

BANANA PSYCH

University of California, Santa Cruz, Psychology Department, Spring 2016, Volume 27, Editor Joel Schooler



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Letter from the Editor

Hello Reader! My name is Joel Schooler, and I am the new editor for Banana Psych, the psychology department's newsletter. As you may know this newsletter serves as a method of communicating various news about the department to everyone. While most of this information is in emails, it is nice to have a summery version at our disposal as well. We will acknowledge those who finished their degree, and will continue the tradition of the quarterly kooky question. We will also have a staff feature, and check ups on our recent grads. It is my hope that this newsletter will be as entertaining as it is informative.

As the new editor I would also like to give a special thanks to our past editors Pat Samermit and Acacia Overoye. Thank you for your contributions over the years!

Enjoy,
Joel



Joel Schooler, ©2015

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ACCOMPLISHMENTS

COMPLETED PHD!

Fall 2015-Winter 2016

Andrew Coppens
Artie Konrad
Kris Liu
Leifa Mayers
Harmony Reppond
Omar Ruvalcaba

Spring 2016

Anjali Dutt,
Timea Farkas,
Elizabeth Gonzalez,
Rose Grose,
Robert Majzler,
Joanna Weill,
Antoinette Wilson

Publications

Annie Ditta: "That's a good idea, but let's keep thinking: Can we prevent our initial ideas from being forgotten as a consequence of thinking of new ideas" in Psychological Research with Ben Storm.

Bruce Bridgeman:

Bridgeman, B. (2016) Review of Wagemans, J. (Ed.). The Oxford Handbook of Perceptual Organization. Perception DOI: 10.1177/0301006616631377

Bridgeman, B. & Cooke, I. (2015) Effect of Eye Height on Estimated Slopes of Hills Perception, 44: 755-763.

Christy Byrd:

Published a paper: Byrd, C.M. & Carter Andrews, D. (in press). Variations in Students' Perceived Sources of, Reasons for, and Forms of In-School Discrimination: A Latent Class Analysis. Journal of School Psychology.

Regina Langhout

Ellison, E., & Langhout, R.D. (in press). Collaboration across difference: A joint autoethnographic examination of power and whiteness in the higher education anti-budget cuts movement. Race, Ethnicity, and Education. doi: 10.1080/13613324.2016.1150825

Christy Starr

Published a paper with Eileen Zurbriggen in Sex Roles, honoring Sandra Bem's contribution to Gender Schema Theory!

Conference Presentations

Bruce Bridgeman:

Bruce Bridgeman, Hema Kopalle, Lisa Clark, Nicolas Davidenko Poster at the Visual Sciences Society annual meeting,

The Mechanism of Lateral Gaze Bias for Faces

Christy Byrd:

Presented about my study on microaggressions at several conferences, including with students at 2 undergraduate conferences (Stanford and UCLA).

Talia Waltzer

Conference proceedings at ICIS 2016 and CogSci 2016

Congrats to Acacia Overoye on Qualifying!

Ella Ben Hagai has accepted a position as an Assistant Professor at Bennington College.

Rose Grose: I defended my dissertation on May 11th: Critical Consciousness and Sexual Pleasure: Evidence for a Sexual Empowerment Process for Heterosexual and Sexual Minority Women. [Grose] will be moving to Atlanta, GA to be a Post Doctoral Fellow in Gender, Family and Global Health at Emory University in their School of Public Health.

Barbara Rogoff My 3-minute video "Learning by Observing" was the top public vote-getter of all 156 videos in NSF's Video Showcase! It was also one of the top videos for amount of conversation it generated. The video highlights strengths of Indigenous and Mexican-heritage children for learning. It has generated more than 5000 views on the NSF website so far. <http://stemforall2016.videohall.com/presentations/693>

STAFF FEATURE:**KATHY MONTANO****Would you please share your background with us (e.g., where you grow up)?**

I was born and raised in Southern California near the San Gabriel Valley. I lived in West Covina until I was accepted into UCSC and moved up to Santa Cruz, which I absolutely loved. One of my earliest childhood trips was a road trip to San Francisco and I feel that may have set the precedent for my goal to live anywhere up north.

