



PRÉCIS

By Dr. R.J. De Ayala

2012 August

Department of Educational Psychology



Welcome Back!

Despite media reports (as well as Hollywood's promotion of the movie *2012*) the Mayans do not predict the end of the world this December. That's a good thing because this year looks to be an interesting year. The state continues to remain in a relatively good financial position although there are still some concerns.

Because the cash flow and budget issues remain in the background the Dean has approved a small set of searches for the upcoming year. What this means for the Department is that we will be allowed to continue with our QQPM search, but not search for a counseling psychologist. However, our proposal to the Senior Vice Chancellor's Signature Program Initiative for funding a Health Behavioral Prevention and Intervention program was approved. This umbrella program brings together the work of Ian (CLD), Sue Sw. (School Psyc), as well as that of Meghan and Mike (Co Psyc). Because the SVCAA is particularly interested in expanding work in bullying we can use her investment to search for an advanced assistant or beginning associate professor whose work is connected to bullying. Additionally, there is a second position whose area of expertise can contribute to bullying and which may or may not be housed within the Department. These SVCAA investments mean that both positions are focused on increasing external funding and achieving the Chancellor's goal \$300M in external funding expenditures.

Although we have lost Vicki, the Office of Qualitative and Mixed Methods Research will continue this year with John as its senior advisor and Amanda Garrett as the office's coordinator. Also, John has been thinking about the evolution of the Office into a larger entity – the Mixed Method Institute that would involve UNMC.

I would be remiss if I did not point out that we are also very fortunate to have Tony Albano joining our faculty.

The following is a *non-exhaustive* collection of some of the things that occurred this past year.

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Transitions

This past year was a time of change with new faces coming on board, some moving on, some changing roles, and others being born.



- Dr. Scott Napolitano has been hired as an assistant professor of practice in the School Psychology program.



- Neeta and Pat's daughter Samyra Kantemneni Neugent was born on April 23rd.



- Dr. Patrick Irwin was hired as the Associate Director of Psychometric Consulting (formerly known as BIACO) in the Buros Center for Testing.



- Matt Grady, research assistant professor, took a position at the Education Development Center, a global nonprofit that designs, delivers, and evaluates programs in education, health, and economic opportunity.



- Dr. Tony Albano has joined the Department's faculty.



- Vicki Plano Clark took a position as an assistant professor at the University of Cincinnati.

Cosas



- Sue led one of the discussion streams at the *Born This Way Foundation* launch at Harvard University and participated in the Federal Partners in Bullying Prevention Summit in Washington, DC.



- Jim and co-authors Kurt and Chad Buckendahl's *High-stakes testing in education: Science and Practice in K-12 settings* was published.



- Merilee and the School Psychology program received the maximum accreditation term for their program from NASP



- Sue went to Haiti as part of her sabbatical.



- Ed became the Senior Science and Editorial Consultant for the *Journal of School Psychology*

- The **Nebraska Prevention Center on Alcohol and Drug Abuse** hosted a visiting scholar from Vietnam and a Ford Foundation Fellow, Dr. H. Vinh Nie.

- Kurt was appointed to a national commission, the CAEP Commission on Standards and Performance Reporting.

- The Department hosted the 77th Annual Meeting of the Psychometric Society.



- The fifth edition of Roger's *Cognitive Psychology and Instruction* was published.



- The third edition of Dave's *Adolescent Rationality and Development: Cognition, Morality, and Identity* was published.

- **Committee Memberships**

- Graduate Committee*

- Jim
 - Meghan
 - Kathy
 - Ed

- CEHS Undergraduate Committee*

- Eric

- CEHS Awards Committee*

- Meghan

- CEHS Technology Committee*

- Doug

- CEHS P&T*

- Mike (Ed is substituting for Mike this year)

- CEHS FAC*

- Sue Swearer

- Our *Spires of Excellence* (a.k.a., obelisks or campaniles of excellence). These spires are the ones in which we have or would like to have a national reputation:

- CLD:

- Innovation in Education (this includes the facets of international focus, involvement in collaborative projects and research, inventing and testing new educational technologies)*

- Co Psyc:

- Multiculturally competent training and research*
 - Counseling psychology in couple and family counseling*
 - Prevention interventions within the field of counseling psychology*

- QQPM:

- Latent variable analysis*
 - Mixed methods*
 - Applied measurement*

- School Psyc:

- Improving & strengthening children, families, & schools*
 - Prevention & intervention for academic, social, & behavioral competence*

International



- Ronél Ferreira from the University of Pretoria, South Africa, visited the Department.



- Ian has assumed a half-time position in the American Exchange Center as the American Deputy Director to work with Xi'an Jiaotong University, China.

- Mike Scheel traveled to Hong Kong to make presentations at the Chinese University of Hong Kong



- Eric was a consultant for the GEAR UP program in Pohnpei, Micronesia



- John was in Thailand as part of his Fulbright



- Kurt was in Cape Town, South Africa, making a presentation at the 30th International Congress of Psychology.



