students to Japan for the Maymester EDU 222/PSY435. She also wants to explore how sociological and psychological aspects of culture influence the type of education and supports available to children with special needs and their families.

### Fun Facts:

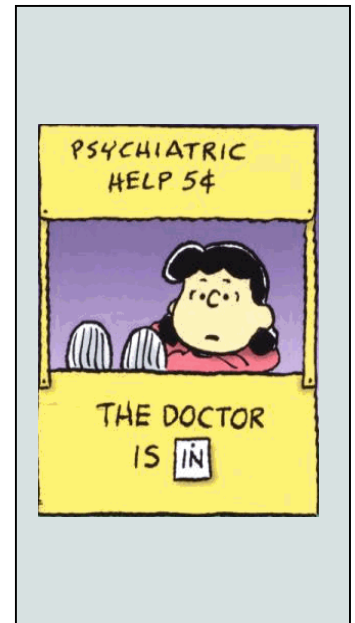
1. She has recently taken up tennis.
2. Her husband will soon be a juvenile court judge in Bartow County.
3. Reality TV fanatic.
4. Favorite fast food restaurants are Krispy Kreme and Krystals.
5. She has two sweeter-than-candy critters at home: two year old Alex with red, curly hair, and seven year old Lucy who adores tap dancing, High School Musical, and her grandmother's Depression Glass collection.

### Favorite Quote:

"Be kind to everyone you meet. They are all facing individual great battles."  
-Andrew Solomon,  
Author of *The Noonday Demon*



Dr. Haney



## Mrs. Jodi Carlton

By Melissa Szabo

### Educational Background:

Mrs. Carlton earned her undergraduate degree at West Georgia, and her Masters in counseling at UGA.

### Current Classes taught at Berry:

Intro to Psychology

### Plans For future:

Mrs. Carlton plans on teaching some more and plans to go back into private practice.

### Fun Facts:

1. She has 2 children
2. Former berry student
3. Her husband graduated from Berry in 1991.
4. She and her husband were married at Frost Chapel.

### Favorite quote:

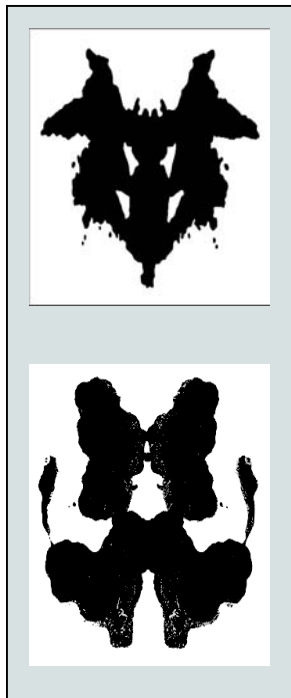
In reference to dating: it doesn't matter where you get your appetite as long as you're home for dinner.



Mrs. Jodi Carlton



Glenda with a cup of very hot coffee. She must be happy.



Dr. Dickens

## 12 Things You Need to Know About Glenda

By Grant Miller

1. Her door is always open.
2. She always has chocolate on her desk.
3. She loves students coming into her office.
4. She assists 12 faculty members with **VERY** different personalities.
5. She believes each day is different with a new set of challenges.
6. She roller blades and likes to ride dirt bikes.
7. She hates to be interviewed.
8. She enjoys the outdoors and participates in mountain climbing, rafting, hiking, and horseback riding.
9. She has always wanted to work at Berry.
10. She has Facebook!
11. She used to show horses.
12. She is the happiest with a cup of very hot coffee in her hand.

**Hint for professors:**

Glenda is turning up the air.

## Dr. John Azar-Dickens

By Jennifer Rumell

**Academic Background:**

Dr. Dickens received his B.S. in Psychology from Armstrong Atlantic State University, his Master's in Clinical Psychology from Augusta State University, and his Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology from Union Institute and University.

**Courses taught at Berry:**

Sports Psych, Abnormal Psych, Intro to Psych, and Psych Testing

**Current research projects:**

The clinical application of exercise prescription to treat mental health issues.

**Plans for the future:**

Dr. Dickens is currently working two Masters degrees in Exercise Science which he will use in his practice of Exercise Psychology.

**Fun Facts:**

1. He has been married for 14 years.
2. He is a certified personal trainer.
3. He has participated in almost 40 triathlons.

