

## STUDENTS

## Convention Will Benefit Students in More Ways than One

JOSEPH A. CAMILLERI – Chair, Section for Students

**O**n behalf of your Section for Students executive, I would like to invite you to join us in Montréal for CPA's 66th Annual Convention from June 9th to 11th. This year's convention promises to provide both undergraduate and graduate psychology students with exceptional sessions and networking opportunities.

Once again, your executive and fellow members have been working hard to organize a series of workshops, presentations, symposia, and conversation sessions about topics that actually matter to students. Here's a taste of what you can look forward to:

- Effective Strategies for the Teaching Assistant
- The 'Joys of Funding': Exploring the Application Process for SSHRC, NSERC, and CIHR
- Dealing with Interpersonal Conflicts within Graduate School

- So You Want to Go to Graduate School? Tips on Applying and Getting Accepted
- Program Evaluation: A Perfect Supplement to a Career in Academia
- Psychology Graduate Students Research Seminar
- A Student Symposium on Innovative Perspectives on Self and Identity Threat
- Annual Student Social

Not only will you gain valuable knowledge by attending these student-related sessions (and have a great time at the social!), you will find numerous sessions related to your own particular interests. A diverse collection of talks and workshops will be provided by the following CPA sections: Adult Development and Aging, Clinical Psychology, Community Psychology, Counselling Psychology, Criminal Justice Psychology, Developmental Psychology, Disaster and Trauma, Environmental Psychology, Family Psychology, Health Psychology, History and Philosophy, Industrial/Organizational, International and Cross-Cultural, Psychoanalysis, Psychologists in Education, Psychology and Religion,

Psychopharmacology, Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity, Social and Personality, and Women and Psychology.

## Joining CPA Section for Students Executive

If you are interested in taking your experience with the CPA to the next level, you might want to consider running for a Section for Students executive position. No experience in student government is required, however, motivation to enhance the educational experience of your peers is favourable. Elections for open positions will take place at the Section for Students Business Meeting in Montréal, which means you need to be in attendance to run for a position. If you have any questions about roles and responsibilities, please feel free to contact myself or other executive members. A description of executive positions, including contact information, can be found on our website – <http://www.cpa.ca/Students.htm>.

We hope that you will take advantage of these opportunities provided by your CPA Section for Students – see you in Montréal!

## The University of Toronto Department of Psychology

JAY VAN BAVEL

**LOCATION** Our psychology graduate program is based at the St. George Campus in the heart of downtown Toronto. Department faculty and students also work out of the picturesque Erindale Campus and award-winning Scarborough Campus, as well as the many hospitals and research institutes partnered with the University of Toronto.

**HISTORY** Established by James Mark Baldwin in 1891, the Department of Psychology is the third oldest in North America. The University of Toronto also claims the third most comprehensive library holdings in North America. Likewise, the City of Toronto claims to host the world's third best zoo and be the third movie-making capital of North America. We are proud to be #3 (more proud than we would be if we were #2 – see Medvec, Madey, & Gilovich, 1995)!

**STUDENTS** Approximately 4000 undergraduate students take courses in the Department of Psychology each year, and 100 students are enrolled in the research special-interest program where they work intensively with faculty members on original research.

The Department is also home to approximately 100 graduate students. The department offers a 1-year Master of Arts degree, followed by a 4-year PhD program. Many students also enrol in the Clinical Extension Program, or

the Collaborative Program in Neuroscience to enhance their education. Graduate students are guaranteed a minimum of \$21,000/year in funding and most students supplement this stipend with major fellowships and teaching.

**RESEARCH** The Department of Psychology is research intensive. With research areas in neuroscience, cognition, development, abnormal, social and personality psychology, students receive a broad education in psychology. The Department also has strong connections with the Faculties of Medicine, Social Work and Law, the Departments of Zoology, Sociology, and Psychiatry, the Institutes of Psychiatry (CAMH), Child Studies, Studies in Education (OISE) and Neuroscience (Rotman), the Hospital for Sick Children, and the Rotman School of Management.

