



Department of Psychology

DPSY NEWSLETTER 3 – 2010-2011

In 2010, the Department of Psychology moved into the new Pearl Jubilee building. The goal of moving to the new building was to allow all faculty members to be together on a single floor, instead of the scattered locations of previous years. Thus, the department finally came together as a fully-fledged academic unit with facilities to match its growth and development since the start of the undergraduate training in 2002. The new Pearl Jubilee office space also provided for a Psychological Services and Research Centre and a Psychology Resource Centre. However, the Department of Psychology has grown faster than was projected and one floor of the Pearl Jubilee building was not enough space to accommodate our offices, clinic,

laboratories, and other needed space. When we move to the new campus on Henqin Island, we have again asked for psychology laboratories to conduct research more easily. We look forward to the move and to the further enhancement of facilities to expand our already excellent output in teaching and research.



From January to May 2011, DPSY, with the help of the Dean, was fortunate to be able to support a Visiting Professor for one semester. Professor Tom Oakland, a senior scholar with hundreds of publications from the University of Florida. Professor Oakland worked diligently with our faculty, students and local schools, providing us all with an amazing experience of collaborating with such an esteemed scholar.

A major achievement of the past year is the intake of the first cohort of MSS Clinical Psychology students. Under the leadership of Professor Rik Carl D'Amato the MSS programme in Clinic Psychology was established shortly after his arrival, as a 60-credit, 5-semester programme including a master's thesis. The programme admits students every two years. It is a scientist-practitioner programme, and students complete extensive practicum for experiential training according to international standards.

Another achievement under the leadership of Professor D'Amato, who worked with Professor TONG Kwok Kit, was the instatement of a PhD programme in Psychology. Doctoral students were recruited in 2009 and the first group of three students began in September 2010 under the supervision of Professor D'Amato and Professor Taormina. One student decided to transfer to the Faculty of Education, at the end of the year aiming to participate in another PhD programme more suited to her needs. The other two doctoral students are progressing and the committees for their qualifying examinations have been established.

In 2010-2011 we also finalised the revision of the BSS programme in psychology. On the one hand, the university wide reform of undergraduate programmes and the development of a General Education programme, led to a call for all academic units to update their programmes. On the other hand, obvious changes were necessary in the programme initiated in 2002, which faculty members had been discussing for a few years and based on research findings in the field. These changes involved the need to cancel the specialisation areas in Counselling or Applied Psychology previously allowed as major areas. Another change was necessary regarding practicum or field experience, which could no longer be supported with the addition of the two graduate programmes. When only one programme was available, it made conceptual sense to allow students to specialize and to complete hands-on research and field experience. However, with the addition of the two graduate programmes, which both required a thesis and further specialization, neither was needed at the current time. In September 2011, the first cohort of students will begin their study in the new BSS Psychology programme and the “old” programme will be phased out over the next 3 years.

Together with the revision of the BSS Psychology programme, we also initiated a minor in psychology. Because psychology is a popular major and we cannot accommodate all of the students who want to major in psychology, the department established a minor comprising 18-credit minor, and the first group of minor students were selected and will start in September 2011. Approximately 60 students applied in the first selection phase, and 25 students were elected, based on their overall academic performance, to minor in psychology. Students who wish to minor in psychology are admitted once a year at the start of the academic year, and a committee was formed to review student applications.

