

## Welcome Back!

### Distinguished Student Award: Apply Now!

The Department of Psychology recognizes the accomplishments of an undergraduate student with a special award in the Fall and Spring semesters. The students receiving this award will be presented with a Certificate of Distinction. This honor allows the faculty to recognize exceptional psychology majors. Additionally, the honor may be included on the award winner's resume or vitae. Any student who is a declared psychology major may apply. Applications are available in the Information Rack located outside of SSB (formerly CAS) 214. Applications must be turned in to Wendy Watkins (SSB 214) by November 29th, 2004. The Distinguished Student Award winner will be announced on December 6th, 2004. For more information, please contact Dr. John Petraitis (SSB 221B or 786-1651), the Undergraduate Studies Coordinator.

### Psychology Exit Exam

The Psychology Exit Exam will be given on November 19th, 2004 at 10:30 am (SSB/CAS 224) and again on December 23rd, 2004 at 5:30 pm (SSB/CAS 211). No appointment is necessary. The test is standardized, so late arrivals cannot take the exam. Please plan to arrive at least a half hour early, and remember to bring a photo ID. If

you fail to take the exit exam, a make-up can be scheduled with Wendy Watkins (786-1711). A \$75.00 administrative charge will be required to take a make-up exam.

The Psychology Exit Exam is a requirement for the BA/BS degree in psychology. The technical name for this test is the Psychology Area Achievement Test, a two-hour multiple choice test of psychology knowledge. Students are not asked to make any special preparation prior to taking the test, but to simply come and do their best to answer the questions. The graduation requirement is to simply take the test – no minimum score is required.

The purpose of the exam is to evaluate UAA's psychology program. It is not intended to assess individual students. The results of the test allow the Department of Psychology to compare its performance with the national average. Since the exit test requirement started in 1992, UAA's psychology program has scored above the national median, usually near the 60th percentile.

### Are You Interested in Conducting Research?

If you are interested in gaining important research experience in psychology, consider joining the Experimental Research Pyramid (ERP) group. The ERP group conducts important student-oriented psychological research in the Department of Psychology. Activities of the ERP group include generating

### Psychology Club and Psi Chi News

The Psychology Club and Psi Chi are organizations for psychology majors and minors. Psi Chi is the honor society for majors in psychology. The Psychology Club is for everyone interested in attending. Both clubs meet together. The next joint meeting will be held on October 14th, 2004 at 7:00 pm in SSB/CAS 218 (the psychology laboratory).

Please attend the meeting because the clubs are planning fun events for Halloween and Thanksgiving! For more information on these organizations please contact Catherine Opgenorth (email: realized\_@hotmail.com) President of Psi Chi, or Ebony Evans (email: eevans01@hotmail.com), President of the Psychology Club.

and testing hypotheses, data collection and analyses, and presenting research at local and national conferences. Please contact Prof. Vickie Wesolowski (786-1617) for more information.

## Psychology Students – Do You Need Help?

**A**NPsych Graduate Tutors will provide FREE tutoring to anyone enrolled in General Psychology (PSY 111), Lifespan Development (PSY 150), and Statistics for Psychology (PSY 260). Tutoring will be available every Thursday (1:00 pm – 3:00 pm) in Native Student Services and every Friday (9:30 am – 12:30 pm) in SSB/CAS 253. Please contact Dr. Kathy Graves (786-6131; email: anksg@uaa.alaska.edu), Director of ANPsych, for more information.

## UAA Gerontology Minor Program

**a**re you interested in pursuing a career in the area of aging? Get a minor in Gerontology! The Undergraduate Multidisciplinary Minor in Gerontology is comprised of a selection of courses specifically related to issues concerning the aging process. A total of 18 credit hours are required for the minor. For more information, please contact Dr. Sharon Araj (email: afska1@uaa.alaska.edu) or Dr. Rosellen Rosich (email: afrmr@uaa.alaska.edu).

## Call for Papers: Western Psychological Association

**p**lease consider participating in the 85th annual convention of the Western Psychological

Association (WPA) by submitting a proposal on or before the November 16th, 2004 deadline. The convention will be held at the Portland Marriott Downtown, Portland, OR on April 14-17, 2005. For more information, log onto WPA's website (<http://www.westernpsych.org>).

