Welcome!
To Our New Postdoctoral Fellows joining us this year

Dr. Abbie Coy...
joined the Face Perception Lab as a postdoctoral fellow. Abbie received her PhD from Sussex University, UK, and is investigating the perception of emotional expressions.

Dr. Danielle Molnar...
joined Dr. Book’s research lab as a postdoctoral fellow. Danielle received her PhD from Brock University and has completed a Postdoctoral fellowship at York University. Danielle’s research focusses on Health and Well-being.

Dr. Valentina Proietti...
joined the Face Perception Lab as a postdoctoral fellow. Valentina received her PhD from Università degli Studi di Milano (Italy) and is investigating the effect of face category on recognition accuracy as well as the development of trait perception.
Introducing Our New Departmental Executive Team 2015-2018

New Chair - Cathy Mondloch

Undergraduate Officer - Carolyn Hafer

Budget Officer - Teena Willoughby

Graduate Officer - Michael Busseri

Thank you to our 2012-2015 Executive Team!

Our department celebrated the service of our outgoing Chair, Tim Murphy, at the end of his term in July

Outgoing Chair, Tim Murphy

Outgoing Assistant Chair, Angela Book

Outgoing Undergraduate Officer, Drew Dane

Outgoing Graduate Program Director, Gordon Hodson
Early December is a unique time in the academic year. Classes are ending, students are preparing for exams, and faculty are busy marking. Unlike April, a new term is just around the corner and preparations for that already are underway. The time between semesters provides an opportunity to reflect on the recent past and anticipate the future. Having served the first 6 months of my term as Department Chair, I’ve certainly gained a new awareness and appreciation for the breadth and depth of talent that makes Brock’s Psychology Department so exceptional. Excellence in teaching and research is especially evident in our faculty receiving three major Brock awards this year: Chancellors Chair for Research Excellence, the Award for Distinguished Teaching, and the Award for Distinguished Research and Creativity. However, our strength does not end here. At all levels—staff, students, postdocs, and faculty—there is much to celebrate in our department.

The international flavor of our department is remarkable, with students, postdocs, and faculty coming to Brock from all corners of the world and traveling to exciting international locations to share their cutting-edge research. Students at all levels, from high school to PhD, are working closely with faculty members on a host of interesting topics. You will learn about the vast number of awards, grants, scholarships, and publications in this newsletter as well as some of our fun social events. I am personally thrilled to welcome a new faculty member, Dr. Elizabeth Shulman (PhD University of California, Irvine). She studies psychosocial development during the transition from childhood to adulthood and teaches statistics at the graduate level. I’m also particularly excited about a new initiative that Dr. Stephen Emrich spearheaded this term: BREW TAPS. Brock Revolutionary and Exploratory Workshop in Topics Associated with Psychological Science provides an opportunity for faculty, graduate students and postdocs to gather over a glass of beer/wine, hear an informal research talk, and discuss new and exciting research findings. This series captures the breadth of expertise that characterizes our department: intergroup relations, social anxiety, ultrasonic vocalizations in rats, well-being, sleep, shyness, brain development, aging, working memory, psychopathy, prejudice, lie-telling, face recognition, impulse control in adolescents and so much more. As you’ll see in our publication list, there really is something for everyone!

I hope this issue of Brock Psychology: News from Both Sides of the Brain piques your interest in Psychology at Brock. There are many initiatives underway designed to further enhance our scholarship. Watch for those on our WEB page and in the next issue of our newsletter.

Upcoming noteworthy publication: The temporal focus of this issue ends in August, 2015. However, I would draw your attention to one paper currently in press in Canadian Psychology/Psychologie canadienne. Co-authored by graduate students, a postdoc, and faculty in the Lifespan Development section of our program, this paper summarizes and compares research activity of faculty in Canadian developmental psychology programs. Across a range of metrics assessing productivity and impact between 2009 and 2013, Brock’s faculty ranked exceptionally high—often in the top 2 or 3 of 23 programs! Watch for the release of this paper as it clearly reflects the success of our faculty and graduate students.

Congratulations to our 2015 student award winners!