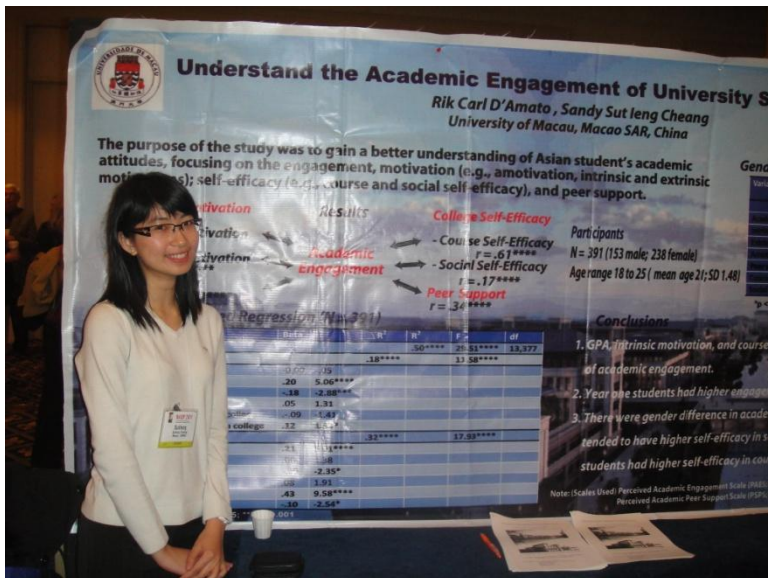
General Education Programme

In 2009, the newly appointed Vice Rector for Academic Affairs initiated the development of General Education (GE) to be included in all undergraduate programmes at UM. Faculty members from the Department of Psychology, in particular Professor Rik Carl D’Amato, were actively involved in this development. Whereas past programmes allowed for optional electives outside of the major, the GE programme formalises this and indicates a significant growth in the offerings at UM. The Department of Psychology was subsequently selected to offer a course in the GE programme and in years to come this will mean a significant growth for our course in health psychology. Other academic units, such as the Faculty of Business Administration, elected to substitute GE courses requiring their students to take *Introduction to Psychology*, which adds around 200 to 300 students taking psychology classes.

BSS Psychology Programme

As before, the quality of the 2010-2011 first-year students was comparable to those of previous years. The first-year class, at 52 was larger than 45 of the previous year, with 49 students progressing to the next year of study. Psychology is a popular major with students from Macao, and our students are normally some of the strongest students at the university as well as in FSH. Of the 37 active year-4 students, 34 graduated at the end of the academic year 2010-2011. Psychology majors regularly report that Department of Psychology courses are some of the most difficult at the university. Yet, all of the final year students achieved timely graduation within the four-year programme. Students believe and report that we have some of the best faculty on campus. They find most faculty members to be knowledgeable, available, caring, talented, and cooperative. Data supports this with our faculty having excellent Teaching Evaluations in all courses. The Department of Psychology has some of the highest teaching scores in the FSH faculty and university.

One of the strengths of the BSS programme is that each student completes a Senior Thesis on an individual research project supervised by experienced faculty. A selected group also presented their research projects during our annual Student Symposium in April 2011. In October 2010, the three best Senior Theses and presentations of the 2010 graduate class received a monetary award from the Vice Rector for Research. A selection of the best Senior Theses are currently under review to select the second group for this award. Some students have also published their work with faculty and others have presented posters or papers to national or international conferences. For example, one completed thesis, with the student working with a



university faculty member was presented at the National Association of School Psychologist's 42nd Annual Convention in the United States. This clearly shows the quality of the work of our students given faculty supervision. Some faculty publish with their students and this is greatly appreciated by the students and certainly helps them get into graduate school.

Finally, a large number of our students graduating from the BSS in Psychology are accepted into extremely competitive graduate programmes locally and internationally (e.g.,

Hong Kong, Great Britain, Australia and the United States) showing the quality of our graduates. Some have been accepted with full (up to five year) scholarships leading to a Ph.D. in psychology.

5th Annual Student Research Symposium

At the 5th Student Research Symposium held on 16 April 2011, several year four students presented their papers and disseminated valuable findings towards expanding the knowledge base of psychology in Macao. Below is a list of some of the Senior Theses topics that were researched in 2010-2011 under the expert supervision of Professor Robert J. Taormina, Dr. Shu Fai Cheung and Dr. Tony Guo. We commend the students for their excellent work.

Student Theses and Titles

Sophia, DU Ran (杜然), *Antecedents and Outcomes of Need-for-Cognition in China*

Amanda, IEONG Ka Pou (楊嘉寶), *Factors Correlated to Chinese Values and Shyness among Macao Citizens*

Floria, CHIO Hin Ngan (趙騫雁), *Envy among College Students: Academic Efficacy, Friendship Quality and Performance*

Marco, LAM Kun Meng (林貫名), *Attitude towards Space Exploration, Belief in Extraterrestrials, and their Effects on Life*

Kate, LEUNG Chi Mei (梁芷媚), *How to be a Happy Professor: Social Support, Health Behavior and Career Success*

Mogu, YU Shu (俞 抒), *Comparing China with the World: Luck, Attitudes towards Gambling and Playing Lottery*

Wing, XING Ying (邢 穎), *Liking to know more about others: Individual difference in social curiosity*

