



Social & Behavioral Sciences Today

May 2006

SBS Internship Sites for 2005-2006

The internship is an integral component of our students' education. The internship allows students to connect theory with practice while developing valuable vocational skills. This experience is one of many that set our students apart from graduates from other institutions. Eighteen students completed internships during this academic school year. A complete list of Psychology, Sociology, and Criminal Justice interns and sites for the 2005-2006 school year follow.

- **Andrea Christensen**, (Sociology Major), summer 2005, Children's Home Society & Family Services.
- **Robin Nelson**, (Psychology Major), summer 2005, The Bridge for Runaway Youth.
- **Melissa Leach**, (Psychology Major, Sociology Major), summer 2005, The Bridge for Runaway Youth.
- **Keith Johnson**, (Criminal Justice Major), fall 2005, RS Eden.
- **Maria Radmacher**, (Psychology Major), fall 2005, Children's Home Society & Family Services.
- **Mai Neng Vang**, (Sociology Major), Spring fall 2005, Center for Hmong Studies, Concordia University.
- **Amanda Neal**, (Psychology Major), fall 2005, Golden Valley Lutheran Church.

- **Karen Jelinek**, (Criminal Justice Major), fall 2005, St. Paul Police Department.
- **Clarissa Schminkey**, (Psychology Major, Special Education Minor), fall 2005 & spring 2006, Bethesda Lutheran Homes and Services, Camp Matz.
- **Sheila Hogan**, (Criminal Justice Major), spring 2006, Bureau of Criminal Apprehension.
- **Angela Rockney**, (Criminal Justice Major), spring 2006, Ramsey County Community Corrections.
- **Juelyie Lee**, (Sociology Major, Criminal Justice Minor), spring 2006, Private Law Office of Thomas Harmon/Hennepin County Public Defender.
- **Christopher Keller**, (Psychology Major), spring 2006, The Bridge for Runaway Youth.
- **Rachel Vitense**, (Sociology Major, Criminal Justice Minor), spring 2006, Alterra Clare Bridge of Eagan.
- **Andrew Winegarden**, (Criminal Justice Major), spring 2006, Roseville Fire Department.
- **Tim Quinn**, (Psychology Major, Criminal Justice Minor), spring 2006, Wilder Foundation – Spencer House.
- **Christopher Keller**, (Psychology Major), spring 2006, Crisis Connection.
- **Lindsey Nelson**, (Psychology Major), spring 2006, Volunteers of America – Bar None.
- **Michael Lein**, (Psychology Major), spring 2006, Scott County Human Services.
- **Nick Koewler**, (Psychology Major), spring 2006, Land O' Lakes, Inc.

Graduate and Professional Schools Accept Social and Behavioral Science Graduates

As in past years, a number of current and past social and behavioral science students have been accepted into graduate and/or professional school. Congratulations! We are proud of your accomplishments!

- **Aron Stumvoll** (Psychology Major, 2005) Northwestern College of Chiropractic.
- **Corry Parlet** (Psychology Major, 2004) University of Iowa, MS in pathology. Corry received a research assistantship which will support him and his family during this

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intensive program.

- **Jessica Gertz** (Psychology Major, 2005) applied and was accepted to the following graduate schools: Wayne State University, University of New Haven, St. Cloud State University and Minnesota State University at Mankato. Jessica will attend the MA program in Industrial/Organizational Psychology at Minnesota State University, Mankato beginning fall 2006.
- **Rebecca Hansen** (Psychology Major, Lutheran Confessional Minor, 2003) recently completed her MA in Social Psychology and Counseling and has been accepted into the Ph.D. program in Social Psychology and Counseling at Ball State University for fall 2006.
- **Angela Felland**. (Psychology Major, 2005). Argosy University, Minneapolis, Clinical Psychology, MA.

Faculty Senate Approves Hmong Studies Minor

The Social and Behavioral Science Department proudly announces the approval of a Hmong Studies Minor. "This is truly a historic event because it is the first Hmong Studies Minor in the world!" says Professor Lee Pao Xiong, Chair of the Center of Hmong Studies.

With ten million Hmong worldwide, 100,000 Hmong in the Midwest, and over 75 Hmong students at Concordia University, a minor will provide an opportunity for Hmong students to gain a better understanding of their history, culture, and language. This minor enhances the educational experience of non-Hmong students by providing them with an educational experience that builds awareness of a culture other than their own.

The first Hmong studies courses to be taught will be offered fall 2006. Dr. Gary Yia Lee, visiting Professor from Australia will develop and teach them (HMG 101 Introduction to Hmong Studies and HMG 201 Hmong Culture and Society).

