At this year’s Celebration of Student Research and Creative Activity, Xavier awarded the first ever Undergraduate Research Mentor of the Year award. Faculty members from all three colleges with an established, extensive and excellent track record of mentoring undergraduate students as well as promoting and supporting the undergraduate research initiative at Xavier were eligible. The winner of the first ever Undergraduate Research Mentor of the Year was awarded to the School of Psychology’s Dr. Christian End. **Congrats Dr. End!**

Some of the excerpts noted at the awards ceremony on April 10, 2015 were:

"Dr. End takes great pride and has devoted himself to offering guidance, support, and encouragement aimed at developing the knowledge, professional skills, competencies, and character of undergraduate (and graduate) psychology majors. The relationships he has established with psychology undergraduates (and graduates) are unparalleled and vital to the mission of the School of Psychology in providing an excellent education and training.

One of his undergraduate mentees won the national conference student award at the American Psychological Society and nine others have won regional conference student research awards (at the Eastern and Southeastern Psychological Associations’ annual conferences). He has been the faculty advisor of Psi Chi over his 10 years at Xavier and mentored a student who won the national Psi Chi’s prestigious Kay Wilson Leadership Award for Outstanding Chapter Presidents in 2010. Additionally, for four consecutive years until 2012 Dr. End’s students have won the department’s prestigious Dissertation of the Year Award, which is a highly competitive honor.

Dr. End’s mentoring of students goes well beyond simply the awards of his students, as he takes particular pride in mentoring their empirically-based research studies. He has long taught our Research Method and Design class sequence which has at least fifteen students in it each year and culminates in an empirically-based research project. He has mentored 74 conference presentations with undergraduate students at national, regional, and state conferences. He has co-authored or mentored almost 100 projects (N=93) presented at Xavier’s Celebration of Student Research and has even chaperoned trips to Georgia, Louisiana, Maryland, North Carolina, New York, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Wisconsin.

Dr. End even mentors students into the next level by having the most promising of these submitted for publications in scientific journals. In fact, he has seven mentored publications with his undergraduate students in peer-reviewed journals with another 26 co-authoring professional conference presentations.

The research team which he has run for 10 years while he has been at Xavier has developed into a highly productive vertical team where he mentors not only undergraduate research projects but also graduate students who, in turn, learn to mentor undergraduates in their research work.”
Over the past academic year, students in the department have conducted research on topics ranging from alcohol use to cyber-bullying, from moral courage to organizational leadership, with research populations ranging from juvenile offenders to sports fans, from angry children to individuals with SMI. If it is an answerable, feasible research question, chances are, a student in the department is trying to find an answer. The School continues to provide “hands on” experience conducting research by requiring all undergraduate students, independently, complete and write-up an original empirical study (flashback to the joys of APA-style). As the number of majors has grown, so has the number of studies our students have completed— in the 2014-2015 academic year, 52 undergraduate students completed independent studies as part of the Research Methods and Design II course under the guidance of Drs. Diab, Dulaney, End, Hart, and Sonnett. Research group participation is also on the rise within the department. These, mostly volunteer, research assistantships allow undergraduate and graduate students opportunities to work closely with faculty members researching their mentors’ primary research interests. During the past academic years, Drs. Beacham, Dulaney, End, Ghee, Gibson, Hart, Kenford, Salsman and Sonnett have provided such opportunities. Undergraduate students also assisted with a proportion of the 10 theses and 10 dissertations that were successfully defended during the last academic year. You might also run into our majors at Cincinnati Children’s Hospital where they are gaining valuable applied research experience volunteering in Dr. Drotar’s and Pai’s labs, among others. The increase in the quantity of research being conducted, has not affected the high quality of research being produced. Students have published work in both peer-reviewed, professional and undergraduate research journals. They have won research awards at EPA, OPA, RMPA, and CEPO/SEPA – (in the last five years, XU undergraduates have won eight awards at CEPO/SEPA, roughly 20% of the total awarded!). The spring semester is indicative of our students’ effectiveness and motivation to present their research off campus. Dr. Sue Kenford led a contingent of graduate and undergraduate students to Texas for the annual meeting of the Society of Behavioral Medicine. Additionally, five undergraduate students (Kelly Clancy, Ann Marie Diener, Claire Kiesel, Trevor Morris, and Jess Petri) and ten graduate students or former graduate students (Mark Dallas, Lisa Gallagher, Rebecca Gillespie, Sehra Pohlad, Jenny Qin, Laura Srivorakiat, Jennifer Thomas, Madeleine Thompson, Amanda Trice, and Andrea Winchester) presented posters or papers at the Southeastern Psychological Conference (SEPA) in Hilton Head, SC – a tough place to head to in the middle of winter for a conference. Drs. Mike Nelson or Christian End co-authored or sponsored each of the projects. Not to be out done, a contingent of students lead by faculty members Drs. Mark Nagy, Morrie Mullins and Dalia Diab also went to the annual meeting of the Society for Industrial and Organizational Psychology in Philadelphia this year. In addition to presenting papers and posters, there was a reunion dinner followed by going to a Phillies game. As should be evident, the department is committed to providing research opportunities for our students. In turn, the students have seized these opportunities and made the most of them. Although we do have a lot on the department’s research agenda, if you know of additional opportunities for our students to gain research experience, please let us know. Now back to SPSS....