Sandy, KUONG Pui In (鄺 珮 妍), *Effect of Single-Sex and Co-ed Schools on Self-Esteem, Career and Close Relationship*

Vicky, HUANG Yang (黃 洋), *Socialization, Personality and Family Support in Job Commitment and Job Satisfaction*

Fu-en, FU En (傅 恩), *Are heroes inborn? Cultural Features of Implicit Theory Embodied in Story Characters*

Becky, SUN Ruinan (孫 瑞 南), *Antecedents and Outcomes of Psychological Insecurity and Interpersonal Trust*

Mark, LAI Hok Chio (黎 學 昭), *A Monte Carlo Study of Normal Item Selection in Scale Development*



Several students have also published their research in peer-reviewed journals and we commend them and their supervisors for the hard work.

Chan, D. C. N., Wu, A. M. S., & Hung, E. P. W. (2010). Invulnerability and the intention to drink and drive: An application of the theory of planned behavior. *Accident Analysis and Prevention*, 42, 1549-1555. (Ms. Daphne D. C. Chan graduated from our undergraduate program of **2008/09**; Impact factor of the journal: 2.350, Rank 2 (out of 83) in the subject category of Social Sciences – Interdisciplinary, based on SSCI- Journal Citation Reports 2010)

Chao, J. M. C., Cheung, F. Y. L., & Wu, A. M. S. (2011). Psychological contract breach and counterproductive workplace behaviors among Chinese employees. *International Journal of Human Resource Management*, 22, 763-777. (Mr. Joe M. C. Chao graduated from our undergraduate program of **2007/08**; Impact factor of the journal: .869, Rank 89 (out of 140) in category Management, based on SSCI- Journal Citation Reports 2010)

Tao, V. Y. K., Iong, C. W. I., & Wu, A. M. S. (2008). Part-time employment and sense of school belonging among university students in Macao. *Journal of Psychology in Chinese Societies*, 9(1), 67 -84. (Ms. Cherrie W. I. Iong graduated from our undergraduate program of **2007/08**; Non-SSCI-indexed but peer-reviewed journal)

Sin, A. P. C., Wu, A. M. S., & Tao, V. Y. K. (2008). Excessive working and gender in Macao. *Journal of Psychology in Chinese Societies*, 9(1), 7-27. (Ms. Amy P. C. Sin graduated from our undergraduate program of **2006/07**; Non-SSCI-indexed but peer-reviewed journal)

Wu, A. M. S., & Wong, E. M. W. (2008). Disordered gambling among Chinese casino employees. *Journal of Gambling Studies*, 24(2), 207-217. (Ms. Eva M. W. Wong graduated from our undergraduate program of **2005/06**; Impact factor of the journal: 1.303, Rank 50 (out of 120) in category of Psychology - Multidisciplinary, based on SSCI-Journal Citation Reports 2010)

Lai, Mark H. C. & Tong, K.K. (2011). Media usage and evaluations. In Fanny Cheung, S. L.Wong, P. S. Wan and Victor Cheng (Eds.). *The New Faces of Macao: Ten Years of Development and Change*. Hong Kong: Hong Kong Institute of Asia-Pacific Studies The Chinese University of Hong Kong. [in Chinese]

Lai, Mark H. C. & Tong, K.K. (2010). Media and Trust in Macao. Macao: 10 Years of Development and Changes Conference, June, Macao, China.

MSS Clinical Psychology – A New Start for UM



The MSS Programme in Clinical Psychology enrolled its first cohort of students this academic year. Thirty-six candidates (mean GPA = 3.11) from mainland China, Hong Kong, and Macao applied for admission. Of those, 24 (mean GPA = 3.21) were offered places in the programme; six chose not to enrol. Thus, the first cohort comprised 18 students with a mean GPA of 3.24. One student withdrew shortly after fall semester began, resulting in 17 enrolled during the 2010-2011 academic year. The program admits student every-other academic year.

The cohort completed their first three of five semesters, with courses in psychological assessment, psychotherapy, ethics and professional issues, health and wellness, psychopathology, research methods, and psychopharmacology. After the first academic year, the average GPA was 3.40 with a range of 2.75-3.78. In addition to coursework, students participated in field/practicum placements in various non-government organisations during fall, spring, and summer semesters.