- Ken hosted a visiting scholar from South Africa, Shalini Dukhan



Speakers

As part of an ongoing attempt to imbue our collective thinking with new and stimulating ideas we hosted a number of speakers. Among those brought in were:



Dr. Holmes Finch (Ball State University) talked about *Group invariance assessment in latent class analysis*.

The Department helped to support several university events. These included:

The 9th Annual LGBTQA History Month Banquet.

A presentation by **Dr. Michael Kimmel** as part of the Women's and Gender Studies colloquium on Gender and Science Matters.

UNL's Seventh Annual Womens History Month Banquet featuring a keynote by Lily Yeh.



The Buros Center for Testing and Educational Testing Service continued their annual **Buros/ETS lecture series** with a talk by **Dr. Michael Kane**. Mike is the inaugural holder of the Samuel J. Messick Chair in Test Validity. He spoke on an argument-based approach to validation.

Notables



• Neeta became a member of APA's Division 17's *Awards Committee*.



• Kim Marxhausen won the CEHS Graduate Student Teaching Award.

• John and Vicki were co-authors of NIH's *Best Practices for Mixed Methods Research in the Health Sciences*.



• Patti Farritor received the CEHS Staff Award.



• Kathy and colleagues Tori and Dennis Molfese were awarded a \$1.7M grant by NIH.



• Meghan Davidson received the CEHS Faculty Student Mentoring Award.



- Mike passed the American Board of Professional Psychology examination and is now a Board Certified Psychologist.



- Doug was promoted to associate professor with tenure.

- HyeSun Lee received first place in the AERA Division D Research In-Progress.

- Bob Brown received the ACPA-College Educators International 2012 Lifetime Achievement Award



- Manijeh Badiie (Co Psyc) received the 2012 Outstanding Graduate Student Award from the Council of Counseling Psychology Training Programs, the Barbara A. Kirk research award from the Society of Counseling Psychology, and the Illinois Distinguished Qualitative



- Beth Doll was the 2012 recipient of the Jack Bardon Distinguished Service Award from APA Division 16.

Dissertation of the year award.



- Duane was promoted to (full) research professor.

Congratulations!

Editorships & Editorial Boards

- Roger, Editorial Board, *Contemporary Educational Psychology*
- Eric, Editorial Board, *Journal of Educational Psychology*
- John, Editorial Board, *Journal of Mixed Methods Research*
- Ed, Editorial Board, *Journal of School Psychology*
- Meghan, Editorial Board, *Journal of Counseling Psychology*
- Ralph, Editorial Board, *Applied Measurement in Education, Educational and Psychological Measurement, Journal of Educational Measurement*
- Beth, Editorial Board, *Journal of School Psychology, Professional Psychology: Research and Practice*
- Kurt, Editor, *Applied Measurement in Education*; Editorial Board, *Educational Research Quarterly, Psychological Assessment, International Journal of Testing*
- Doug, Associate Editor, *Frontiers of Educational Psychology*; Editorial Board, *Contemporary Educational Psychology, Hacettepe University Journal of Education*
- Ken, Editorial Board, *Journal of Experimental Education*
- Merilee, Editorial Board, *School Psychology Quarterly, Journal of School Psychology, School Psychology Review, Journal of Behavioral Education*
- Dave, Book Review Editor, *Journal of Applied Developmental Psychology*
- Ian, Editorial Board, *American Journal of Health Behavior*
- Kathy, Associate Editor, *Journal of School Psychology*; Editorial Board, *Early Education and Development, Gifted Child Quarterly*
- Mike, Editorial Board, *The Counseling Psychologist, Journal of Counseling Psychology, Psychotherapy Research*
- Sue Sh., Editorial Board, *Journal of School Psychology, School Psychology Review, Encyclopedia of School Psychology*
- Sue Sw., Editorial Board, *Journal of School Psychology, Journal of School Violence, School Psychology Review, Journal of Anxiety Disorders*

Graduations

Master's/EdS

Matthew Abrams
Theodore Bartholomew
Amanda Bergeron-Bauer
Mindy Chadwell
Anita Ferrell
Emily Griese
Jennifer Haydon
Alana Liskov
Junjie Liu
Nicole Lozano
Ryan McMahon
Kyle Perry
Dana Schmid
Mary Schuster-Graff
Shiyuan Wang
Nicholas Young
Yue Qiu Yu

Educational Specialist

Allison Champion-Wescott
Chelsie Guerrero
Kathleen Hraban

Doctoral

Melissa Anderson
Tzu-Yun Chin
Courtney Haines
Kristi Hofstadter-Duke
Michelle Howell Smith
Sarah Kurien
Courtney LeClair
Soumya Madabhushi
Stephanie Schmitz
Carrie Blevins Semke
Minjung Song
Casey Tallent
Cixin Wang
Katherine Woods