- Christian End, PhD
A VIEW FROM THE CHAIR

After this late, hard winter, spring has been slow in coming, but the dogwoods are out, the redbuds were spectacular, and the grass is very green from all the rain that we have been having. The news reported a four legged coyote was corralled on Wall Street – he was apparently there eating rats – I am hoping that the coyote cruising my neighborhood is also surviving on small rodents and not household pets, though the deer and the groundhogs are more prevalent – all of them advertising that human civilization is just a pastiche over their natural habitat, and they will make use of what we build to house themselves (and eat our tulips while they are doing it). This is also the season when we are pressed to get everything done by the end of the year, and to try to take stock, in all else that we do, of what we have accomplished. Probably the biggest accomplishment of the year was that our own Dr. Morrie Mullins was promoted from Associate Professor to Professor. This honor represents achieving the pinnacle of academic achievement and is a reflection of his excellent functioning in the areas of teaching, scholarship and service. Please join me in congratulating him on this well-deserved recognition.

At the college level, we have been working with an interim Dean team this year that has been headed by Dr. Sr. Nancy Linenkugel. This group has worked on a revised vision of the college that is consistent with the vision of the School of Psychology. We have also searched for – and found(!) – a new Dean. Paul Gore will be joining us from the University of Utah – both as Dean and, administratively, as a member of our school. He is a counseling psychologist and so his academic home will be in our school. He may teach a class or two at some point, but his primary focus will be on the college and also on continuing to connect our college with the real world.

In some other faculty news, Nick Salsman is on sabbatical this semester and is currently in Germany where he is working with a collaborator on his Dialectical Behavioral Therapy research. Mike Nelson will be taking a sabbatical in the fall to work on a new edition of his workbook helping kids to better manage their aggression. Chris Dacey is finishing her term as president of the Academy of Clinical Psychology – the body that manages the American Board of Professional Psychology examinations of clinical psychologists. As I write this I realize that I could go on and on as our faculty are very busy in many active and interesting pursuits inside and outside the University.

In Student news, Rachel Gabbard was awarded the Bielaitruskas Thesis of the Year Award for her thesis titled, “The Effect of

Psi Chi News

This semester has seemingly flown by for Psi Chi / Psychology club! As is typical, we hosted a plethora of events including volunteer events at Tender Mercies, a presentation from Child Life Specialist Mrs. Hirt, National Eating Disorder Awareness Week, a screening of Alive Inside Screening with Against the Grain Scholars, and a series of Mindfulness events. Mrs. Hirt’s event was heavily attended and created an increased interest in the field of Child Life. Our NEDAW events incited support from the greater student body with a Be Body Positive Presentation and pledge. Equally exciting, our showing of Alive Inside with Against the Grain drew a diverse group of individuals interested in social justice. Several more of this spring’s events have been tremendously successful as well.

Finally, at our annual induction ceremony we welcomed alumnus Erik Alanson to speak about his experiences and sing praises of our undergraduate psychology program. We also welcomed the new 2015-2016 Psi Chi/Psychology Club officers Amber Bolin as president, John Witry as Vice President, Keisha Munson as Secretary, Brent Stevenor as Treasurer, Emily Schwartz as GRE Coordinator, Mary Goodick as Publicity Chair, and Alexina Hupp as Volunteer and Social Coordinator. This group already appears to be excited and driven to foster Psi Chi as an organization. We look forward to seeing what next semester brings.

