May 2025

PSYCHOLOGY NEWSLETTER



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FAREWELL FROM THE CHAIR

DR. TARA GRUENEWALD

Professor & Chair
Department of Psychology



Dear Psychology Panthers,

The end of another academic year is upon us. This is always the most difficult newsletter note to write as I attempt to capture the mix of sentiments and emotions that encapsulates how I feel at this time of the year. There is the immense pride in celebrating the many accomplishments of our students and faculty across the year. There is the sadness that comes with bidding farewell to our graduating seniors comingled with the joy in recognizing their achievements in our end-of-the-year celebrations and commencements. There is also the hopeful anticipation of so many good things to come at Chapman and beyond for our students and faculty.

This year, there is also the challenge of crafting a newsletter note that is my final as Chair of the Psychology Department. I will conclude eight years of service as Chair at the end of summer. It has been quite an adventure from coming to Chapman as a new member of the faculty and Chair of the department, doing our best to survive and thrive in the COVID years, and having the honor of leading the department through significant growth in our number of students and faculty.

I am thrilled that our good work will continue under the leadership of Dr. David Pincus, Professor of Psychology, as Chair, and Dr. Julia Boehm, Associate Professor of Psychology, in a new Associate Chair position. The department is fortunate to benefit from their wealth of experience as members of the Psychology and university faculty and as leaders in their scientific fields of expertise.

Thank you, Panthers, for your passionate collaboration in carrying out the learning, teaching, scientific, scholarly, and service missions of our program and university. It has been an incredible privilege to support the development of our amazing students and faculty as the Chair of the Psychology Department. I look forward to the continued collaboration as I turn to devoting more time to teaching and research.

In sincere appreciation, Dr. G

UPCOMING EVENTS

FINALS WEEK

MAY 19-24, 2025

Psychology Senior Celebration

MAY 22, 2025

Argyros Forum 209 @ 5pm

University Convocation

MAY 23, 2025

Wilson Field @ 7pm

Crean Commencement

MAY 25, 2025

Wilson Field @ 8am

Psychology Post-Graduation Reception

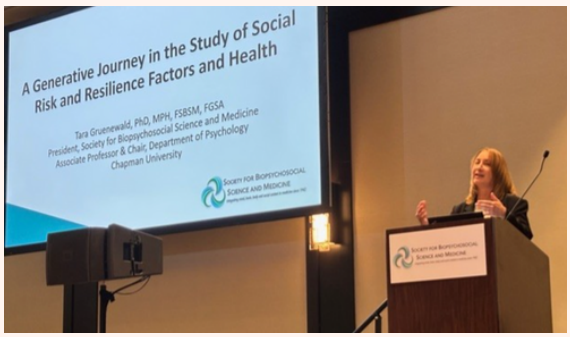
MAY 25, 2025

@ Performer's Court following Crean Commencement



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PAST HAPPENINGS





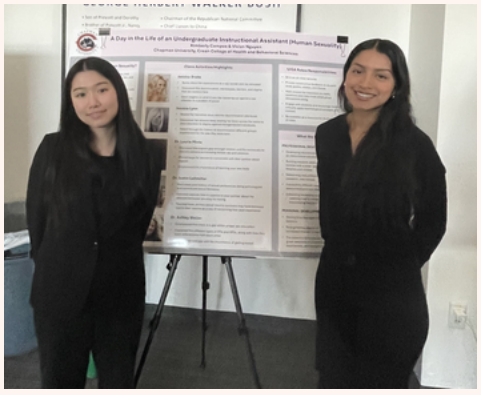


Society for Biopsychosocial Science and Medicine Conference

March*, *2025

Top Left: Dr. Gruenewald delivering the presidential address
Bottom Left: Drs. Robinette, Glynn, Gruenewald, and Boehm
Right: Dr. Boehm and undergraduate students Bijou Allard and Mark Meltzer





Spring TA Faire

April 7, 2025

Left : Abby Rappoport, Meghan Bourque, and Paige Austin, UGIAs for Intro to Psy w/ Dr. Nodarse
Right: Kimberly Campos and Vivian Nguyen, UGIAs for Human Sexuality w/ Dr. Frederick

Southern California Consciousness Conference

May 8-11, 2025

Dr. Aaron Schurger organized and hosted Con Con in Lake Arrowhead



FACULTY PROFILE



Riley Kendall

How long have you been part of the Chapman Community?