What attracted you to this position at UCSC?

Throughout my final year as an undergrad at UCSC, I worked as a peer advisor for the Psychology Department. I was interested in working in an educational setting again and this position really emphasized what I enjoyed most

about working in the department- assisting students, faculty and collaborating with others to help all students, grads and undergrads, have a successful and rewarding educational experience.

What do you enjoy the most about working in the UCSC psychology department (or what do you look forward to the most)?

I definitely enjoy how different it can be from day to day. There's always someone different stopping by the office and I find it interesting to discover what projects graduate students and faculty are working on or engaging in conversation with anyone who comes in. I also feel that coming to work in an environment where everyone is so dedicated in what they're studying or researching is extremely inspiring.

Do you have any hobbies or interests that you would like to share with us?

Sure! I love live music and actively seek out events where I can enjoy some great bands play live. I also like going to the beach, going running, and try to go on hikes whenever possible.

Is there anything else you'd like to share with the psychology community?

Come by and say hi anytime! I'm happy to be a part of the UCSC psychology community again and am eager to get to know everyone in the department.

Alumni Feature:

ARTIE KONRAD



Artie Konrad: Photo Courtesy of Facebook/Research

Hi folks,
It's only been a few months since I graduated and yet I'm sure in that short time you've all been up to impressive work so characteristic of our department. I've been settling in and moving fast as a User Experience Researcher at Facebook (just ask Joel, he had to ask me repeatedly just to get two

paragraphs out of me). I work on a team that is concerned with social good, and we build things like Safety Check, tools for charitable giving, Privacy Checkup etc. I divide my time amongst three teams: Memories (called On This Day), Videos (like Friendversary videos and Friends Day videos), and a team that is exploring new ways for Facebook to communicate with people on the platform (by saying good morning, providing the weather report, wishing you a happy Mother's Day, etc.). I find that researching these products is very fulfilling, though the needs thus far have been primarily qualitative so I haven't had time to apply quantitative methods that I learned in my grad work. I can't discuss the ongoing work, but I can discuss some work I did last summer that was briefly covered by the press (<http://www.businessinsider.com/facebook-on-this-day-feature-and-research-2016-3>). This work explored Facebook's role in reminiscence, and how to be a sensible steward of personal memories. The topic is controversial because of some algorithmic missteps (i.e. sending back memories of people who've passed), but with the right research and the right intentions, I believe the product is greatly improving. The journey is only 1% finished so stay tuned for some exciting changes, and please come have lunch with me sometime, or reach out if you're interested in applying.

My advice for the first years is to take everything in strides. I distinctly remember how overwhelming it felt as a first year when I looked through the student handbook and saw all the big projects in front of me (from first year presentation to quals to dissertation). Putting them all together like that in my mind made it feel like an impossible feat and it affected my self-efficacy. For me, grad school was a lot like growing up as a child - I didn't see myself getting taller on a day to day basis so maybe it wasn't happening? Regardless, I just kept my head down and continued with my day. Then, one day I looked down at my toes and realized how much taller I was. Find ways to work with your advisor to plan, then put your focus entirely on what needs to be done that week, that day, that moment. If you keep going after each step at a time, you'll wake up one day and see how far you've come. Don't believe me? Just wait until you've written your dissertation and compare that to your first year paper. What a gift.

I'd also recommend doing internships along the way over the summer if your advisor thinks this would be a good strategy. That gave me some very valuable experiences and took the pressure off having to find a job when I completed. For those who are in their last year: Take some time to reflect on all that you've learned and this journey you've taken. Allow yourself to feel good about all the challenges you've overcome. Is there anything you wish you had done or learned? Your advisor has much to teach you, and maybe there is more you can pick up while you still have a bit of time left. If there are rough edges in your foundation, now is the time to round things out.

KOOKY QUARTERLY QUESTION

What's your favorite thing to see on someone's poster presentation?