An emphasis is placed on the need for interaction and collaboration between researchers in traditionally separate research domains. This inter-disciplinary, integrative approach is reflected in course offerings, talented new faculty, as well as the ongoing construction of the multi-million dollar Centre for Biological Timing and Recognition.

Each year the Department of Psychology hosts an impressive array of colloquia and guest speakers. The Department colloquia series offers opportunities to engage with and learn from many of the leading researchers in psychology.



**LIFE** Perhaps the most enriching aspect of the University of Toronto is its location in Canada's largest city. Toronto enjoys fantastic theatre, live music, the Toronto Film Festival, four professional sports teams, and great shopping. Toronto was recently named the most diverse city

in the world by the United Nations, which explains the wonderful international cuisine and exciting cultural events. Within walking distance of the St. George Campus students can watch celebrities in Yorkville, attend question period in the Provincial Parliament (strangely, few take advantage of this), day-trade at the Toronto Stock Exchange, go sailing on Lake Ontario, peer into Much Music, tour the Royal Ontario Museum, or "cut a little rug" at one of Toronto's many nightclubs.

**WEBSITE** For more information about the University of Toronto please check out the Psychology Department's website at: [www.psych.utoronto.ca](http://www.psych.utoronto.ca); or better yet, the graduate students' [www.psych.utoronto.ca/~pgsa](http://www.psych.utoronto.ca/~pgsa) or undergraduate students' [www.psych.utoronto.ca/~psa](http://www.psych.utoronto.ca/~psa) websites.

## Profile of Psychology Graduate Students 2003-2004

PATRICK O'NEILL, Ph.D.

**E**ach year the Canadian Council of graduate Departments surveys its members to gather statistics about students who graduated with Master's or Doctoral degrees the previous year.

Psychology departments continue to confer more degrees on women than on men. This year the percentages were 72% women, 28% men. This varies little from the previous year (78% women).

Clinical psychology is still the major domain, contributing 31% of all degrees. Next was social/personality with 12%, then "other" (e.g. community psychology) with 10%, and cognitive with 9%. These percentages are approximately the same as those in the previous year.

The majority of students who received Master's degrees went on to Doctoral programs. Those who did not usually found psychology or psychology-relevant employment (e.g. psychometric positions, research technicians, military occupations, information managers, consultants, and social planning advocates).

Of those graduating with Doctorates, 20% got faculty positions, 36% went to post docs, and the majority, 43%, got non-teaching jobs in a wide variety of settings (e.g. geriatric centres, rehab hospitals, children's services, private practice, human systems companies, and student counseling centres).

## Psychology is Hot

JOHN SERVICE – Executive Director

**T**he April 2005 Canadian edition of Reader's Digest journal includes an article entitled "Who's Hiring – Check out these 15 Hot Jobs." In order to help inform students and young people looking to make important career decisions, the Federal Department of Human Resources and Skills Development Canada has chosen a number of jobs and professions that have a promising future. Psychology is listed by the HRSDC as a career choice with a lot of promise.

It is an exciting time for Psychology. It has a large and robust research and publications infrastructure in North America. This research addresses issues across the broad spectrum of animal and human behaviour.

Human behaviour, people's thoughts, feelings and important social relationships (romantic, parental, work, etc.) are of paramount importance and interest to

everyone. The popular media publishes many articles on aspects of human behaviour.

Most university students take at least one psychology course and psychology degrees are among the most popular. As a result, many individuals working in the field of public policy, politics, human services, business and industry have a first hand appreciation of the discipline.

Increasingly research recognizes the importance of psychological issues in broader and more far reaching applications. Psychological knowledge and services across all domains are recognized as important and effective. Finally, psychology research and practice are increasingly influencing public policy.

It is interesting when outside bodies decide that the discipline of psychology is important or a preferred career choice. It is even more exciting when the Department of Human Resources and Skills Development (HRSD), which is responsible for providing all Canadians with the tools they need to thrive and prosper in the workplace and community, is encouraging young people to consider a career in psychology.