**Favorite Quote:**

"Above all, do not lose the desire to walk. I walk myself to daily well-being and from every disease. I have walked myself to my best thoughts and know no thought so heavy that one cannot walk away from it".

Soren Kierkegaard

(1813—1847)

## Dr. Steven Bell

By David Ranew

### Academic Background:

Dr. Bell received his B.A. in English from Rutgers University, M.A. in Counseling from Glassboro State College, and his Ph.D. in School Psychology from the University of Georgia. He did postdoctoral studies on learning disabilities and language disorders.

### Courses taught at Berry:

Introduction to Exceptional Children and Youth, Child Development, Foundations of Education and Psychology.

### Current research:

An on-going study of the long term effects of breast feeding. This is an 18 year long study. Also, he is studying the impact of a five day field trip with middle grade children.

### How was the summer?

Dr. Bell went to Israel this summer. When asked if he could talk about a highlight of

the trip he reminded me of the millions of Palestinians held responsible for the sins of a thousand. Dr. Bell seems to be really passionate about this crisis in the Middle East and admits that he feels ashamed of his people (he is Jewish), who are essentially stealing land from the Palestinian people. What I found most interesting after our conversation is a Google search on the word Palestine. If you enter Palestine into Google, the search engine will correct you by spelling it Palestinian. You see, there are Palestinians and no Palestine.

### Plans for the future:

Maybe another trip to Israel.

### Favorite Quote:

"Yea though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death I will not buy a condo"



Dr. Bell with his trusty scooter.

A psychologist returned from a conference in Aspen lodge, where all the psychologists were permitted to ski for free. Her husband asked her, "How did it go?". She replied, "Fine, but I've never seen so many Freudians slip".

## Dr. Susan Logsdon-Conradsen

By Melissa Szabo

### Educational Background:

Dr. Conradsen earned her undergraduate degree at UGA. She earned her Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology at the University of Louisville in Kentucky. She did her fellowship at Emory.

### Current classes taught at Berry:

Psychology of Women, Health Psychology, Intro to Women's Studies, Women studies seminar and Advanced Abnormal Psychology

### Current research projects:

Dr. Conradsen is studying childbirth myths and misperceptions. She also supervises Ashley McAlister who is a George scholar. They are doing research on media images and how it affects women's body image.

### Plans For the future:

Dr. Conradsen is going to take a trip to the Artic with her father next October to see the Polar Bears.

### Fun Facts:

1. She is directing the Women's Studies program this year
2. She loves feminism
3. She has two amazing Children

### Favorite quote:

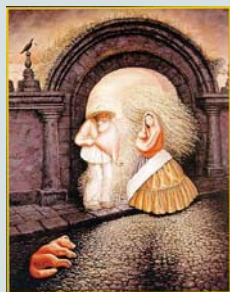
Feminism is the radical ideal that women are people.



Dr. Logsdon-Conradsen



Dr. Diliberto



Dr. Jennings with his "Leader of the Quack" picture.

## Dr. Kristen Diliberto-Macaluso

By Jennifer Rumell

### Academic Background:

Dr. Diliberto earned her B.A. in Psychology at the State University of New York at Binghamton. She earned her M.A. and Ph.D. at the State University of New York at Albany in Cognitive/Experimental Psychology.

### Courses taught at Berry:

Intro to Psych, Research Methods and Statistics I & II, Cognitive Psych, and Learning. She sometimes offers seminar courses in Cognition, Culture, and Gender and Human Memory.

### Current research projects:

She currently serves as a George Scholar mentor to Laura Gillespie who is researching the misinformation effect. Dr. Diliberto's own research deals with perceptual pop out effects, inattentional blindness, and false memory.

### Plans for the future:

Dr. D would like to have another child, spend time with her family, and continue to be amazed by her daughter. Professionally, she would like to begin a new collaborative research program in cognition and emotion and to write a grant to support that research.

### Fun Facts:

1. Dr. Diliberto is excited about her new position as department chair.
2. Native of Tonawanda, NY
3. Avid NHL hockey fan
4. She enjoys cooking, traveling reading, playing tennis, and spending time with her husband and daughter.

### Favorite Quote:

"Everything in moderation"

—Aristotle

## Dr. Jerry Jennings

By Melissa Szabo

### Academic Background:

Dr. Jennings earned his undergraduate degree at the University of Rochester. He went on to earn his Masters degree at the University of Richport. Finally, he went on to earn his doctorate at the University of Florida.

