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Faculty Trivia

- 1) Which professor's hobbies include food and wine pairing?
- 2) Which professor witnessed one of the eruptions of Mt. St. Helens (1980)?
- 3) Which professor thought she would grow up to be Nancy Drew or a school librarian?

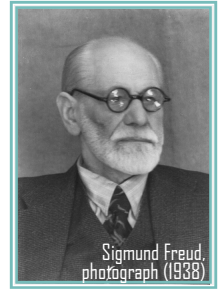
The mystery faculty members will be revealed in the next issue of the Freudian Slip.

The Freudian Slip

CSB/SJU Psychology Department Newsletter



College of Saint Benedict and Saint John's University



New courses bring new excitement

by: Jeff Lesmeister

—Editor

Before you fill up your schedule for this next semester, take a look at the opportunities available to students to take some new and interesting classes this Spring:

PSYC 309C: Cross-Cultural Psychology *Jan Holtz*

Cross cultural psychology examines traditional topics in the field of psychology (for example research methods, cognition, development, emotion, psychopathology, social behavior etc.) with a special emphasis on the comparison of these topics across different cultural groups. We will explore these topics with a particular emphasis on the methodological challenges associated with developing a scientific understanding of the influence of culture on human behavior and mental processes. **PREREQUISITE:** PSYC 111

PSYC 309I: Industrial/Organizational Psychology *Steven Stelzner*

The study and application of psychology to behavior in the work place and organizations more generally, including profit making, non-profit, and governmental organizations. Three broad areas are covered: personnel psychology (human resources), organizational

psychology (organizational behavior), and engineering psychology (human factors design). Topics include: selecting and evaluating personnel, employee testing, organizational culture, job satisfaction, motivation, leadership, decision making, communication, and work stress. **PREREQUISITE:** PSYC 111

PSYC 309K: The Amazing Brain *Laura Sinville*

As the field of Neuroscience has developed, much has been learned from bizarre and unfortunate cases of brain damage, such as the historic account of Phineas Gage, a railroad worker whose brain was penetrated by a 3' 7" iron rod during an accidental explosion. Amazingly, Gage survived the trauma, but his personality was never the same. This primarily discussion-based course will explore what we have learned about the human brain from accidents, disease states, and other oddities, as well as from the study of healthy brains. Possible topics may include but are not limited to phantom limb syndrome, locked-in syndrome, synesthesia (crossing of the senses) and other perceptual abnormalities, migraines, strokes, colorblindness, sleep disorders, "chemo fog" (a cognitive side effect of many

chemotherapy drugs), the effects of music on the brain, and the neuroscience of social relationships. Neuroscience-related film and literature may also be explored. Finally, students will implement strategies for improving their own brain health.

PREREQUISITE: PSYC 111

PSYC 393-02A: Senior Psychology Seminar: Buddhist Psychology *Linda Tennison*

This course will explore the interface between Western and Buddhist psychologies by a re-examination of traditional substantive areas in psychology including (but not limited to): historical development, research methodology and ways of knowing, neuroscience, sensation and perception, consciousness, conditioning, cognition, motivation and emotion, personality, social interaction and psychopathology. Class meetings will be spent discussing assigned readings from both the psychological and the Buddhist literature. Students will select a psychological topic of interest, extensively research the topic from both perspectives, and prepare a term paper to be presented to the group... (Full text in Spring 2009 Class Schedule)

PREREQUISITE: Senior standing and 20 credits in psychology.

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Student Research Spotlight: *David Wutchiett*

by: Anna Sandquist

Contributing Writer

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spent many hours in the basement of Pengel...

by: Anna Sandquist

—Contributing Writer

David Wutchiett, a SJU senior psychology major, participated in the summer research program at CSB/SJU this past summer and researched cognitive psychology alongside Dr. Ben Faber.

David became interested in research of cognitive processes while taking a course last spring. “Cognitive Psychology was something that I had no prior experience in, and the class caught me off guard in terms of its focus and perspective,” said Wutchiett. “[I was really challenged], and by

interested in learning more.”

Wutchiett reaffirmed his appreciation for such an opportunity and offered advice to others who might be interested in taking advantage of an opening in the research program for summer 2010. “I would say to talk with your professors and actively pursue the opportunities to get involved in research throughout the year. Research opportunities often times build off other research opportunities, whether it’s initially through a class project, your professors, or other students. The professors are always looking for motivated and interested

taking a proactive attitude towards research beyond the classroom is a really great way to get involved in the psychology community here at

“The professors are always looking for motivated and interested students to work with...”

-David Wutchiett

the College of Saint Benedict and Saint John’s University.”

Aside from the actual research, Wutchiett has a few other memorable experiences. “I

basement of Pengel... developing and testing the computer programs for my research,” said Wutchiett. I would not be surprised if that is the coldest place on campus. I was wearing sweatshirts and jeans in mid-July!”

The summer research, which focused on theory of mind, decision-making, categorization, and anxiety, findings became the topic of Wutchiett’s senior thesis paper and project. “It’s still in the works,” said Wutchiett. “The study has been designed. Running the experiment is the next step.”

Trivia answers from last issue:

1) Which Professor received his/her undergraduate degree from the University of Hawaii?

Richard Wielkiewicz

2) Which Professor's childhood dream was to be a police officer & have a green squad car?

Aubrey Immelman

3) Which Professor is currently learning to play piano?

Steve Stelzner

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