Social & Behavioral Sciences Today Psychology Students Present at MUPC & the 4th Annual Concordia University Research Symposium

Congratulations to Lindsey Nelson, Nicholas Koewler, Jessica Woller, Quinn Townsend, Heidi Schlewitz, Rachel Flaherty and Christopher Hulme-Lowe. These seven Concordia University Psychology students presented papers at the Minnesota Undergraduate Psychology Conference at University of St. Thomas on April 22. In addition, psychology students Hannah Schmitz, Kaitlin Schupp and Sociology student Mai Neng Vang presented posters on their research at the 4th Annual Concordia University Research Symposium on April 26. Abstracts follow:



Web Images Determine Internet Consumer Behavior

By Lindsey Nelson and Nicholas Koewler, Faculty Advisor: Dr. Steve Morgan

Consumers are increasingly turning to the internet for all manner of purchases. Today, people use the internet to shop for clothes, to make airline reservations, and to plan vacations. Website factors such as download speed, level of user interaction, and the nature of the graphical layout influence the consumer. This study looks at different hotel web displays (360 degree rotating view, multiple picture gallery, and single, static thumbnail picture) and their effect on participants' hotel choice when planning a vacation. Additionally, the study measured the degree to which participants view the web display as important in their decision. It was hypothesized that the 360 degree rotating view would be selected more frequently. The results reveal, however, that the multiple picture gallery option was chosen more often by a ratio of about 2.5:1. In addition, web display importance was rated the same regardless of the web display type chosen.

Spatial Proximity Impacts Perceived Sexual Orientation

By Jessica Woller, Quinn Townsend, and Heidi Schlewitz, Faculty Advisor: Dr. Steve Morgan



The present study examined whether judgments of sexual orientation are influenced by the spatial proximity of the evaluator to others. The study sought to determine if the spatial relationship between people would influence their perceptions of other individuals' sexual orientation. This research presented participants with a slide show of photographs depicting dyads of people sitting at varying proximities from each other, while manipulating viewers' spatial distances from one another. Members of the experimental groups were required to sit in close proximity to individuals of the same gender. The participants judged the perceived sexual orientation of the individuals in the photographs on a Likert scale. The results supports the hypotheses that those who are in close proximity to an individual of the same gender are less likely to view someone else as being homosexual.

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Does an increased self-awareness lead to increased honesty?

By Rachel Flaherty and Christopher Hulme-Lowe, Faculty Advisor: Dr. Steve Morgan



The present study examined the relationship between self-awareness and honesty in college students. Previous research has shown a weak relationship between self-reports of honesty and subsequent lying behavior. The present study investigated whether self-awareness impacted one's honesty. Does an individual's honesty increase as one's self-awareness increases? Participants, ages 18-22, were asked to complete a self-report questionnaire which induced and measured self awareness. Following that, they were asked to complete a tedious task (circling all letter "e's" in The Wall Street Journal for 15 minutes), and then they were instructed to lie to future participants about their enjoyment of the study. Results are discussed within the self-awareness literature.

Researching Hmong Culture through Primary and Secondary Resources

By Mai Neng Vang, Faculty Advisor: Dr. Kay Madson

My research was conducted at the Center for Hmong Studies which also hosts the Hmong Archives in order to collect and catalog all material pertaining to the Hmong and their culture. My goal was to study Hmong culture through primary and secondary source materials. The following research methods were employed:

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- Studying Hmong artifacts while learning how to catalog and assign accession numbers to artifacts.
- Researching the CLIC-Net system to locate books in the Hmong Archives collection.
- Reading Hmong fiction and non-fiction including Dr. Gary Lee's book *Dust to Life*. Dr. Lee is scheduled to be Concordia's visiting scholar next year.



Instant Addiction, You Think It Can't Happen to You?

By Hannah Schmitz and Kaitlin Schupp, Faculty Advisor: Dr. Kristin Bransford



Adolescents are experiencing tremendous change in the brain and are apt to take risks and seek out new experiences.

Informing them of harmful drugs such as methamphetamine is a step toward preventing them from taking these risks. Reasons for use of this drug in adolescents may include social anxiety and pressures in this time of transition

in their lives. This is a period of many psychological, cognitive, and physical changes that can lead to the experimentation of mood altering drugs.

Researchers have reported that as many as 50% of the dopamine-producing cells in the brain can be damaged after prolonged exposure to relatively low levels of methamphetamine. It has also been found that serotonin-containing nerve cells may be damaged even more extensively.

Leach, Townsend and Immonen Receive Bredehoft Family Scholarship

Congratulations to **Melissa Leach** (Psychology Major, Sociology Major, 2006), **Quinn Townsend** (Psychology Major, Family Studies Minor, 2007) and **Rebecca Immonen** (Psychology Major, 2007), who received the **2005-2006 Bredehoft Family Endowment Scholarship** of \$1,000. These students were selected from a field of more than 110 students to receive this scholarship. Congratulations to each of these excellent scholars on their accomplishments this far in their career, and those to come in the future!