-Lindsey Mooney/Psi Chi
Information Disclosure and Disability Type on Coworker Acceptance of Employees Receiving Disability Accommodations,” which was chaired by Dr. Morrie Mullins. Jordan Harrison earned the Bieliauskas Dissertation of the Year Award for his work titled “Longitudinal Health-Related Quality of Life in Children with Newly-Diagnosed Epilepsy: Identifying Predictors and Assessing Meaningful Change over Time” chaired by Dr. Janet R. Schultz. Elizabeth “Betsy” Haigh earned the Crown award for Social Psychology for her dissertation titled “A Test of Social Norms Theory on Psychological Help-Seeking Attitudes and Behavior.”

On the undergraduate level, Sarah James earned the V.J. Bieliauskas Psychology Award, Trevor Morris earned the Francis I Hamel Psychology Award, the Glen LaGrange Psychology Award was conferred on Julia Peterman and the Margaret and Richard Brizzolara Award was presented to Abigail J. Maristela. Graduate awards included the Bieliauskas PsyD Award to Katherine Tolle, the Bieliauskas I-O Award to Sarah Schweitzer and Kayla Walters, and the Kronenberger Psychology Assessment Award to Alana Goldstein. Brent Anderson was awarded a Jamie-Comer Grant to support his dissertation work.

In earlier editions of Insight, we noted that a number of students presented at ABCT with their faculty co-authors and/or sponsors. Recently, we have five undergraduate students (Kelly Clancy, Ann Marie Diener, Claire Kiesel, Trevor Morris, and Jess Petri) and ten graduate students or former graduate students (Mark Dallas, Lisa Gallagher, Rebecca Gillespie, Sehra Pohlad, Jenny Qin, Laura Srivorakiat, Jennifer Thomas, Madeleine Thompson, Amanda Trice, and Andrea Winchester) present posters or papers at the Southeastern Psychological Conference (SEPA) in Hilton Head, SC – a tough place to head to in the middle of winter for a conference. Drs. Mike Nelson or Christian End co-authored or sponsored each of the projects. Sue Kenford presented four posters at the Society of Behavioral Medicine in San Antonio with four undergraduates (Jessica Petri, Alexandra Layton, Madeline Judge, Olivia Robinson) and 3 graduate students (Courtney Wineland, Candace Tomes and Melanie Uy).

A contingent of students lead by faculty members Drs. Mark Nagy, Morrie Mullins and Dalia Diab also went to the annual meeting of the Society for Industrial and Organizational Psychology in Philadelphia this year. In addition to presenting papers and posters, there was a reunion dinner followed by going to a Phillies game. Other faculty are presenting at a variety of conferences and frequently doing that with student co-authors. As we celebrate graduation and the end of the school year – and gear up for summer classes – in the coming weeks, we continue to be grateful for the opportunities to interact with each other – to work, to play, and to celebrate together. We hope this edition of insight finds you well.

- Dr. Karl Stukenberg

School of Psychology Glad to have Supporters like you!

This past March, XU hosted its second annual March Gladness. March Gladness is a 48 hour period of time when members of the XU opportunity share on social media why they are glad for their Xavier experience, as well as provide support (financial, mentoring, etc.) for those “glad” experiences. The School of Psychology’s faculty and staff “gladly” created a matching/challenge gift of almost $2500. Alums, friends of the school, and others accepted generously stepped up to the challenge and at the end of the 48 hour period over $4500 had been donated directly to our School. Donations such as these are important in supporting our undergraduate and graduate students (e.g., conference travel). Thanks for your generosity!
I/O Insights: The I-O Research Award, Renamed!

For the past several years, an alum of the I-O program has made an anonymous donation to the program to help students pay for costs related to their thesis research. This award, which to this point has been referred to as “The I-O Research Award,” has required students to submit an application describing their project and how the funds would be used in the conduct of the project. Students have been awarded amounts ranging from $100-300, depending on the level of need and the number of applications submitted in a given year.

To this point, the award has been given anonymously. We are happy to announce, however, that our alum has decided to finally take credit for this wonderful and generous donation! As such, the award has officially been renamed the Levey I-O Research Award.

