Meet the First Years!  By Caitlin Murray

The rumors are true; the First Years are a talented class. Not only do they employ excellent empathic listening skills, but they are not afraid to rock some very, very ugly Christmas sweaters.

**Kim Burdette**, a Duke University grad, was the head psychometrist at a private mental health practice in Boston before joining Amy Bohnert’s Activity Matters lab. When Kim isn’t hard at work evaluating the effectiveness of Chicago-based “Girls in the Game” after school program, she enjoys running, yoga, and reading a good novel over a delicious Metropolis croissant (or two). She is interested in the psychological health of adolescent girls, particularly in relation to healthy eating and exercise, self-objectification, eating disorders, and how girls participate in and respond to media.

Upon graduating from the University of Dayton, **Kyle Deane** spent nearly a year in Queretaro, Mexico, learning Spanish and teaching English to children at a Montessori school. As a member of the Richards lab, he is examining ethnic identity and PTSD among low-income urban African American adolescents exposed to community violence. On the weekends, you can find Kyle exploring one of Chicago’s neighborhoods with his wife (and high school sweetheart), Claire, or cutting the rug with his enviable flamenco moves. Move aside, Arie!

Originally from Long Island and a Brown University graduate, **Anne Fuller** has been busy collecting data for Scott Leon’s newest studies examining kin engagement with kids in foster care, and the associations between implicit and explicit self-esteem and Axis II psychopathology. She enjoys studying adolescent mental health/treatment, family dynamics, and watching excellently bad TV, which the rest of her cohort can’t judge her for since they secretly watch it, too.

A recent Kenyon College graduate, **Alex Kirsch** has been hard at work on Colleen Conley’s First Year Survey project examining psychosocial trajectories of students in their first year of college. She is particularly interested in eating disorders, gender, stress and coping, as well as the positive psychological traits that promote well-being. Alex finds her own sources of positive coping to be spending time with her new fiancé, playing with her adorable puppy Tesla, watching sports, and winning at trivia (she doesn’t lose. Or maybe denial is how she copes).

**Caitlin Murray**, a UNC Chapel Hill graduate, flew from Seattle, WA to join the Holmbeck team this year. She has happily delved into research on the impact of peer and parent-child relationships on psychosocial adjustment in youth with spina bifida. If you don’t find Caitlin reading up on the latest in pediatric pain research at Metropolis (where they know her by name), you’ll surely find her walking her odd but sweet little daschund, Luna, around campus.
In addition to the academic and professional milestones that were met this year, Loyola students and faculty had many reasons to celebrate! Whether tying the knot or becoming new parents, we congratulate those who have welcomed new members into their family this year.

Kyle Deane, a first-year student, married his high school sweetheart Claire Higginbotham on July 30, 2011. After meeting Kyle and Claire, it is clear that this couple is meant to be! First-year student, Alex Kirsch, and her fiancé Kyle Obergfell, were engaged in September of 2011 in Chicago. Tina Ross, a second-year student, married Todd Holbein on July 16, 2011 in Buffalo, NY. Edna Romero, a third year student, and Mike Tallarico were engaged last March, and the wedding date is set for May 26th. All the festivities will be taking place in Chicago. Congratulations to all the happy couples!

This year was an especially momentous time for the fourth-year cohort! Alison Dunleavy married Sam Stoner on June 11, 2011 in Homer Glen, IL. Classmate Liz Tuminello married Mike Hartman on October 15th, 2011. We also congratulate Rachel Wasserman and Ryan Daniels on their future nuptials; they will be married on May 28th in Sarasota, FL. Israel Gross proposed to his fiancé, Shelley Daniels, while riding in a carriage around Buckingham Fountain. Israel and Shelley will be married at North Shore Congregation Israel in Glencoe, IL on June 17, 2012.

Congratulations to Alisha, a third-year student, and Neil Miller who are expecting a baby boy on July 7, 2012. We are so excited to welcome him into the world!