“PHOTOS”

“NOT LOTS OF WORDS”

“COLORFUL CHARTS”

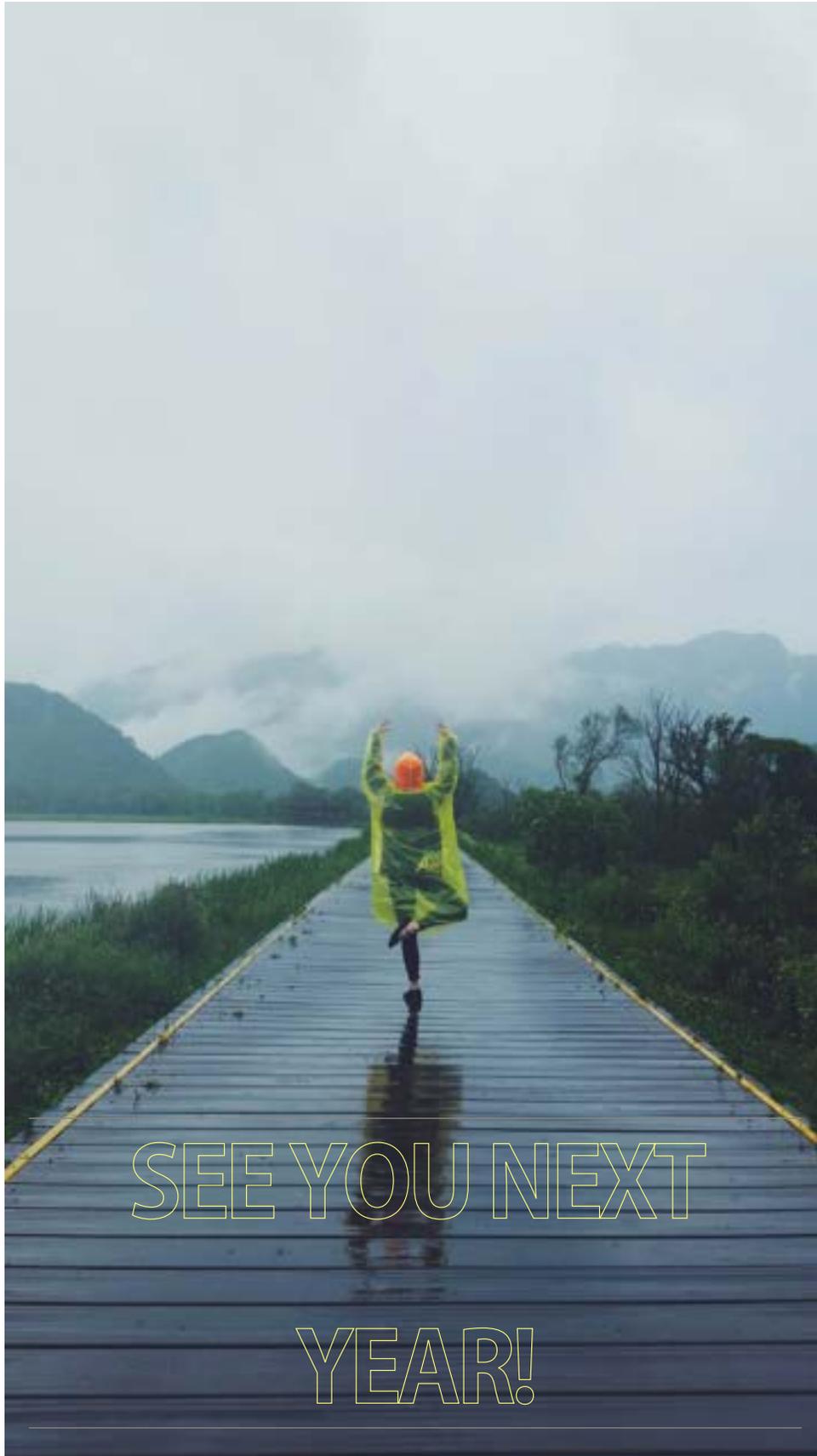
“ACTUAL DATA...”

“USEFUL PICTURES”

“LARGE FONT” -

“PRETTY CHARTS”

*“95% CONFIDENCE
INTERVALS (THANKS
DOUG!!)”*



SEE YOU NEXT
YEAR!

Elaine Chen, Photo
Credit

