



### A message from the Chair

Welcome to the Spring, 2019 of the UNLV Department of Psychology newsletter! Please find us on Twitter and Facebook at unlvpsychology. Keep in touch with us!

### People

We are thrilled to welcome two new tenure-track faculty members to our Department! **Dr. Renato (Rainier) Liboro** received his Ph.D. in Community Psychology from Wilfrid Laurier University in 2015 and has most recently been a postdoctoral fellow at the Institute for Mental Health Policy Research, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health, in Toronto, Ontario, Canada. His research work focuses on the community health of marginalized and vulnerable populations, social determinants that impact health equity and health disparities, health care and social services access, and the health and wellbeing of people living with HIV. Welcome Rainier!



Dr. Renato Liboro

addictive behaviors among vulnerable groups. Dr. Kraus' research work includes compulsive sexual behavior and problem gambling. Welcome, Shane!

We also placed 8 clinical doctoral students in APA-accredited internships and several of our clinical and experimental psychology doctoral students will be graduating this spring and summer. In addition, we are pleased to welcome 8 new clinical doctoral students and 11 new experimental doctoral students to our incoming classes in the fall! Of course, we remain busy as well with our nearly 1600 undergraduate majors and over 400 psychology and neuroscience minors!

### Research

Our faculty members conduct cutting-edge research in clinical, cognitive, and developmental psychology as well as neuroscience and quantitative methods. Our research is enhanced by great diversity in our undergraduate student population and in our community in Las Vegas. Several of our faculty were recognized this spring via several awards for their accomplishments, including **Dr. Daniel Allen** (Distinguished Professor), **Dr. Jennifer Rennels** (Outstanding Graduate Faculty Leadership Award), **Dr. Noelle Lefforge** (Office of Community Engagement Service-Learning Award and Honors College Alumna from the UNLV Alumni Association), **Dr. David Copeland** (Donald Schmiedel Lifetime Service Award), and **Dr. Rachael Robnett** (College of Liberal Arts' Diversity Award). Congratulations to each!



Dr. Shane Kraus

**Dr. Shane Kraus** received his Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology from Bowling Green State University in 2013 and has most recently been a postdoctoral fellow at the New England Mental Illness Research, Education and Clinical Center at the Bedford Veterans Medical Center. His research work focuses on the application of behavioral, epidemiological, and neurobiological methods

to assess factors that contribute to the development of

Congratulations are in order as well for **Dr. Michelle Paul** and her team at The PRACTICE, who were informed that they received the 2019 Clinic Innovations Award in the area of Training from the Association of Psychology Training Clinics for their innovative work. This prestigious national award is given to one psychology training clinic each year. Great job, Michelle!

## Research continued

We continue to have a very productive faculty, with scores of publications from 2018 that can be viewed on various Department faculty websites. Examples include:

- Dr. Allen's work on latent structure of negative symptoms in schizophrenia in *JAMA Psychiatry*
- Dr. Benning's work on psychopathy in the medical emergency department in *Journal of Personality Disorders*
- Dr. Culbert's work on how perinatal testosterone contributes to mid-to-post pubertal sex differences in risk for binge eating in *Journal of Abnormal Psychology*
- Dr. Donohue's work on family assisted contingency management within the context of evidence-supported treatment for child neglect and drug abuse in *Journal of Child and Family Studies*
- Dr. Hannon's work on the developmental origins of the perception and production of musical rhythm in *Child Development Perspectives*
- Dr. Rochelle Hines' work on developmental seizures and mortality from reducing GABA A receptor  $\alpha 2$ -subunit interaction with collybistin in *Nature Communications*
- Dr. Hurlburt's work on investigating multiple streams of consciousness in *Frontiers in Human Neuroscience*
- Dr. Millar's work on the influence of mate value on women's desire for long and short-term mates in *Personality and Individual Differences*
- Dr. Robnett's work on whether a woman's marital surname choice influences perceptions of her husband in *Sex Roles*
- Dr. Wong-Padoongpatt's work on implicit self-esteem and the racial impact of microaggressions among Asian Americans in *Journal of Counseling Psychology*

## And finally...

We want to know how you are doing as well! Please visit our Department website and find the "Calling All Alumni" section on the right side. You can let us know where you are and what you are doing. After all, once a UNLV Department of Psychology member, always a UNLV Department of Psychology member!



## Undergraduate program

We continue to be very active in developing initiatives to boost our student retention, progression, and completion rates. In addition, we have created several new awards for our undergraduate students, including (1) Outstanding Psychology Junior, (2) Outstanding Psychology Senior, (3) Psychology Service Contribution, and (4) Psychology Non-Traditional Path. Our Outreach Undergraduate Mentorship Program (OUMP) and Silver State Service Dogs were at the UNLV Festival of Communities, pictured here.