Faculty member, Noni Gaylord-Harden and her husband also celebrated the birth of their baby boy, Sinaan Amiri Anthony Harden, on December 10, 2011. Sinaan was a healthy 10lbs, 9oz and was 22.5 inches long. He was welcomed home by big sister, Saniyya.
2ND YEAR UPDATE

This year has kept the second years busy. Between classes, research, and running to and from the Wellness Center, it has flown by. We have loved our first practicum experience and through trials, mistakes, and therapeutic successes we have grown as therapists and grown as friends. After surviving the stress of applying for externship, we are all looking forward to our assessment practicums next year. Catherine will be at NorthShore University Healthcare (adult), Tina and Alex will be at Alexian Brothers (pediatric), and Nikki, Cynthia, and Arie will be at the University of Chicago (pediatric). Having successfully proposed our theses, we’ve all attained the title of “half-masters” and are well on our way to completion. Besides our Masters projects, this year has been full of working on papers and presenting our work at conferences from Vancouver to Milwaukee. While second year has been a lot of work, we’ve also managed to make time for game nights, delicious food, and exploring the city. For better or for worse, Chicago and Coffey Hall are starting to feel more like home and our cohort (led by Papa Arie) feels more like family.

3RD YEAR UPDATE

The third years have had quite a year! We are working hard at our pediatric and adult neuropsychology assessment practica and are learning a lot. With the end of the school year fast approaching, we are all gearing up for our next therapy practicum. Alisha and Daniel will be at the University of Chicago’s CBT Clinic (adult), Lea at Wediko Children’s Services in Boston (pediatric), Amanda at Shriners Hospital for Children (pediatric), and Devin and Edna at Stroger Hospital of Cook County (pediatric). Besides surviving our first assessment practicum, we've all been very busy with research. We have all successfully defended our master’s theses! Furthermore, we've presented posters at conventions across the United States and internationally, and have submitted papers for publication. By the end of the semester, we will all have completed our coursework and will be gearing up for the qualifying exam. On a more personal note, Edna will be getting married in May and Alisha and her husband are expecting their first child in July! Third year has flown by and we are all looking forward to our fourth year!
4TH YEAR UPDATE

By Alison Dunleavy Stoner

It’s been a busy year for the fourth years! In addition to her practicum at Depaul Family and Communication Services where she does Parent Child Interaction Therapy, an evidenced based practice for young children with disruptive behaviors, Corinn taught a course in the Psychology of Addictions in the fall. Additionally she became the proud owner of a new cat, Elijah, and successfully proposed her dissertation! Liz is currently working as an extern in Psychosocial Oncology at Loyola University Medical Center where she provides on-going psychotherapy to outpatients affected by cancer. She is teaching undergraduate Statistics this spring and is an author on three recently accepted manuscripts and one book chapter, in addition to working on her dissertation. Liz got married in October, 2011 to Mike Hartman. They had a wonderful honeymoon to Costa Rica and she is loving married life! Rachel is completing her practicum at Shriners Hospitals for Children. She is working in a consultation/liaison role that includes clinical assessments on the inpatient medical unit as well as outpatient medical clinics (e.g., spinal cord injury, cleft lip and palate, and general orthopedics). While preparing for her wedding in May 2012, Rachel taught Child Psychopathology in the fall, and successfully proposed her dissertation! Alison is completing her fourth year “on-location” in New Orleans, LA. She is working as an extern at Mercy Family Center, where she provides individual and family therapy to children and adolescents and leads a social skills group for children with Asperger’s Disorder. She also serves as the school counselor at a local elementary school and leads a Cognitive Behavioral Intervention for Trauma in Schools group and does individual trauma-focused CBT. Israel’s practicum placement is at John H. Stroger Jr. Hospital of Cook County. He is conducting diagnostic intake evaluations and providing psychotherapy (individual & family) with children and adolescents from primarily low-income minority backgrounds in an outpatient hospital, as well as emergency room and/or inpatient hospital psychiatric evaluations. He was an invited plenary speaker at Northeastern Illinois University for their psychology student research symposium during the fall and is preparing for his wedding in June! Ashley is doing double duty this year, taking on two practicum sites at the University of Chicago, one at the Eating and Weight Disorders Clinic and the other at the Diabetes Clinic. She is doing therapy with adults who have a variety of eating and health concerns, as part of an NIH study, and working with children and adolescents who have chronic illnesses at the Diabetes Clinic. She taught Abnormal Psychology in the fall and is currently serving as a TA for Research Methods. Ashley is in the process of collecting data for her dissertation, which looks at a population of sorority women from Loyola and Northwestern.