As a cohort, the students provided **9,300 hours of service** in these organizations. Placements included:

- Associação de Reabilitação de Toxicodependentes de Macau (ARTM),
- Associação de Reabilitação “Fu Hong” de Macau Centro I Lok
- Caritas Longevity Special Day Care Center
- Caritas Centro de Santa Margarida
- Caritas Casa Ricci Elderly Center
- Caritas Overseas Laborer Center
- Caritas Casa Corcel Center
- Fountain of Hope
- Methodist Center
- Yat On Centre
- YMCA

The MSS Clinical Psychology programme was granted accreditation by the Canadian Council of Professional Certification to offer training necessary to become a Certified Gambling Counsellor. The MCPY205 course (*Problematic Gambling Behaviors*) fulfils the 60-hour training requirement for the certification. Graduates of the programme can apply for certification after graduating and completing 20 hours of volunteer or paid work at a recognized gambling treatment facility. A Student Handbook and Practicum Guide were also written to clarify policy and expectations of students, faculty, and field

experience/practicum supervisors. The Practicum Guide was distributed to all clinical faculty, students, and field experience/practicum sites. Furthermore, the clinical faculty developed core competencies for the programme that are consistent with international standards for training clinical psychologists.

Faculty Achievements

DPSY faculty members are active both within the university and externally. Some serve on the Senate and other important committees within FSH and the university. The Office of the Rector has also employed the help of some faculty members to help counsel students, train faculty in professional development through the *Centre for Teaching and Learning Enhancement*, and one member has been appointed full-time Director of the CTLE. It is clear the Department is critical to the success of the university.

Full-time faculty are prolific authors, researchers, international fellows with at least 38 publications listed for 2010-2011 including refereed articles in SSCI journals, books and book chapters. In the past year, one of our faculty members was inducted into the *Society for the Study of School Psychology*. This is an amazing achievement given that the faculty member is the first member outside of the U.S.A. to achieve this noteworthy status. Other faculty members received similar awards. The Department is clearly one of the strongest in FSH and at the university.

DPSY Publications 2010-2011¹

- Chang, M. Y., Davis, A., & **D'Amato, R. C.** (2011). Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI): Information for educators. Reprinted from A. S. Canter, L. Z. Paige, M. D. Roth, I. Romero, & S. A. Carroll (3rd ed.), *Helping children at home and school III: Handouts for families and educators*. (also available as a CD). Reprinted as a handout: *NASP Communiqué, 40(1), Newspaper of the National Association of School Psychologists*.
- Cheung, F. M., Zhang, J. X., & **Cheung, S. F.** (2010) From indigenous to cross-cultural personality: The case of the Chinese Personality Assessment Inventory. In M. H. Bond (Ed.), *Oxford handbook of Chinese psychology*. Oxford University Press.
- Chan, D. C. N., **Wu, A. M. S.**, & Hung, E. P. W. (2010). Invulnerability and the intention to drink and drive: An application of the theory of planned behavior. *Accident Analysis and Prevention, 42*, 1549-1555.
- Chao, J. M. C., Cheung, F. Y. L., & **Wu, A. M. S.** (2011). Psychological contract breach and counterproductive workplace behaviors among Chinese employees. *International Journal of Human Resource Management, 22*, 763-777
- Crews, J. K., & **D'Amato, R. C.** (2010). Subtyping children's reading disabilities using the NEPSY. *International Journal of Neuroscience, 119(10)*, 1615-1639.
- D'Amato, R. C.**, Zafiris, C., McConnell, E., & Dean, R. S. (2011). The history of school psychology: Understanding the past to not repeat it. In M. Bray & T Kehl (Eds.), *Oxford handbook of school psychology* (pp. 9-60). New York, NY: Oxford.
- Ho, M. Y., Cheung, F. M., & **Cheung, S. F.** (2010). The role of meaning in life and optimism in promoting well-being. *Personality and Individual Differences, 48*, 658-663.

¹ Name in bold is a faculty member in the Department of Psychology at UM.