1 year as a professor, 6 years total including when I was a student

What are the key responsibilities/roles in the department?

I teach PSYCH 333 Physiological Psychology & support the development of the Neuroscience minor

Can you share a recent accomplishment, whether it be academic or personal?

I love when students stay after class to chat about theories and real-life applications of neuroscience. My classes run late into the night, but it's always rewarding and energizing when students stick around to debrief and dive deeper into discussions.

What has been your most memorable experience at Chapman?

I recently captured some exciting neural recordings in my research that looks promising for an upcoming publication! It is also an accomplishment to be teaching my favorite subject at my undergraduate institution; a very full-circle moment that I am grateful for.

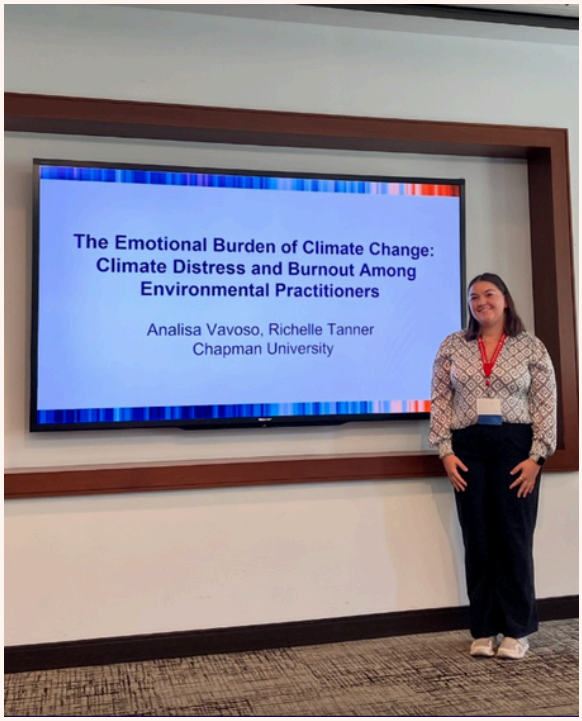


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Student Scholar Symposium Oral Presentation Award Winner

Which faculty member supervises your research?

Dr. Richelle Tanner



Analisa Vavoso

Please provide a brief description of your research project.

I investigated levels of climate distress and burnout among environmental practitioners - a group uniquely at risk to these conditions due to their close proximity to environmental issues.

Where did you get the idea for this project

I was inspired to do this project through my time working at an environmnetal nonprofit that focused on environmental education, as well as talking with my peers about their emotions concerning climate change. I saw that these practitioners and environmental science students felt anger, anxiety, and sadness about climate change. Additionally, previous research showed that environmental practitioners jobs can be emotionally taxing, leading me to investigate levels of burnout among this population.

What did a typical day look like when completing this research?

I spent a majority of the research process reaching out to environmental professional organizations, environmental education associations, environmental science academic programs, and more to distribute my survey.

What was the best part of this research project?

I thoroughly enjoyed conducting interviews with the subject population, as I gained a more comprehensive view of their experiences as well as provided a space for practitioners to discuss their emotions.

Student Scholar Symposium Poster Presentation Award Winner

Which faculty member supervises your research?

Dr. Laura Glynn



Tatiana Rodriguez

Please provide a brief description of your research project.

This research project focused on assessing the role of exposure to childhood unpredictability in risk for maternal PTSD after a traumatic versus non-traumatic birth.

Where did you get the idea for this project

While working in Dr. Glynn's lab I have learned a lot about adverse childhood experiences. I became especially curious about how a mother's childhood may affect their response to future traumas. Upon looking into previously published research, I realized that there isn't a lot on PTSD after childbirth, which can subsequently impact maternal and infant well-being. My curiosity only grew so we began developing this research topic.

What did a typical day look like when completing this research?