**NSERC**
- Kari Lustig (MA)
- Christine Salahub (MA)
- Travis Hodges (PhD)
- Kevin MacDonald (PhD)
- Matthew Green
- Johnathan Simone (PhD, Biological Sciences)

**SSHRC**
- Megan Earl (MA)
- Taylor Heffer (MA)
- Tessa Mazachowsky (MA)
- Ann Farrell (PhD)
- Taysa-Rhea Mise (PhD)
- Thalia Semplonius (PhD)
- Shawn Geniole (PhD)
- Alicia Rubel (PhD)
- Malyina Skorska (PhD)

**OGS**
- Holly Lockhart (MA)
- Claire Matthews (MA)
- Tabitha Methot-Jones (PhD)
- Sean Robb (PhD)
- Mark Hoffarth (PhD)
- Ashley Hosker-Field (PhD)

**Queen Elizabeth II Graduate Scholarship in Science & Technology**
- Caitlyn Gallant (MA)

**Ontario Trillium Scholarship**
- Marina Farrell (PhD)
- Marina de Lima Marcolin (PhD, Biological Sciences)

**Canadian Psychological Association Certificate of Academic Excellence, Master’s Thesis, 2014**
- Thalia Semplonius

**Certificate of Teaching Excellence 2014-2015 from the Council of Canadian Departments of Psychology**
- Kevin Mullvihill

**Harrison-Thompson Bursary Trust 2015**
- Stefon van Noordt

**Jack M. Miller Excellence in Research 2015**
- Stefon van Noordt

**Young Investigator Award - International Society for Research on Aggression**
- Shawn Geniole

**Board of Trustees Spirit of Brock Gold Medal 2015**
- Paul Adachi

**International Association for the Study of Dreams/Dream Science Foundation Research Grant Award**
- Joshua Black

**Poster winner at the Compute Ontario Research Day May 2014**
- Allan Campopiano

**NSERC USRA award**
- Bailee Malivoire (BA) held in Dr. Cheryl McCormick’s lab
- Lindsay Gerrard (BA) held in Dr. Caitlin Mahy’s lab

**Matching of the Minds**
- Jennet Baumbach (BA)
- Jonah Mondloch (BA)

**Summer Research Fellowship from Canadian Consortium for the Investigation of Cannabinoids**
- Jonathan Simone (PhD)

**Dean of Graduate Studies Graduate Studies Spring Research Fellowship**
- Travis Hodges

**High School Science Award from the Canadian Psychological Associate**
- Harmonie Chan (Face Perception Lab)
Wendy Murphy Memorial Award Winners

The two graduate students selected to receive this year’s Wendy Murphy Memorial Award were Malvina Skorska and Mark Hoffarth. Malvina and Mark’s letters of nomination included multiple references to their outstanding academic capabilities. Both have exceptional grades, multiple publications, scholarships, and numerous research collaborations. In addition to these accomplishments both have been very actively involved in the community, department and university in general.

One of Malvina’s nominators described her as follows:

“Malvina has a clearly defined sense of character and a desire to make the world a better place... Malvina was my top choice for this position - she is sensitive, responsible, and completely trustworthy. Malvina's strong character and leadership abilities are very evident. She has, for a long time, devoted herself to the Girl Guides (in both Hamilton and now St. Catharines), working with Brownies aged 7-8. I know first-hand that she takes this task very seriously and is held in high regard by the organization and parents involved. She was also a Youth Leader at Camp fyrefly (for LGBT teenagers). In this capacity her role was to build leadership skills in the attending youth, bolstering their competency and resiliency in the face of wide-spread homophobia. In short, she was instrumental in providing the leadership necessary to build confidence and sense of efficacy among troubled youth.... Malvina has also stepped forward as a very clear voice for student advocacy and rights when she could easily have stepped aside... The world would be a much better place if more people had Malvina's compassion, courage morality, and concern for justice and rights. And I’m not alone in this opinion - her peers very much recognize her as a trustworthy and dedicated advocate on their behalf.”

Mark was described by one nominator as follows:

“I find Mark very unique and a joy to have in the lab. ... Mark is very popular with his peers despite being introverted. He has a great sense of humour and an endless capacity and willingness to help his peers. I know he’s very much trusted by his peers, considering him a “safe” go-to person if they are stressed or feeling bullied. Outside of the university, Mark is politically active as a member of rights groups and writing politicians to pressure them to pay attention to minority rights. I am particularly impressed with how he has volunteered his time with regard to the climate issues in our department. He did all of this despite being very busy in the lab. He is selfless without a doubt. On a more personal note, I very much like and admire Mark. He’s a ‘good soul’. I don’t think Mark would know how to hurt someone even if the thought crossed his mind. He strives for fairness and justice in the world, and carries himself with a great deal of dignity and maturity. I completely trust Mark, and I very much value his energy, passion, sense of humour, and generosity.”