### Courses taught at Berry:

Personality, Counseling Theory, Counseling Practice, Industrial Organizational Psych, Interpersonal Relations, and Experiential Education Leadership Development.

### Current Research:

Dr. Jennings is currently looking at the BOLD Program, and its effects on self-esteem and team work.

### Plans for the future:

Dr. J plans to continue teaching and to keep up his community involvement. He plans on running for re-election in 2008 for Floyd county commissioner.

### Fun Facts:

1. Floyd County Commissioner
2. Enjoys hauling wood chips to his house
3. Enjoys kayaking
4. He has been married to his wife for 30 years.
5. Has two grandkids
6. He is always singing something.

### Personal Quote:

"Just happy to be at Berry"

## Dr. Tom Carver

By Jennifer Rumell

### Courses taught at Berry:

Intro to Psych, BCC 100

### Current research interest:

Dr. Carver is very interested in brain plasticity.

### Plans for the future:

“Are you kidding? At age 69, I am just extremely happy to be where I am at the present time.”

### Fun Facts:

1. Dr. Carver always has candy in his office.

### Favorite Quote:

A cheerful heart is good medicine, but a crushed spirit dries up the bones.

Proverbs 17:22



Dr. Carver

## Dr. Victor Bissonnette

By Kurt Bryan

### Academic Background:

Spent one year at Tarrant Community College in Fort Worth Texas. After this, Dr. Bissonnette transferred to the University of Texas in Arlington to get his Bachelor's Degree. To earn his Ph.D., he stayed at the University of Texas and followed this with a 1 year post-doctoral fellowship at UNC. All in all, Dr. Bissonnette spent 12 years in school following high school.

### Current courses taught at Berry:

Social Psychology (which is Dr. Bissonnette's favorite course), History and Systems of Psychology, Research Methods 1 & 2, Intro to Psychology, and Advanced Seminar in Intimate Relationships.

### Current Research Projects:

Currently, Dr. Bissonnette is conducting a research project studying Berry students and their attitudes towards their roommates. He is also involved in a collaborative research project studying college student's attitudes towards smoking (cigarettes this is).

### Plans for future:

Dr. Bissonnette's future goal is to hit a ½ inch target at a 100 yard range.

### Fun facts:

1. Avid tennis player.
2. After driving the same Nissan pick-up truck for 15 years, he bought a new Nissan Versa this past summer.
3. Dr. Bissonnette is currently the head of the Center of Teaching Excellence at Berry.
4. Fervent dirt biker in his younger days.

### Interesting or favorite quote:

“What does not destroy me makes me stronger.”

- Freidrich Nietzsche



Dr. Bissonnette

## George Scholars Update

By Jennifer Rumell

Congratulations to the two new George Scholars! Seniors Ashley McAlister and Laura Gillespie have each received grant money to conduct their own research. Dr. Conradsen will be mentoring Ashley as she investigates the effects of media images on women's perception of themselves. Laura is researching the effect of misinformation on taste perception with the help of Dr. Diliberto.



### Psych Society

Officers:

Brittany Merritt,

President

Jennifer Rumell,

Vice-President

Libby Sorrow,

Secretary

Isaac Phillips,

Secretary

Kelly Bearden,

Treasurer

## Psych Society

By Brittany Merritt

This year, our number one goal in Psych Society is to get involved with the department and the community. Therefore, we have a number of great activities in which you should get involved. In October, we will have Halloween cookie decorating on the 17<sup>th</sup> and cookie selling in Krannert on the 18<sup>th</sup>. In addition, on the 21<sup>st</sup>, the entire Psychology department will be encouraged to walk on the Berry College Psychology AIDS Walk Team. You can sign up for the AIDS walk by searching for the Berry College Psychology team on the AIDS walk home page. We also hope to have pumpkin decorating on the 30<sup>th</sup> in preparation for Halloween.

In November (exact dates TBA), we would like to go to a Corn Maze (you know how much we psychology majors love mazes). The Corn Maze is an important event because it will provide us with the opportunity to understand the maze from the point of view of the rat (cheese will be provided upon completion). We also plan to have a Grad School talk from Dr. Hughes and have our annual Dinner with the Professors event.

Lastly, Psych Society will close out the year with a raucous Holiday Party and White Elephant Gift Exchange. We really hope that some of these events will interest you and that you will get involved in the department!