5TH YEAR & BEYOND UPDATE

By Alex Psihogios

The fifth-year students have had another busy year! Amy Lyons spent the year on internship at Children's Hospitals and Clinics of Minnesota. Next year, she will begin her post-doc at the Loyola University Medical Center for pediatric neuropsychology. Jana Wingo completed her therapy externship at the Hines VA, where she completed a PTSD rotation with veterans. All of Jana’s hard work paid off when she matched at her top-rated internship site! She will be interning at the University of Chicago Medical Center for adult neuropsychology next year. Alyx Kesselring is in the process of working on her dissertation proposal while continuing her work in the PACCT lab. She is also working as a research assistant for Project Mentor, a project through the Loyola School of Social Work.
After a lively search for the newest addition of Loyola’s Child Clinical Psychology program, we are pleased to announce the successful recruitment of Dr. Cate Santiago! Faculty and students alike were inspired by Cate’s research on poverty-related stress in Latino populations. Her focus on improving services and service utilization is an exciting addition to our program, and we are proud to have her join our team at Loyola!
**2011-2012 LAB UPDATES**

**BOHNERT LAB**  
By Kim Burdette

The Activity Matters lab, led by Dr. Bohnert, has been hard at work in the 2011-2012 academic year. We are excited to have been awarded a Provost Summer Research Fellowship Award to collaborate with Drs. Rebecca Silton and Lara Dugas (Department of Preventative Medicine and Epidemiology) to investigate positive health and cognitive effects of intensive programming for urban minority females during the summer months. Our team will also be analyzing pet ownership among high functioning youth with autism, and we are continuing our program evaluations for the Girls in the Game organization. Several manuscripts are in preparation, including papers on organized activity participation and social adjustment among adolescents with autism spectrum disorders, effortless perfection, developmental perspectives on obesity, and after-school unhealthy eating. Several posters by our lab members have been accepted to MPA and SRA, and we recently welcomed several new undergraduates to our team. Lastly, we are proud to have had one graduate student successfully propose and two graduate students successfully defend their Master’s Theses in the past several months!

**CONLEY LAB**  
By Alex Kirsch

The Conley Lab has been busy this year continuing the First Year Survey project, which follows college student’s adjustment and psychological functioning at multiple points in the first year of college, and annually throughout their college career. As we are in the third year of the study, we now have data from the start of the freshman year to the end of junior year. The lab has been busy writing manuscripts related to college students’ psychological functioning and wellness promotion. We also have conference presentations at SRA, SSEA, ABCT, MPA, and possibly APA this year. This has been a busy year for master's and dissertation proposals and defenses as well!

**GAYLORD-HARDEN LAB**  
By Cynthia Pierre

The Gaylord-Harden PACCT lab has been quite busy this year! We are in the midst of data collection at Urban Prep Academy, a college preparatory high school for urban African American boys. We hope our findings can help inform future interventions for at-risk students at Urban Prep and help promote another year of 100% college acceptance rate! We have many other projects underway working with urban African American youth in Chicago. In the meantime, we have had the hard work of both graduate and undergraduate students represented in The Journal of Abnormal Child Psychology and The Journal of Clinical Child & Adolescent Psychology. Several lab members were able to present their projects at the Black Graduate Conference in Psychology in sunny Miami last June, and we also recently presented work at the conference for the Society for Research on Adolescence in Vancouver.
HOLMBECK LAB

