Ohio Undergraduate Psychology Research Conference  
April 21, 2012  
Otterbein University  

**Schedule of Events**

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<td>8:00 - 8:45</td>
<td>Registration &amp; Continental Breakfast</td>
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| 8:45 - 9:00| Welcome & Conference Announcements  
Dr. Victoria McGillan, VPAA and Provost, Otterbein University  
Dr. Meredith C. Frey, Department of Psychology, Otterbein University | Science Atrium         |
| 9:00 - 10:00| Session 1  
Session 2  
Session 3  
Session 4 | Science 104  
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| 10:05 - 10:50| Session 5  
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Session 8 | Science 104  
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| 11:00 - 12:00| Keynote Address  
*Context, Lies, and Stereotypes: Studying Gender Differences in Sexuality*  
Dr. Terri Fisher, Professor and Program Coordinator of Psychology, The Ohio State University at Mansfield | Riley Auditorium, Battelle Hall |
| 12:00 - 1:00| Lunch | Science Atrium |
| 1:05 - 2:05| Session 9  
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| 3:00 - 3:30| Faculty Meeting | Science 104 |
The Moderating Effect of PTSD on Alexithymia and Pain Intensity in Undergraduate Students. Samantha Thornton, Crystal Quillen, & Douglas Delahanty (Dr. Crystal Quillen), Kent State University.

Previous literature has found a positive relationship between both alexithymia and PTSD and pain intensity. However, no one has determined whether there is a moderation between alexithymia and PTSD on pain intensity. The present study examined this relationship in a sample of seventy-four traumatized undergraduate students with high amounts of back and headache pains were recruited. We assessed alexithymia, PTSD symptoms and pain intensity through self report. Bivariate analyses revealed a significant negative relationship between alexithymia and pain intensity (r=.34, p≤.01). Hierarchical linear regressions revealed that PTSD symptoms were a significant moderator of the relationship between alexithymia and pain intensity (β=-.34, p=.001). After decomposition of the interaction, results revealed that for individuals with low PTSD symptoms, having high amounts of alexithymia was related to higher reports pain intensity (β=.67, p≤.001) but not for individuals with high PTSD symptoms (p>.05). Due to these counterintuitive findings, more research should be conducted assessing this relationship in other samples.

The Addition of Exercise as Necessary Component for Treatment of Breast Cancer. Shannon Custer (Dr. Courtney Ruppert), Columbus State Community College.

The purpose of this study was to evaluate the benefits associated with cancer patients engaging in regular exercise. A comparison was made of the personal testimonial of participants beginning an organized exercise program against those who had completed a similar program. Participation in the study was limited to individuals with a breast cancer diagnosis. Participants ranged in age from 44 to 62. Results indicate that the group just beginning an exercise program anticipate exercise to lead to overall improved quality of life and that those who had completed a program did, in fact, experience an improvement in their physical function as well as quality of life. These results support the argument for incorporating exercise as part of a comprehensive treatment plan for cancer patients.

Cortisol: The Chicken or the Egg of Post-traumatic Stress. Kelly Stuhldreher (Dr. Julie Cremeans-Smith), Kent State University.

Prior research has suggested that posttraumatic stress symptoms(PTSS) can occur among patients following total knee replacement (TKR) surgery. Because TKR is an elective surgery, pre- and post-operative assessments of cortisol are possible. We hypothesized that patients with higher levels of cortisol would have greater depressive symptoms and may ultimately impact recovery. Patients undergoing total knee replacement were assessed at three points: 2-3 weeks prior to surgery, and one and three months after surgery. Patients completed surveys that would measure depression and distress by using the Impact of Events Scale (IES) and the Center for Epidemiological Studies Depression Scale (CESD). Urine samples were collected prior to surgery and at three months following surgery to assess cortisol. Cortisol following surgery predicted PTSS at a marginal level of significance; both assessed at the 3 month follow up. However, pre-operative levels of cortisol did not predict post-operative PTSS.

The Effects of Breakfast on Levels of Emotional Awareness. Jessica Wheeler, Samantha Cazzell, & Lisa Lopez (Dr. Amanda Burger), Cedarville University.