The Wendy Murphy Memorial Award was named for one of Brock’s first graduate students who became ill and passed away in 1997; less than two years after graduating as part of the Psychology Department’s first class of Masters students. Wendy was a rare combination of excellent scholar and exceptional person and has been described as the heart of the first class of graduate students. This award is intended to go to graduate students who demonstrate the same characteristics that made Wendy such a special person. The award is made annually and is based on consistent academic excellence and collegiality. In other words, the award goes to someone with a good head and a good heart. More details on the award can be found here.

The award is funded by an annual golf tournament. The 20th annual Wendy Murphy Memorial Golf Tournament will be held Saturday September 10th 2016. Watch our spring newsletter for further details or email wmmgt@hotmail.com.
Faculty Grants/Awards:

Stefan Brudzynski
✦ Dr. Brudzynski was recognized at Brock University for the IBNS Outstanding Achievement Award he received in 2014, during the Brock Research Celebration Day, Guernsey Market, February 10, 2015.

Kimberly Cote
✦ Cote, K. Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR), Institute for Circulatory and Respiratory Health (ICRH), Planning and Dissemination Grants - Institute Community Support: “Engaging Patients in Sleep Disorders Research”, Primary Applicant, $23,293
✦ Cote, K. Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR), ICRH Community Development Program Grant. “Mobilizing the healthcare community towards an integrated approach to improving patient outcomes with sleep disorders - Canadian Sleep and Circadian Network (CSCN)” Co-applicant (of 40) and member of the Knowledge Mobilization subcommittee, $4,000,000. http://www.cs-cn.ca/

Gordon Hodson
✦ Hodson, G. Perceptions of Risk and Threat as a Function of Ideology CRISS (Council for Research in the Social Sciences), Brock University
✦ Hodson, G. Ideological beliefs and differential distress: Threat target as a moderator. SSHRC Insight Grant (co-investigator)
✦ Hodson, G. Situational, psychological, and hormonal processes underlying sexual aggression SSHRC Development Grant (co-investigator)

Caitlin Mahy
✦ Mahy, C. The development of prospective memory in early childhood: Contributions of retrospective memory and executive control processes, NSERC Discovery Grant 2015-2020
✦ Mahy, C. Exploring young children’s spontaneous future thinking. CRISS (Council for Research in the Social Sciences), Brock University, 2014.

Cathy Mondloch
✦ Mondloch, C. Understanding emotions: A developmental perspective. SSHRC Insight Grant 2015-2020 ($315,000).
✦ BROCK AWARD FOR DISTINGUISHED RESEARCH & CREATIVITY 2015

Elizabeth Shulman
✦ Shulman, E. P. Evaluating Risk: Do the Mind and the Gut Disagree? CRISS (Council for Research in the Social Sciences), Brock University, $2,000.

Sid Segalowitz
✦ Scottish Rite Charitable Foundation of Canada, 2014-2017 $104,811

Teena Willoughby
✦ Willoughby, T. Ontario Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities, Youth Employment Fund, 2014-2015
Faculty Grants/Awards:

Gordon Hodson
✦ BROCK CHANCELLORS CHAIRS FOR RESEARCH EXCELLENCE AWARD 2015-2018
✦ Gordon Hodson was awarded the prestigious Chancellors Chairs for Research Excellence Award. This award is given to individuals who have demonstrated exceptional promise of outstanding contributions to scholarship or have established an exceptional track record of scholarly excellence. Gordon’s research examining generalized dehumanization will be funded by this award.

Tanya Martini
✦ BROCK AWARD FOR DISTINGUISHED TEACHING 2015
✦ Tanya Martini was awarded the Brock Award for Distinguished Teaching. The award is for a remarkable contribution to student learning in the classroom, student consultation and thesis direction, involvement of students in faculty research, development of courses and curriculum, development of innovative teaching and enrichment of the learning environment. This award recognizes Tanya’s dedication to student success in our program and exceptional student engagement. Congratulations Tanya!

Cathy Mondloch
✦ BROCK AWARD FOR DISTINGUISHED RESEARCH & CREATIVITY 2015
✦ Cathy Mondloch was awarded the Brock Award for Distinguished Research & Creativity. This annual award is awarded to a faculty member that makes a significant contribution to research, shows consistency in scholarly or creative performance, has significant publications, and contributes consistently to the training of graduate and undergraduates. Cathy was recognized for her outstanding research program in the field of face perception. Congratulations Cathy!

Where Are They Now?

✦ Dr. Paul Adachi (PhD 2015), received the SSHRC Banting Postdoc to work with Dr. Rich Ryan and Dr. Ed Deci at the University of Rochester.