2005-2006

Social and Behavioral Science Students of the Year



Four Social and Behavioral Science students were selected by the SBS faculty to receive student of the year awards. **Nicole Riemenschneider** was named Criminal Justice Student of the Year, **Mai Neng Vang** was named Sociology Student of the Year, and **Melissa Leach and Lindsey Nelson** were named Psychology Students of the Year. These students were selected because of their

outstanding scholarship and achievements in their respective disciplines.

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Lee Pao Xiong to lead an Educational Study Tour to China January 2007

Professor Lee Pao Xiong will lead the next Social and Behavioral Science Department educational tour to China in January 2007: Soc 255 the People and Culture of China. China, known for its ancient culture, increasing modernization and breathtaking beauty, provides a rich setting for interdisciplinary learning. This course is designed to introduce students to the people and culture of China. Students will learn about the Chinese language, literature, history, religion, economics, politics, education, arts and other aspects of Chinese culture. Students will visit the Great Wall of China, the Temple of Heaven, the Summer Palace, Tiananmen Square, the Forbidden City, and the Lama Temple. Excursions will be made to local markets, a Chinese cooking class, a river cruise, a site visit to a Chinese school, the Terracotta Warriors, and a Hmong village.

The Social and Behavioral Science Team

First Team

- **Dr. D. Bredehoft:** Introduction to Psychology, Introduction to Counseling, Seminar on Psychological Topics, Preparing to Enter Graduate School, Preparing to Enter the Psychology Workforce, Psychology and Family on Video, Marriage and Family, the History and Culture of Thailand, internships, independent research, advising, editor of Social & Behavioral Sciences Today, and department chair.
- **Dr. K. Bransford:** Introduction to Psychology, Child Psychology and Development, Adolescent Psychology, Child and Adolescent Developmental Psychology for K-12 Educators, Introduction to Personality, Social Psychology, internships and advising.
- **Dr. K. Madson:** Introduction to Sociology, Introduction to Criminal Justice, Sociology of Law, Social Welfare, Minority Groups, internships, independent study, and advising.
- **Dr. S. Morgan:** Introduction to Psychology, Child Psychology and Development, Research Methods, Seminar on Research Methods, Cognition Learning and Memory, Sensation and Perception, Physiological Psychology, Organizational Psychology, independent study, internships, and advising.
- **Prof. L. P. Xiong:** The People and Culture of China, Reading and Writing for Hmong, Reading and Writing for Hmong Intermediate.

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Supporting Team

- **Dr. S. Arnold:** Adult Education and Development.
- **Dr. C. Chatman:** Minority Groups.
- **Dr. A. Fish:** Social Theory.
- **Prof. T. Flynn:** Introduction to Criminal Justice.
- **Prof. George:** Introduction to Statistics.
- **Prof. Grau:** Introduction to Statistics.
- **Dr. S. Harr:** Police and Community, Codes and Statues, Post Board Representative.
- **Dr. M. Luebke:** Abnormal Psychology.
- **Prof. L. Maly:** Educational Psychology.
- **Dr. S. Mennicke:** Introduction to Psychology.
- **Prof. J. Mosqueda:** Methods and Materials of Family Life Education.
- **Prof. A. Nippert:** Sports Psychology.
- **Dr. M. Pickel:** Child Psychology and Development.
- **Dr. M. Reineck:** Family Communication.
- **Prof. J. Seidel:** Adolescent Psychology and Juvenile Justice.
- **Dr. C. Stellwagen:** Introduction to Statistics.
- **Dr. M. Walcheski:** Family Systems, Introduction to Psychology.

2005-2006 SBS Department Photo Album



Psychology faculty Dr. Morgan and Dr. Bransford with Psychology students of the year Lindsey Nelson and Melissa Leach



Heidi Schlewitz, Quinn Townsend, and Jessica Woller present their research at the Research Symposium



Mai Neng Vang, Sociology Student of the Year with Dr. Kay Madson



Dr. Bredehoft presenting medal to Bredehoft Scholar Melissa Leach



MUPC Student Presenters (Back: H. Schlewitz & C. Hulme-Lowe; Front: J. Woller, L. Nelson, Q. Townsend, & R. Flaherty)



Dr. Kay Madson presenting a medal to Nicole Riemenschneider, Criminal Justice student of the year



Rachel Flaherty with parents at the honors convocation reception



Christopher Hulme-Lowe and Dr. Bransford visiting at the honors reception