Welcome Back!

Well, now it can be said - brain activity has been discovered in the dead. No, this is not another fictitious zombie attack. Rather, a scientific study involving collaborators from psychology departments (UC-Santa Barbara, Dartmouth, and Vassar) found significant brain activity in an Atlantic salmon (approximately 45 cm, 8.36 kg) that was dead at the time of the fMRI scan (http://prefrontal.org/files/posters/Bennett-Salmon-2009.pdf).

As was true last year, the Dean has approved a small set of searches for the upcoming year. What this means for the Department is that we will not be allowed to search for a counseling psychologist. However, based on our funded proposal for a Health Behavioral Prevention and Intervention program we will be able to continue our search for an advanced assistant or beginning associate professor whose work is connected to bullying. You may recall that this umbrella program brings together the work of individuals in CLD, Co Psyc, and School Psyc. 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 of $300M in external funding expenditures.

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

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

- Dr. Matt Fritz has been hired as an Assistant Professor in the QQPM program.
- Dr. Patrick Irwin has resigned as the Associate Director of Psychometric Consulting (formerly known as BIACO) in the Buros Center for Testing. He has taken a position with Cisco.
- Linda Murphy retired as Managing Editor of Test Reviews and Information (formerly known as BIMM) in the Buros Center for Testing.
- Nancy Anderson was hired as the Managing Editor of Test Reviews and Information in the Buros Center for Testing.

Cosas

- Sue and Merilee take a respite from their road tour with Lady Gaga.
- Jessica spearheaded Buros’s successful Big Issues in Testing conference.
- Ian presented Governor Heineman with a type of grain called Zea mays.
- Janet published the first edition of Pruebas Publicadas en Español (i.e., the Spanish Tests in Print)
- Jim’s IES presentation on Not all Students Need to be Assessed: Research Designs Where Data are Intentionally Missing was posted on the IES website.
- Ralph hung out with his amigo, Matt
- Roger agreed to serve as senior personnel on the NSF SciThink proposal by the University of Nebraska’s AN-DRILL project.
- Brandy Berry (School Psyc) also got into the act.
• Dave’s *Tonaringars Tankande och Utveckling* (a.k.a., *Adolescent Rationality and Development: Cognition, Morality, and Identity*) was published in Sweden.

• John was a visiting professor in the Department of Global Health and Population (School of Public Health, Harvard University). He offered a master class in mixed methods and advised them on the development of a consulting service in mixed methods.

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**Committee Memberships**

*Department Award Committee*
Kathy, Neeta, Sue Sw., Tony

*CEHS Undergraduate Committee*
Eric

*Graduate Committee*
Ed, Jim, Kathy, Meghan

*CEHS Technology Committee*
Matt

*Department Executive Committee*
Eric, Jim, Merilee, Mike

*CEHS Awards Committee*
Meghan

*CEHS FAC*
Ken

*CEHS P&T*
Mike

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**International**

• Ian had a successful year as the American Deputy Director of the American Exchange Center with Xi’an Jiaotong University, China.

• The Nebraska Prevention Center on Alcohol and Drug Abuse hosted 2 visiting scholars, Dr. Huynh Thi Xuan Tam and Ms. Quach Ngoc Hue, from Mahidol University in Bangkok, Thailand.


• Kathy made a presentation at Carleton University in Ottawa, Ontario.
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:

- **Barbara Byrne** did a workshop on *Testing for equivalence across cultural groups: Procedures, issues and complexities.*

- **Catherine Bradshaw** (Johns Hopkins University) made a presentation, *School-based prevention of aggressive behavior problems: Integrating and advancing the evidence base*, as part of The Nebraska Bullying Research Conversation Series.

- **Clay Cook** (University of Washington) made a presentation, *School-based mental health: Using MTSS as a system change framework to transfer evidence-based practices to real world settings*, as part of The Nebraska Bullying Research Conversation Series.

- **Robert Coplan** (Carleton University, Canada) made a presentation on *Speaking up for the quiet ones: Shy children at school.*

- **Laura Hanish** (Arizona State University) made a presentation, *School bullying in the lives of girls and boys*, as part of The Nebraska Bullying Research Conversation Series.