✦ James Desjardins (MA, 2011) is now working full-time for SHARCNet (Compute Canada) stationed at the Brock Lifespan Centre as a High Performance Computing Consultant. He is designing and implementing prototype extensions required to integrate EEGLab with HPC resources.

✦ Dr. Chloe Hamza (PhD 2015) is currently a CIHR funded postdoctoral Fellow in the Applied Psychology Program in the Faculty of Education at the University of Western Ontario.
Where Are They Now?

Dr. Chrissy Lackner (PhD 2015) was hired into a tenure stream job in the Psychology Department at Mount St. Vincent University in Halifax.

Dr. Sarah Laurence completed her Postdoc in the Face Perception Lab at Brock University and accepted a faculty position at Keele University, UK.

Dr. Cara MacInnis (former PhD student) is now an Assistant Professor at University of Calgary.

Dr. Nicole Nelson completed a 2.5-year postdoc in the Face Perception Lab, funded by NSF and SSHRC. She has started a faculty position at The University of Queensland, Brisbane.

Dr. Lindsey Short (PhD 2014) is now an Assistant Professor at Redeemer University College (Ancaster).

Dr. Iva Zovkic (former PhD student) who held a NSERC PDF at University of Alabama, has finished an awesome first year as an Assistant Professor at University of Toronto, Mississauga - not only did she publish a paper in Nature, she was awarded her first NSERC Discovery Grant and was also awarded a Discovery Accelerator Supplement.

Jasmine Mian (Honours B. A., Psychology at Brock University, 2012) will be representing Canada in Rio in the Olympic Freestyle Wrestling. Jasmine completed her Honours Thesis in Dr. Cathy Mondloch’s Face Perception Lab and recently published a paper on her work with Cathy examining congruency effects of emotional faces and body postures.

Dr Justin Carre (McCormick lab alum) came to Brock in March and gave a colloquium to the department. It was great to catch-up on all his post-PhD successes. After a post-doc at Duke University and an NSERC PDF Award, Justin left an assistant professorship at Wayne State to return to the great white north as an Assistant Professor at Nipissing U, where he is now happily spending his first NSERC Discovery Grant and his recently awarded SSHRC grant.

Mark Morrissey (Former Honours thesis student in the McCormick lab) is completing his PhD at University of Toronto and is off to conduct research as a PDF in the USA.

Catherine Thomas (MSc, Brock University) was recently inducted into the Alberta Society of Professional Biologists and continues to work as a Project Manager at RCGI.
New Course Development:

Kimberly Cote Developed a **blended format course for PSYC 3P72, Drugs and Behaviour**, in consultation with Brock University’s Center for Pedagogical Innovation (CPI) through the E-learning initiative. Course launches Jan 2016.

John Mitterer and Drew Dane were **successful in their application to the CPI E-learning initiative**, and are currently developing on-line courses in Introduction to Abnormal Psychology and Introduction to Human Development and Psychology.

Our Research in the News

- **PhD candidate, Tina Brook**’s work on social anxiety was featured in The Brock Press, August, 2015.

- **Michael Busseri** and his former Honours Thesis student **Emily Peck** recently published a paper examining depression and subjective life satisfaction that was featured in a number of media outlets across Canada, the US, Germany and China including APS, Brock News, Science Daily, Bulletin News Niagara, Insights from a Bipolar Bear, The Herald News, Gold Point Clinical Research, Women and Health, Mad in America, RWJ University Hospital news, Deutschmedizin.com, yeeyan.org, just to name a few!

  - **Busseri, M. A., & Peck. E. (2014).** Do (even) clinically depressed individuals believe that life gets better and better over time? The link between depression and subjective trajectories for life satisfaction. *Clinical Psychological Science, 17*, 1-12.

- **Tony Bogaert**’s research on sexual orientation was featured in the *Boston Globe*. Additionally, Tony’s work on asexuality was featured in both the *NY Times* and *NY Magazine*. Tony also wrote a piece on asexuality for *The Independent*.

- **Kimberly Cote** shared her expertise on sleep in an article about the benefits of napping for the ‘Ask the Brains’ section of *Scientific American Mind*.

- **Stephen Emrich** was on Newstalk 610 CKTB talking about the science behind “the dress.” You can listen to the interview [here](#).
Our Research in the News

✦ Malvina Skorska, a PhD student in our department, was interviewed for Slate magazine about research on sexual orientation along with some of the most prominent researchers in the area.