By Alex Psihogios

The Holmbeck Lab has had another busy year studying the psychological, social, and cognitive development of youth with spina bifida. It’s hard to believe that data collection began six years ago and we are approaching the fourth time point of our longitudinal study! We look forward to another successful summer working at Camp Independence. At camp, we implement a therapeutic intervention that targets independence and social skills training for children, adolescents, and young adults with spina bifida. To add to our intervention, we have been researching the effectiveness of camp and developing social skills training videos to show campers during the intervention. Recently, we were awarded a grant from CVS to help fund this program. Throughout the year, we have also enjoyed our involvement with the Spina Bifida Association of Illinois and have helped raise money through various events. Lab members have been hard at work on multiple poster and paper presentations at several conferences this year, including SBM, APA, SRA, and Midwest Regional Conference in Pediatric Psychology.

LEON LAB

By Scott Leon

The Leon lab is conducting research on a variety of fronts these days. We recently completed a longitudinal study of 800 youth throughout their stays in psychiatric hospitals by measuring their psychiatric acuity on a daily basis. Using these data, we finished two papers on youths’ patterns of recovery in treatment and the ways in which these patterns vary across hospital units. Alison Dunleavy, an old-timer in the lab and a key architect of the study, will be using these data in a dissertation predicting hospital readmission among a subsample of these youth with significant emotional and behavioral issues. We were thrilled to welcome our newest member to the lab, Anne Fuller, in September. Anne is already running two studies, and plans to write a thesis on the impact of family variables on child welfare outcomes. Ashley Rolnik joined the lab three years ago, but in that short time has run three longitudinal studies on body image and disordered eating and is writing three manuscripts using the data. She has also developed her dissertation study, and has a devoted following of undergraduate research assistants. Finally, Amy Lyons-Usher and Kriston Schellinger defended excellent dissertations at the end of 2011, and are now finishing their internships in Minnesota and Tennessee, respectively. Congratulations Amy and Kriston!

RICHARDS LAB

By Kyle Deane

Dr. Maryse Richard’s Risk and Resilience Lab is continuing its exciting research on the mental health of low income, urban African American children and adolescents. The lab is set to begin collecting data for a pilot study examining the effectiveness of its Civic Engagement Curriculum (CEC) intervention in two Catholic middle schools located on the south side of Chicago. Additionally, the lab is partnering with the Center for Urban Research and Learning in conducting a program evaluation of a violence prevention program for Latino youth in Little Village. The lab has recently published two articles, submitted three for review, and has nearly completed the drafting of five more. A big “congratulations” is in order for lab members Israel Gross, Edna Romero, and Devin Carey for successfully defending their dissertation/master’s theses and the manuscripts recently accepted for publication! If you would like to monitor the progress of these and other updates, be sure to check out our new website at www.riskandresiliencelab.info.
The PIER Lab has continued its work investigating professional burnout and well functioning and gender issues in work and family conflict. We have an article on “Predicting Work-Family Conflict and Life Satisfaction among Professional Psychologists” that will be published soon in Professional Psychology: Research and Practice. In addition, our manuscript examining predictors of career satisfaction among practicing psychologists is currently being revised for resubmission to the same journal. During 2011, two students completed their dissertations and one completed her master thesis using data from our two-phase, longitudinal survey examining work and family life, burnout, and life satisfaction. Pedja Stevanovic completed his dissertation examining work to family spillover, family functioning, and life satisfaction; Sasha Berger completed her dissertation examining the relationship among negative client behaviors, coping, and burnout; and Alisha Oscharoff studied the role of work-family conflict in mediating the relationship between emotional exhaustion at work and marital satisfaction for her masters thesis. We are continuing to analyze data from this longitudinal project and are also preparing to launch a new project investigating factors influencing work and family aspirations and anticipated work-family conflict among college seniors.

