

Don't Forget!

- **Graduating seniors:** sign up to take the Senior Comprehensive Exam (see article)
- **Pre-register** for Fall 2009 classes as soon as possible! Your advisor has your alternate PIN for registration.
- **Help keep NSB beautiful!** Flyers for events should be posted only on bulletin boards, not on doors or walls.
- **ABPsi dues** are due Monday, April 13th

Calendar

Upcoming events in April

- **1st** (Wednesday), 4:30 PM – Psychology Club meeting
- **1st through 4th** – Black Male Summit in Winston-Salem (see flyers)
- **3rd** (Friday), 4:00 PM – Psi Chi movie matinee: *Gifted Hands*
- **4th** (Saturday), 3:30 PM – Kickball at Windsor Recreation Center
- **6th** (Monday) – ABPsi meeting
- **13th** (Monday) – Psi Chi meeting
- **15th** (Wednesday), 4:30 PM – Psychology Club meeting
- **16th** (Thursday), 4:00 PM – College of Arts and Sciences Colloquium: Research in CAS
- **18th** (Saturday) – Carolinas Psychology Conference at Meredith College
- **20th** (Monday) – ABPsi meeting
- **24th** (Friday) – Department Banquet (tentative - stay tuned for details)
- **27th** (Monday) – Psi Chi meeting

Psychology Department Introduces Senior Exam

The Psychology Department is instituting a Senior Comprehensive Exam for all graduating seniors this year. The purpose of the examination is to assess students' knowledge of material covered in a variety of core psychology courses. Your performance on this exam will not affect your grade in any of your courses.

The results of the exam will help the Department improve its courses and programs each year. Assessment is also an important part of the reaffirmation of accreditation process for which the University is currently preparing.

The exam consists of multiple-

choice questions that cover a broad range of topics in psychology. The exam will be given via computer-based administration during the third week of April (April 13-17).

If you are graduating in May 2009, you **must** sign up for one of the exam sessions on the sign-up sheets posted in the hallway outside NSB 360. There will be five sessions to choose from:

Monday, 4/13, 9:00-11:00 AM;
Monday, 4/13, 6:00-8:00 PM;
Tuesday, 4/14, 5:00-7:00 PM;
Thursday, 4/16, 5:00-7:00 PM,
and Friday, 4/17, 4:00-6:00 PM.

Please sign up for the exam by Friday, April 10th, 2009.

Psychology Courses to Include Research Option

Research is an important part of the field of psychology, and a considerable amount of research is currently being conducted by faculty and students in the Psychology Department here at A&T.

In order to further educate students on how psychological research is conducted, the Psychology Department will incorporate a standard research participation component into psychology courses.

Beginning in Fall 2009, students in introductory courses (PSYC 242, 320, and 321) will be

required to either sign up as a participant in a research study or complete a written assignment about psychological research methods. Students in upper-level courses will also have the option to participate in a study or write a paper for extra credit.

Research studies currently being conducted in the department will be advertised on a bulletin board on the 3rd floor of NSB.

To find out more about studies that are *currently* recruiting participants, see the "Research Participation" section of this newsletter!

Faculty/Staff

Here is just a small sampling of what some of our faculty and staff have been doing lately:

- **Dr. Hall** received funding from the Defense Threat Reduction Agency to study how media outlets and computer games influence people's perception of terrorist threats. **Dr. Robinson** will collaborate on the project along with Dr. Basti (Chemistry Dept).
- **Dr. Keyes** recently assisted the department's student organizations by giving a workshop on the proper procedures for conducting formal meetings. Dr. Keyes is an expert in this area due to his experience as past president of the Faculty Senate.
- **Dr. Sharma** was on the program committee for this year's meeting of the Southeastern Psychological Association (SEPA) in New Orleans. She chaired a session on the topic "Treatments and Mental Health" and attended a workshop on Clinical Supervision.
- **Dr. Sims** was featured in a Researcher Profile on A&T's Division of Research and Economic Development (DORED) website. Read the profile at: <http://www.ncat.edu/~divofres/about/profile.php>
- **Dr. Stephens** received a Summer Faculty Fellowship from DORED.

Trivia!

Be the first to answer correctly and get a special prize! Send answers to jdstephe@ncat.edu.

April's question: Who was the American Psychological Association's first female president?

Student & Club News

Editor's note: We welcome descriptions or pictures of recent department events! See the bottom of this page for submission info. Thanks!

- **ABPsi, Psi Chi, and Psychology Club** hosted a series of events the last week of March, including a gender forum, games/trivia, dinner outing, and a movie. Due to rain, the kickball game was rescheduled to **April 4th**.
- **ABPsi** recently hosted an event called "Black Love," which focused on relationship issues in the African-American community.
- **Psi Chi** held an induction ceremony on March 21st. The keynote speaker was **Mr. Shawn Washington**, an alumnus of our department. Psi Chi also recently elected new officers for 2009-2010: **Taylor Austin**, President; **Tianna Harris**, Vice President; **Tashana Kirby-Williams**, Secretary; **Emelia Hooper**, Treasurer; and **Tatiana Tinsley**, Ms. Psi Chi.
- On March 12, the **Psychology Club** and **Aggies Against AIDS** sponsored an event for National Women/Girls HIV/AIDS awareness day. Poet **Trin-A-Thoughtz** shared electrifying, thought-provoking poetry about the HIV epidemic, and speaker **Deirdre Johnson** shared her personal struggles and triumphs as an African American woman living with HIV, and HIV's devastating impact on the African American community. She also described her personal motto, "minutes +/- moments=lifetime: It takes minutes to be prepared and moments to make a decision that will affect you, positively or negatively, for a lifetime." Special thanks to **Shunnika Lyons**, **Matthew Kirby**, Psychology Club and Aggies Against AIDS for making this event possible! Anyone interested in getting involved in HIV prevention research may contact **Dr. Corneille** (macornei@ncat.edu; 336-285-2283).

Research Participation

Here are some of the research studies in the department that are currently recruiting study participants. **Students may be able to receive extra credit in a psychology course for participating in one of these studies (ask your instructor).**

- **Dr. Alleyne** is conducting a study on health behaviors in African American female college students. The study involves completing a questionnaire about health behaviors. For more info. contact Dr. Alleyne at raalleyn@ncat.edu or 336-285-2274.
- **Dr. Corneille** is looking for African American female students to participate in focus groups discussing relationships, dating, sex and healthy choices. Meeting times are Mon. at 3:00, Tues. at 1:00, and Thurs. at 4:00. Light refreshments are provided. If you are interested, contact Dr. Corneille at corneille_ncat@yahoo.com or 285-285-2283.
- **Ms. Janiqua Obey** and **Dr. Robinson** are conducting a study that examines the relationship between ADHD and event-related brain potentials. For more info. see the flyer outside NSB 365.
- **Dr. Stephens** is conducting a study that investigates cognitive mechanisms of information integration in speech perception. For more info. write to ncat.speech@gmail.com.

NCA&T Psychology News is a monthly newsletter for the students, faculty, and staff of the Psychology Department at North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University, and is intended for informational purposes only. Any opinions expressed herein do not necessarily reflect the views of the Psychology Department or the University.

We welcome contributions! Please contact Dr. Joseph Stephens (jdstephe@ncat.edu). Submissions may be edited for length or content.