✦ PhD student, Thalia Semplonius, gave radio interviews to Brock Radio and 610CKTB Radio on Stress and Adjustment this past August. Additionally, the Brock News highlighted Thalia’s work comparing Well-being in Younger and Older populations in July. Thalia’s work on adults’ ability to recognize own-race faces compared to other race faces in groups was also featured in Brock News in January 2015.

✦ Tony Volk gave a number of interviews this year on bullying including an interview for the National Post on his work with Drew Dane and Zopito Marini examining ‘Bullying as an Adaptation’ which was picked up internationally in dozens of print publications with a combined estimated readership of 40+ million including Canadian outlets such as CTV and Canada.com. His work examining Bullying, Exercise, and the Start of the School Year was also featured both in print and on the radio on the CBC. Additionally, Inverse covered his work on Bullying and Sexual behaviour demonstrating that those who bully are more sexually active.

Taking our Research Around the World

✦ Veena Dwivedi was one of 15 researchers from around the world (and the only Canadian), invited to participate in the ABLE (Action, Brain, Language and Evolution) Workshop, held Oct. 13-14 at the Sofitel hotel in Chicago. She presented her model of language comprehension as a system that operates using Heuristic first, algorithmic second mechanisms. Furthermore, she commented on the validity of different grammatical frameworks, as well as frameworks involving embodied cognition, as ways of capturing neural bases of linguistic phenomena.

✦ In May 2015, Stefan Brudsynski went to Lodz University in Poland as a Visiting Professor. He has delivered a series of lectures on Neuropsychopharmacology and several seminars on history of Neuroscience, as well as, presented two seminars on the topic of studies entitled “Vocal expression of emotional states”. The pictures show S.M.B. during his lecture.
Taking our Research Around the World

✦ In September Chery McCormick presented her research in Verona Italy on Social instability stress in adolescence alters social behaviour and its developmental trajectory into adulthood in rats as an Invited symposium speaker at the Joint conference of the European Brain and Behaviour Society and the European Behavioural Pharmacology Society.

✦ Cathy Mondloch was invited to participate in the Australian Research Council's Centre of Excellence in Cognition and its Disorders Workshop hosted by Dr. Gillian Rhodes at the University of Western Australia (Perth): Representing faces: Lessons from around the world and across the lifespan. She gave a talk at Queensland University (Brisbane) and spent time working with Dr. Nicole Nelson (former postdoc) and she participated in the Australasian Experimental Psychology Conference (Sydney)...all followed by 3 weeks of trekking in New Zealand.

✦ Malvina Skorska, a PhD student in our department, gave a talk about her research on facial structure and sexual orientation in Dubrovnik, Croatia in June 2014 at the International Academy of Sex Research Annual Meeting.

Invited Presentations by our Grad students:

✦ Ann Farrell, who is a PhD student in our department, gave a talk to the community at a recent “Research Café” on Bullying- From Classroom to the Workplace

✦ In June, Shawn Geniole, who is a PhD student in our department, gave a colloquium at Nipissing U entitled: Is the facial width-to-height ratio an evolved cue of threat?

✦ Joshua Black, who is a PhD student in our department, gave a series of talks around the province about Dreams this year including invited talks to the Psycho-Social-Spiritual Group in Hamilton, the McNally Hospice in Grimsby, and the Toronto Dreamers International Association for the Study of Dreams in Toronto on
Ontario Undergraduate Psychology Thesis Conference

The 45th Annual Ontario Undergraduate Psychology Thesis conference was held at the University of Western Ontario on May 8th, 2015. Twenty-two of our thesis students attended the conference and presented their projects this year. Twenty of our students gave talks at the conference (out of a total of 75 talks) and they ROCKED them! A big congratulations to all of our 2015 Honours Thesis students!

Summer Fun at the Market!

This summer faculty, staff and students from the Psychology department gathered at the Market on Thursdays for lunch and fun socialization time! It was an opportunity to relax and connect with other members of our department. We look forward to future social events throughout this coming year!
Kimberly Cote, President of the Canadian Sleep Society, Organized the 7th Conference of the Canadian Sleep Society held Sept 25-27th in Toronto.

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Publications from June 2014-September 2015


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✦ MacInnis, C. C., & Hodson, G. (2015a). Do American states with more religious or conservative populations search more for sexual content on Google? *Archives of Sexual Behavior, 44*, 137-147. doi:10.1007/s10508-014-0361-8


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✦ Mahy, C. E. V. (in press). Young children have difficulty in predicting future preferences in the presence of a conflicting physiological state. Infant and Child Development.


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Do you have something that you would like showcased in our next newsletter? Please let Angela Evans know aevans@brocku.ca

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