There are a number of exciting projects brewing in the CANlab (www.canlab.org). One exciting project involves collaborating with researchers at Northwestern’s Feinberg School of Medicine to conduct a Behavioral Activation treatment outcome study using mobile health (mHealth) technology. We will be using electroencephalography (EEG) methods to examine treatment effectiveness. We are looking forward to the start of the initial pilot study in Fall 2012. Another ongoing project is examining the neural correlates of bilingual “language brokers,” or those who grow up managing cultural and linguistic communications between their parents (who may speak limited English) and the majority culture. We are also collaborating with Dr. Amy Bohnert’s “Activity Matters” lab to study how summer programming influences the healthy development of executive functions in adolescent females. Additionally, we are starting a project that will investigate how resilience and executive functions influence psychosocial outcomes for participants who are at-risk for depression. Needless to say, it has been a busy lab for the CANlab. Hopefully we will soon have some influential results to disseminate. Please do not hesitate to email Becky (rsilton@luc.edu) if you are interested in collaborating with the CAN

Amanda Ward: Research Mentoring Program and Advanced Doctoral Fellowship
Rachel Wasserman was awarded the APA 2012 Graduate Student Ethics Prize for her paper entitled “Ethical Issues and Guidelines for Conducting Data Analysis in Psychological Research.” The prize is open to any psychology graduate student in the nation, and is awarded to a paper on psychology and ethics. Rachel will be presented with the award at the 2012 APA Annual Convention in Orlando, FL. Any Loyola students and faculty who will be attending the conference are invited to the award presentation-Rachel would love to see some familiar faces!
**ALUMNI NEWS**

**Christine Celio** finished her internship at the West Los Angeles VA in August 2010 and moved up north with her husband for her fellowship at the San Francisco VA a week later. She is getting licensed in the state of California and is excited to see where she will end up after postdoc. She misses her friends and many things about Chicago, but loves being back in California!

**Molly Pachan** is currently teaching full time as a visiting assistant professor at Illinois Institute of Technology in Chicago. She also opened a private practice in the Loop with her husband and is not looking forward to the EPPP!

In January, **Michael Meehan** accepted the position of Executive Director at Good Shepherd Children & Family Services in St. Louis. Good Shepherd is a member of the Catholic Charities federation of agencies here and provides a variety of services, including residential treatment for troubled youth, maternity care for teen moms, community-based care for expectant mothers in crisis, foster care case management, and adoption services. Michael is excited to have the opportunity to unite his skills and experience with his faith by leading a Catholic agency. On a more personal level, he and his wife will celebrate their 24th wedding anniversary in May and he has two children, Ali age 15 and Michael age 12.

**Amy Swarr** is currently the Director of Counseling Services at Elmhurst College and also has a small private practice. She really enjoys supervising graduate students in training and working with college students. She got married in the past 5 years and also has a son, Samuel, who keeps her and her husband busy and laughing.

**Kirsten Elling** and her husband welcomed a son, Jens Elling van der Voo, in April of 2011. Professionally, she is juggling work and family reasonably well, and still loves her position as Associate Director for Counseling, Programs & Services at the University of Michigan's Center for the Education of Women.
Michelle (Christensen) Sarche is on the faculty at the University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus. She is an assistant professor in the Colorado School of Public Health, Centers for American Indian and Alaska Native Health. She received two grants from the Administration for Children and Families in the fall, one looking at parenting interventions that buffer young children from “toxic stress” and one that supports the Tribal Early Childhood Research Center. On another project, she is working with an American Indian tribe in the Midwest to develop a culturally-based intervention to increase pregnancy planning, decrease drinking, and prevent alcohol-exposed pregnancies among young women in a reservation community. Besides work, Michelle is busy with her two young boys – Eli age 6, and Jake age 4.

Brittany Lakin-Star is a clinical psychologist at Illinois Masonic Medical Center’s Behavioral Health Services, where she enjoys conducting therapy and supervising and teaching doctoral practicum students. Brittany continues to oversee the Effective Parenting Program for parents of children with disruptive behaviors and the corresponding children's social skills groups. This past year, she attended training in Prolonged Exposure with Dr. Edna Foa, which helps her effectively treat patients with PTSD. Additionally, she is combining her love for acting and psychology by developing expertise in psychodrama (why didn’t we learn about this in graduate school?). She recently started two groups using psychodramatic and action-oriented techniques for chronically mentally ill and higher functioning outpatients. Brittany is also adjunct faculty at Loyola and loves teaching!