Jeff Levey (Xavier University I-O, 2008) has done work both in the research and consulting domains. His enthusiasm and passion for the field of I-O are reflected not only in his career, but in his interest in supporting the development of students who are following the same path he followed in Xavier’s I-O program. The faculty, staff, and students of Xavier University’s School of Psychology thank Jeff for his generous support of graduate research!

-Dr. Morrie Mullins

Congratulations to Jeff Levey (Xavier University I-O, 2008)
The 2014-15 academic year had many great highlights. The best accomplishment is the extraordinary success of students in the internship match. This year 23 PsyD students matched at internship sites across the country. Xavier students matched at a MUCH higher rate (95.8%) than the national match rate (82%). Although this is an impressive statistic, probably more impressive is the quality of sites to which students matched. Congratulations to all – Safe travels!

Holly Ait Taouit - Wellspan Behavioral Health, York, PA
Brent William Anderson – Wichita Collaborative Psychology, Wichita, KS
David E. Baum – Department of Veterans Affairs. Dayton, OH
Molly H. Carter – Kennedy Krieger/Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD
Katrina DeDonna – Hawthorn Center, Northville, MI
Helmer F. Figueiredo – Orlando Veterans Administration Medical Center, Orlando, FL
Michael Brenton Gaskell – University of Massachusetts, Worcester, MA
Alana L. Goldstein – Children’s Mercy Hospital, Kansas City, MO
Elizabeth Haigh – VA Western NY Healthcare System, Buffalo, NY
Joshua Harrison – Hefner VA Medical Center, Salisbury, NY
Rachel Renee Holden – Kennedy Krieger/Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD
Kathryn Grace Jameson – St. Louis Psych Intern Consortium, St. Louis, MO

William J. Leever – Jefferson County KY Intern Consortium, Louisville, KY
Katrina R. Lenz – Southern Louisiana Intern Consortium/LSU, Baton Rouge, LA
Stacy N. Lorenz - VA Medical Center - Battle Creek, MI
Julie Elizabeth Meade – Grand Valley State University, Allendale, MI
Allison E. Mecca – Butler University Consortium, Indianapolis, IN
Adam D. Peterson – Cincinnati VA Medical Center, Cincinnati, OH
Sehra F. Polad – VA Maryland HCS/University of Maryland SOM, Baltimore, MD
Qinxin Qin – Georgia State University, Atlanta, GA
Gina Radice – Spring Grove Hospital Center, Catonsville, MD
Sailee Teredesai – Cherokee Health Systems, Knoxville, TN
Amanda Trice – Mississippi State Hospital, Whitfield MS

"Congrats to all new interns this year!"
-Dr. Abbie Beacham
"As the newest faculty member in the School of Psychology at XU, I want to say thank you to the faculty, staff, and students for a great first year. After earning my Ph.D. from Kansas State University in August 2014, I was honored to join the XU family and continue sharing my passion for psychological science with students. During the past academic year, I had the opportunity to teach Research Methods and Design I and II, Developmental, and Social Psychology. Helping students pursue their interests in psychology, especially as they design and conduct their own research projects (in the Research Methods and Design course sequence), has been particularly rewarding. Outside the classroom, I continue to advance my program of research with the help of motivated undergraduate and graduate students. Our most active research topic includes examining individuals’, especially relatively young individuals’, willingness to stand up for their beliefs and values despite social pressure not to do so. Specifically, one of our current projects includes examining if personalized storybooks are an effective tool for teaching children the value of “doing the right thing” despite social pressure to do otherwise. We look forward to sharing the results of this (and other) research with the psychological community.

It’s an honor to be part of the School of Psychology at XU and I look forward to many happy and productive years working with and getting to know the faculty, staff, and students."

-Dr. Tammy Sonnentag

Mentors needed for Psychology Majors!
Have you faced the challenge of relocating to a city? Grappled with career choices? Successfully navigated the graduate school application process? Can you identify characteristics/behaviors that make some employees destined for success and others destined for “less than success”? Thought to yourself, ‘if I knew what I knew today back in college, I would of…’? If so, please consider mentoring a current XU student. This nationally known mentoring program is structured and designed with the limited schedule of a busy professional in mind. As illustrated in the testimonials (http://www.xavier.edu/career/mentor/), both mentors and mentees greatly benefit from these nurturing relationships. (By the way, there is no final exam. Therefore you don’t need to know all the answers, you just have to be willing to engage with the questions.)