

SEPTEMBER 2021



PSYCHOLOGY NEWSLETTER

Bryn Mawr Department of Psychology Newsletter

Welcome back, students! We are delighted to be seeing your faces (albeit behind masks) in Bettws-y-Coed and around campus.

Read on for welcome back notes from each of us...

- **Professor Albert** is positively giddy to be leaving his house to work on campus for the first time in what seems like forever. This summer, he continued research with students on genetic and environmental sources of differences in adolescents' brain function and behavior. He also spent lots of time swimming in the creeks and lakes of the Poconos. In addition to talking to you about nerdy science stuff, he would like your recommendations for books and music and TV and movies.
- **Professor Gargiulo** has been eagerly awaiting the return of students to in-person activities this semester! Over the summer, he and Profs. Grafe and Peterson got one step closer to publishing a paper on stress, coping, and sleeping during the pandemic. He is thrilled to get to interact with students in the classroom again and can't wait to return to spur-of-the-moment chats with the other professors and students around Bettws-Y-Coed and Bryn Mawr College. Can't wait to see y'all soon!
- **Professor Mukerji** is thrilled to join the department this semester! Over the summer, she worked on completing her clinical training at Boston Children's Hospital. She is excited to work with thesis students on research projects exploring the brain mechanisms that support sensory processing in infants at risk for difficulties in learning and social communication.
- **Professor Orvell** is incredibly excited to be teaching *in person* this fall and is looking forward to spontaneous chats with students on campus! This summer, she worked with a team of students on several projects spanning language use on social media, how people turn to others to regulate their emotions, and role models; she is excited to continue this research in the fall!
- **Professor Park** is eager to see familiar and new faces in the same time zone and space! She spent her summer engaging in many Zoom research meetings, with her Summer Science Research students and her collaborators in Korea, China, California, and Philadelphia. She is excited about the resumed data collection for studying adolescents' daily lives and sleep, as well as her lab's new project on Asian American identity. Aside from research activities, Professor Park enjoyed slowly introducing her 17-mo toddler to the world outside of home.
- **Professor Peterson** is back after a year of sabbatical leave and is looking forward to reconnecting with and meeting the new majors and minors. She spent her sabbatical volunteering on voter registration and turnout outreach in Philadelphia, working remotely at the United Nations, taking a Spanish class, and conducting and presenting research on harnessing social norms to promote covid prevention behaviors. If anyone is practicing or interested in using their Spanish with a learner, she is always interested in conversation partners!
- **Professor Schulz** is excited to see everyone back on campus and less socially distanced! This summer, he worked with students in his lab and spent a lot of time finishing up a full draft of a book highlighting the contributions of relationships to human flourishing. With luck, he hopes the book will be published a year from now.
- **Professor Thapar** can't wait to see everyone back in BYC and around campus this fall and is excited to not have to share her desktop screen on zoom anymore! She spent her summer working with students on campus and collaborators in California and New Hampshire and is excited to resume data collection on her research projects examining the neural correlates of age differences in memory and emotion processing. When she wasn't engaging in the seemingly endless round of zoom research meetings, she could be found working in her garden and learning to sew.
- **Professor Grafe** is on leave for the 2021-2022 academic year :).



Celebrating Professor Park's promotion to Associate Professor with tenure!

On the horizon...

We are committed to creating a more equitable, inclusive and diverse department. We are excited to be launching a 'Psychology Partners Program', open to majors and minors who want to connect with other students for friendship; informal mentorship; and/or support or guidance navigating courses, research, or internships. Be on the lookout for information from our DEI Reps, Sarah Phillips and Emma Samstein on how to sign up soon!

Events & Opportunities

Interested in PhD programs in psychology? Harvard and Stanford are hosting workshops and info. sessions for applying to PhD programs and Lab Manager positions. Anyone, applying anywhere, is welcome. Harvard's program, in particular, is geared at students from historically minoritized groups in STEM.

Click the hyperlinks below for more information and applications for both the Harvard and Stanford workshops.