- Huang, L. V., Bardos, A. N., & **D'Amato, R. C.** (2010). Identifying students with learning disabilities: Composite profile analysis using the Cognitive Assessment System. *Journal of Psychoeducational Assessment* 28(1), 19-30.
- Ji, LJ, Lee, A, & **Guo, T.** (2010). The thinking style of Chinese people, In Michael Harris Bond (Ed). *The Oxford handbook of Chinese psychology* (pp. 155-167). Oxford New York: Oxford University Press.
- Johnson, J. A., & **D'Amato, R. C.** (2011). Evaluating and using the *Halstead-Reitan Neuropsychological Battery: Is it our future or our past?* In A. Davis (Ed.). *Handbook of Pediatric Neuropsychology*, (pp. 353-366; Vol. I). New York, NY: Springer.
- Mok, D., D'Amato, R. C.,** & Witsken, D. (2010). Providing forensic services to children, youth, parents, and school personnel. In A. MacNeil Horton, Jr., & L. C. Hartlage (Eds.), *Handbook of forensic neuropsychology*. New York, NY: Springer.
- Spina, S., Ji, LJ, **Guo, T.**, Zhang, Z.Y., Li, Y, & Fabrigar, L. (2010). Cultural differences in the representativeness heuristic: Expecting a correspondence in magnitude between cause and effect. *Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin*, 36. 583-597.
- Tang, C.S., & **Wu, A. M. S.** (2010). Direct and indirect influences of fate control belief, gambling expectancy bias, and self-efficacy on problem gambling and negative mood among Chinese college students: A multiple mediation analysis. *Journal of Gambling Studies*, 26(4), 533-543.
- Tang, C. S., **Wu, A. M. S.**, Tang, J. Y. C., & Yan, E. C. W. (2010). Reliability, validity, and cut scores of the South Oaks Gambling Screen (SOGS) for Chinese. *Journal of Gambling Studies*, 26(1), 145-158.
- Tong, K. K.**, Hung, P. W., & Yuen, S. M. (2011). The Quality of Social Networks: Its Determinants and Impacts on Helping and Volunteering in Macao. *Social Indicators Research*, 351-361.
- Tao, V. Y. K., Wu, A. M. S., Cheung, S. F., & Tong, K. K.** (2011). Development of an indigenous inventory GMAB (Gambling Motives, Attitudes and Behaviours) for Chinese gamblers: An exploratory study. *Journal of Gambling Studies*, 27, 99-113.
- Van Schalkwyk, G. J.** (2011). Remembered persons and the self-defining memories of adolescents. In P. Steiner et al., (Eds), *Theoretical Psychology: Global Transformations and Challenges* (pp. 133-144). Canada: Captus University Publications
- Van Schalkwyk, G. J.** (2011). Multi-Tasking. In J. S. Kreutzer, J. DeLuca & B. Caplan (Eds), *Encyclopedia of Clinical Neuropsychology* (pp. 1685 – 1686). New York: Springer.
- Van Schalkwyk, G. J.** (2011). Scholastic Aptitude Test. In .S. Kreutzer, J. DeLuca & B. Caplan (Eds), *Encyclopedia of Clinical Neuropsychology* (pp. 2214 – 2217). New York: Springer.
- Van Schalkwyk, G. J.** (2010). Ethical Concerns for Psychological Services in Macao. In G.E. Lasker (Ed.), *Acta Systemica*, Volume X(1), (pp.27-32). Ontario: The International Institute for Advanced Studies in Systems Research and Cybernetics.
- Van Schalkwyk, G. J.** (2011). Face and Hierarchical Positioning of Parents in the Family-School Relationship in Macao. Accepted for publication in *International Journal of School-based Family Counselling*, III, 1-12.
- Van Schalkwyk, G. J.** (2010). Collage Life Story Elicitation Technique: A representational technique for scaffolding autobiographical memories. *The Qualitative Report*, 15(3), 675-695. Retrieved from <http://www.nova.edu/ssss/QR/QR15-3/vanschalkwyk.pdf>
- Van Schalkwyk, G. J.** (2010). The crown prince and the frog-prince: characterisation in the identity construction of firstborn males. *South African Journal of Psychology*, 40(3), 282-291.

- Van Schalkwyk, G. J.** (2010). Mapping family systems: A multiple-case study of Chinese families in Macao regarding parental involvement in educational settings. *The Journal of School-Based Family Counselling, 11*.
- Wu, A. M. S., & Lu, L.** (2011). Cognitive obstacles against organ donation: the role of negative attitudes, norms, and traditional beliefs on Chinese people's intention to donate organs after death. *Journal of Community & Applied Social Psychology, 21*(1), 87-93.