## UAA Campus Bookstore Price Matching Policy

**i**f you find a textbook for a lower price than what the UAA Campus Bookstore is charging, the Bookstore will attempt to match the competitor's price. For more information, please call the UAA Campus Bookstore at 786-1151.

## Undergraduate Research Grants

**t**he Office of Undergraduate Research and Scholarship will be awarding a limited number of competitive grants for undergraduate research and creative projects. Awards will be up to \$2000.00 each. Submit applications and proposals to the Office of Undergraduate Research and Scholarship in BEB 119 by 5:00 pm on October 11th, 2004. The recipients will be notified by early December. For additional information or questions, contact [ayresearch@uall.alaska.edu](mailto:ayresearch@uall.alaska.edu) or 786-1086.

## Kudos Corner

**C**ongratulations to Dr. Bruno Kappes whose picture and interview appeared in the 2nd edition of Mosby's Complementary & Alternative Medicine: A Research Based Approach. Dr. Kappes was featured in the book because of his extensive

## Enforcement of Prerequisites for PSY 355 and PSY 370

**b**eginning in Spring 2005, students wanting to take Learning and Cognition (PSY 355) or Biological Psychology (PSY 370) will be required to have completed the prerequisites before enrolling. The prerequisites for both classes are Statistics for Psychology (PSY 260 or AS 252) and Research Methods in Psychology (PSY 261). These prerequisites will be required because the content of PSY 355 and PSY 370 rely heavily on a sophisticated understanding of research methods. During the past few semesters, students who have not completed the prerequisites have had difficulties succeeding in these courses. For more information regarding this policy, please contact Dr. Bob Madigan (786-1717) or Dr. Eric Murphy (786-1626).

research and clinical background in the area of Biofeedback. Dr. Kappes also recently presented a paper entitled, "Biofeedback Therapy: A Sequential Spectrum of Learning Processes" at the annual meeting of the American Psychological Association in Honolulu, HI. Please congratulate Dr. Kappes when you see him around the department.

## Important Dates

### October 11

Undergraduate Research Grant Deadline

### October 14

Psi Chi/Psychology Club Meeting (SSB 218)  
at 7:00 pm

### October 20

Alcohol Awareness Fair  
10:00 am to 2:00 pm  
Campus Center, Upper Hallway

### October 22

Frontiers in Addiction Research: NIDA  
Mini-Convention, San Diego, CA

### October 27

Domestic Violence 101  
12:00 pm to 1:00 pm  
Campus Center, Room 103

### November 3

Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD)  
12:00 pm to 1:00 pm  
Campus Center, Room 103

### November 29

Distinguished Student Award  
Application Deadline

### November 16

Western Psychological Association  
Submission Deadline

### November 19

Psychology Exit Exam (SSB 224) at 10:30 am

### November 25-28

Thanksgiving (UAA Holiday - Closed)

### December 1

Spring 2005 Application for Admission Deadline

### December 12-18

Final Exams

### December 23

Grades Available on Wolf Link  
Psychology Exit Exam (SSB 211) at 5:30 pm

## This Month in the History of Psychology

### 1968 (October 9th):

Roger Sperry's article "Hemisphere Deconnection and Unity in Conscious Awareness" was published in the *American Psychologist*.

### 1981 (October 9th):

David Hubel and Torsten Wiesel won Nobel prizes for their work in visual development. They performed pioneering single-cell recordings of the visual cortex, demonstrating the presence of simple, complex, and hypercomplex feature detector cells.

*From: Street, W. R. (1994). A chronology of noteworthy events in American psychology. Washington, DC: American Psychological Association.*

## About PsychoBits

PsychoBits is published three times per semester by the Department of Psychology at the University of Alaska Anchorage. Psychology majors and others are encouraged to submit items for inclusion in future issues. Please submit items to Dr. Eric Murphy (email: [afesm@uaa.alaska.edu](mailto:afesm@uaa.alaska.edu)). To add or delete your name from the mailing list, please send a request to [aypsych@uaa.alaska.edu](mailto:aypsych@uaa.alaska.edu).