- **Alberto Maydeu-Olivares** (University of Barcelona, Spain) talked about *Goodness of fit assessment of item response theory models.*

- The Buros Center for Testing and Educational Testing Service continued their annual lecture series with a talk by **Dr. Robert Mislevy**. Bob is the Frederic M. Lord Chair in Measurement and Statistics at ETS and has received AERA’s Lindquist award for career contributions, and NCME’s Career Contributions Award and Award for Technical Contributions.

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

- The 10th Annual LGBTQA History Month banquet. The Keynoter was Dr. Sarah Groves, Director of Religion and Faith Program for the Human Rights Campaign.

- Women's and Gender Studies program’s “No Limits” conference featuring a keynote by Dr. Janet Kourany (University of Notre Dame).

- The MLK Freedom Breakfast

- UNL’s Eighth Annual Women’s History Month. T. Marni Vos was the keynoter.
• Neeta joined the editorial board of *The Counseling Psychologist*.

• Michelle Howell Smith received the AERA Mixed Methods Outstanding Dissertation Award.

• Sue Sheridan received the 2012 Article of the Year award and 2012 Honorable Mention for article of the year from School Psychology Review.

• Mike was promoted to professor.

• Doug and Duane presented on *The Unified Learning Model: How Motivational, cognitive and neurobiological sciences inform best teaching practice* at the Discipline-Based Education Research Group Lecture Series.

• Ted Bartholomew (Co Psyc) was awarded the Office of Graduate Studies’ Fling Fellowship.

• Mike Coutts (School Psyc) was the recipient of a dissertation grant from the Society for the Study of School Psychology.

• Jon Sikorski (School Psyc) was appointed to the NASP student chair position.

• Ed is contracted for a 2nd edition of his *Interventions for reading problems: Designing and evaluating effective strategies*.

• Tony finished a series of validity studies on Michigan’s Reading, Mathematics, and Writing Alternate Assessment Program.

• Merilee McCurdy was elected to the Executive Board of the Council of Directors of School Psychology Programs (CDSPP).

• Ken received the CEHS Chariman Outstanding Professor Award.

• Meghan finished her first doctoral student, Brian Cole. Brian has taken a faculty position at Seton Hall.

• Robert Brown, professor emeritus of educational psychology, and his wife Ann Brown received the National Safety Council Nebraska Chapter B’Nai Brith Award as Safe Community Champions.

• Eric successfully led the Midwest Social Development Consortium 2013 Annual Meeting.
Editorships & Editorial Boards

• Roger, Editorial Board, *Contemporary Educational Psychology*
• Eric, Editorial Board, *Journal of Educational Psychology*
• John, Editorial Board, *Journal of Mixed Methods Research*
• Meghan, Editorial Board, *Journal of Counseling Psychology*
• Neeta, Editorial Board, *The Counseling Psychologist*
• Doug, Associate Editor, *Frontiers of Educational Psychology;* Editorial Board, *Contemporary Educational Psychology, Hacettepe University Journal of Education*
• Ken, Editorial Board, *Journal of Experimental Education, Journal of Language and Literature Educational Psychology*
• 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, Associate Editor, *The Counseling Psychologist;* Editorial Board, *Psychotherapy Research*
Graduations

Educational Specialist
Kelly Ramsom
David Taylor
Courtney Wimmer

Masters
Braden Beckman
JoLynn Bomberger
Angela Brauner
Morgan Conley
Benjamin Heinisch
Sarah Kasson
Kathleen Kloefkorn
Hong-Hanh Le
Bethany Nelson
Krista Robbins
Tyler Smith
Jenna Stroud
Melissa Will

Doctoral
Kristin Bieber
Amanda Bleck
Lindsay Booker
Lynne Clure
Alysondra Duke
Emily Griese
Belinda Hinojos
John Moon
Jeffrey Reznicek-Parrado
Leslie Shaw
Sherry Wang
April Turner
Teresa Wanser

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)

QQPM:
Latent variable analysis
Mixed methods
Applied measurement

Co Psyc:
Multiculturally competent training and research
Counseling psychology in couple and family counseling
Prevention interventions within the field of counseling psychology

School Psyc:
Improving & strengthening children, families, & schools
Prevention & intervention for academic, social, & behavioral competence
• The College and the Malaika Foundation are hosting a Gala Celebration of African Art, Cuisine and Fashion from 6 – 9 on September 27, 2013 at Quilt House (1523 N. 33rd St, Lincoln)

• Susan Swearer was selected to give the fall Nebraska Lecture (11/7 at 3:30); City Campus Union auditorium.