A typical day consisted of literature reviews, coding, and polishing my poster. In the coming months I will continue to develop this research in hopes of publishing a paper.

What was the best part of this research project?

The best part about this research project was not only finding possible advancements in the field of psychology, but also learning from both Dr. Glynn and Postdoctoral Fellow Emily Sweiss.

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PSYCHOLOGY SUCCESS WITH SURF

Seven Psychology students were accepted into Chapman's prestigious Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship (SURF) program, a paid eight-week summer program that offers experience in hands-on research and creative scholarship.

Below are the Psychology SURF fellows:

Louie Vitan

"Exploring Student Engagement in Undergraduate Research at Chapman: Analysis of Demographics and Barriers"

Faculty Mentor: Dr. Vincent Berardi

Ashley Waller

"Flow in Motion: Detecting EEG Correlates of Flow State in Joint Improvisational Dance"

Faculty Mentor: Dr. Uri Maoz

Eusabeia Silfanus

“Investigating Leakage in Perceptual Decision Making in the Human Visual System Using a Dynamic Noise Stimuli”

Faculty Mentor: Dr. Aaron Schurger

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PSYCHOLOGY SUCCESS WITH SURF

Kalyn Su

"The Push for Unity in a Divided Society: Ally Strategies and Interest in Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion among College Students"

Faculty Mentor: Dr. Amy Moors

Mei Han

"Large-Scale Acrylic Art Series: Psychological Disorder Representation"

Faculty Mentor: Dr. David Pincus

Sohni Singh

"Investigating the Influence of Growing Up in an Asian Immigrant Household on Women's Body Dissatisfaction"

Faculty Mentor: Dr. Andrea Wolfs

Analisa Vavoso

"Climate Anxiety and Civic Behavior Among Americans: Physical Proximity and Psychological Distance from Extreme Weather Events"

Faculty Mentor: Dr. Vincent Berardi

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SPRING FACULTY AWARDEES

The following individuals were honored with awards and recognitions for their outstanding scholarly, service, and leadership contributions.

Outstanding Mentorship of Undergraduate Research Award

Dr. Vincent Berardi



Unit Faculty Excellence Award

Dr. Jennifer Robinette



Sabbatical Leave Award

Drs. Brooke Jenkins & Uri Maoz

Promotion to Full Professor

Dr. Tara Gruenewald

Tenure & Promotion to Associate Professor

Dr. Amy Moors

CONGRATULATIONS!

CAMPUS STUDENT AWARDEES

ANGELINA THALHEIMER, CECIL F. CHEVERTON AWARD FINALIST
SOPHIE CAMILLERI, PAUL S. DELP OUTSTANDING SERVICE AWARD
BRADLEY CAROL. OUTSTANDING JUNIOR
EMMA FLEMMING, OUTSTANDING JUNIOR
KAITLYN CLARK. OUTSTANDING SOPHOMORE

PHI BETA KAPPA INDUCTEES

Phi Beta Kappa is the oldest and most widely recognized honor society in the United States. Its membership recognizes high academic achievement. Below are the Psychology Majors and Minors inducted into Phi Beta Kappa's Spring 2025 class

Psychology Majors:

Rosyln Addy
Emerson Ellis
Emi Iwasaki
Gabriella Lim
Ally Meland
Audrey Simmons

Psychology Minors:

Jane Becker



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FULBRIGHT U.S. STUDENT PROGRAM

Apply Now!

Are you ready to expand your horizons, immerse yourself in new cultures, and open your mind to a world of possibilities? The Fulbright U.S. Student Program offers fully funded opportunities to pursue graduate study, conduct research, or teach English in over 140 countries. Discover how you can leverage your interests and skills to make a meaningful difference in our complex global community. No matter your major or your passion, Fulbright opens doors to unparalleled opportunities across all academic disciplines. Ready to take the next step? Join a global network of changemakers today!

Want to learn more?

Schedule an appointment with Dr. John Hunter at the Center for Undergraduate Excellence (CUE) to explore how Fulbright can be your gateway to the world!



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HAVE A FABULOUS SUMMER PANTHERS!



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