After graduating from the program in August, Rebecca (Wasserman) Lieb is currently doing a 1-year clinical postdoc at the Carolina Institute for Developmental Disabilities where she primarily does assessments and consultations for families of children and adolescents with developmental disabilities including autism, turner syndrome, angelman syndrome, LDs, etc. She recently passed the EPPP and is on her way to being licensed. But most excitingly, she recently had a baby, Samuel David Lieb. Samuel surprised Rebecca and her husband by coming 4 weeks early, but they are loving every minute of being parents.
Good News!

**MASTER'S PROPOSALS**
- Nikki Arola
- Tina Holbein
- Catherine Lee
- Cynthia Pierre
- Alex Psihogios
- Arie Zakaryan

**DISSERTATION PROPOSALS**
- Corinn Elmore
- Ashley Rolnik
- Rachel Wasserman
- Christopher Zaddach

**MASTER'S DEFENSE**
- Devin Carey
- Daniel Dickson
- Alisha Miller
- Edna Romero
- Lea Travers
- Amanda Ward

**DISSERTATION DEFENSES**

**Bonnie Essner:** “The Direct and Indirect Impact of Pain Intensity, Weight Status, and Activity Involvement on Social Competence Outcomes in Children and Adolescents with Spina Bifida”, defended April 12, 2012

**Amy Lyons:** “Measures of Executive Functioning and their Relation to Functional Outcomes in a Sample of Youth with ADHD”, defended on December 12, 2011.

**Lauren O’Hara:** “Neuropsychological Functioning, Parenting Behaviors, and Healthcare Behaviors Among Youth with Spina Bifida”, defended March 21, 2012

**Edin Randall:** “A mediational model predicting adjustment in affluent adolescents: The role of parental perfectionism, perceived parental pressure, and organized activity involvement”, defended April 18, 2012

**Kriston Schellinger:** “Internet support groups for parents of children with ADHD: An examination of the characteristics of group members and the impact of social support on parent functioning”, defended July 27, 2011

**Caitlin Roache:** “Social Cognitive Functioning and Social Competence in Children and Adolescents with Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus: Social Cognitive Neuroscience as a Model”, defended December 9th, 2011

**INTERNERSHIP PLACEMENTS FOR 2012-2013**
- **Jana Wingo:** University of Chicago Medical Center, Adult Neuropsychology

**EXTERNSHIP PLACEMENTS FOR 2012-2013**

**Nikki Arola:** University of Chicago, Pediatric Neuropsychology

**Devin Carey:** Stroger Hospital of Cook County, Child Therapy

**Daniel Dickson:** University of Chicago’s CBT Clinic, Adult Therapy

**Alison Dunleavy:** Mercy Family Center in New Orleans, LA, School-based Mental Health Rotation

**Corinn Elmore:** Neurobehavioral Associates

**Israel Gross:** CORE center at Stroger Hospital of Cook County and Hines VA, Neuropsychology

**Tina Holbein:** Alexian Brothers Neurosciences Institute, Pediatric Neuropsychology

**Catherine Lee:** Northshore University Healthsystem, Adult Neuropsychology

**Alisha Miller:** University of Chicago’s CBT Clinic, Adult Therapy

**Cynthia Pierre:** University of Chicago, Pediatric Neuropsychology

**Alex Psihogios:** Alexian Brothers Neurosciences Institute, Pediatric Neuropsychology

**Ashley Rolnik:** University of Chicago, Adult Therapy

**Edna Romero:** Stroger Hospital of Cook County, Child Therapy

**Lea Travers:** Wediko Children’s Services in Boston, MA, Child Therapy

**Elizabeth Tuminello:** Northshore University Healthsystem, Adult Neuropsychology

**Amanda Ward:** Shriners’ Hospital for Children, Child Therapy

**Rachel Wasserman:** Loyola University Hospital, Child Therapy

**Arie Zakaryan:** University of Chicago, Pediatric Neuropsychology
Selected Faculty and Student Publications