The purpose of this study is to evaluate the effects of breakfast on levels of emotional awareness. The hypothesis is that a healthy breakfast yields higher levels of emotional awareness than an unhealthy breakfast or no breakfast at all. The sample size of eighty-three students was randomly selected from the General Psychology class at Cedarville University. The students who participated in the experiment completed the Levels of Emotional Awareness Scale (LEAS) and other questionnaires regarding their emotional tendencies and eating habits. We hypothesize that those who eat a healthy breakfast will exhibit higher levels of emotional awareness compared to those who eat an unhealthy breakfast or skip breakfast. Data will be analyzed and then presented at the Ohio Undergraduate Psychology Research Conference. Future studies could eliminate limitations by using a bigger sample size, a different age group, and a more diverse population.
9:00 a.m.

**Cognition in Elephants, Kristen Kolar (Dr. Penny Bernstein), Kent State University at Stark.**

Though animal behavior has been an area of interest for several decades, Animal Cognition is a concept that has only recently begun to gain attention as a credible area of study. In order to perpetuate the momentum of interest in comparative cognition, research must be continuous, reliable, and discussed. Such research is not always possible, particularly with species that are difficult to maintain in a research facility. Therefore, this study is a literature review of research on the cognitive capabilities of *Elephantidae Loxodonta* (African elephants) and *Elephantidae Elephas* (Asiatic elephants). Extensive review of relevant literature was conducted and individual results of several cognitive tasks are discussed. Evidence of problem solving, tool use, self-awareness, and cooperation is presented empirically. Due to the high black market value of the ivory tusks of the elephant, this species is at risk for extinction. Producing empirical evidence of cognitive abilities may help raise awareness and interest in the future of this species.

9:15 a.m.

**The Role of Probability on the N2 Effect in Language Switching.** María Estefanía Cisneros Jara (Dr. Nicole Y. Y. Whica), University of Texas at San Antonio.

The N2—a negative voltage deflection of electroencephalogram cortical activity at 200 milliseconds post-stimulus onset—is an event-related potential (ERP) component commonly larger in amplitude during language switching compared to not switching (Jackson et al., 2001). The nature of this language switching effect remains ambiguous. Language inhibition theory claims the N2 signals an inhibition of the previously activated language. In contrast, based on conflict-response theory the N2 may reflect a conflict from possible responses from the two alternate languages. In this study, the N2 effect will be explored in a language switching task when the probability-known to modulate response conflict (Nieuwenhuis et al., 2003)—of encountering a switch varies (20%, 50%, and 80%). Participants will be cued to name visually presented images in Spanish or English. If the N2 amplitude is larger for switch trials at every probability then the language inhibition theory is supported. On the other hand, if there is a larger N2 amplitude for switch trials when the probability of a switch is low (20% or 50%) and for non-switch trials when this probability is high (80%) then the conflict-response theory is supported.

9:30 a.m.

**Predictors of Sustained Attention within a Global-Local Processing Task.** Boris Hinderer (Dr. Cynthia Laurie-Rose), Otterbein University.

The present study investigated individual differences that might predict the ability to sustain attention and ignore distractions through the use of a global-local processing task. Participants were asked to vary the focus of their attention between the big-picture global elements of an image and the smaller local elements of an image. To measure predictors of performance on this task I used the five-factor personality inventory and the State-Trait Anxiety Inventory. Extroversion and trait anxiety were linked to decreased ability to sustain attention in the Local task. The current findings add to the existing literature on Global-Local processing and individual differences. The results of this study can be used by human factors researchers who examine job success in fields such as medical monitoring, airport security screening, and the remote operation of unmanned military vehicles.

9:45 a.m.

**Attention Networks and the Big Five.** Hin Yan Wong (Dr. Ryan Honomichl), Hiram College.

Prior research has focused on two huge fields of research, personality and cognition, as predictors of numerous outcomes. However, little research has completely combined the two. The Eyesynk Big Five Personality Traits, as a measure of personality, and the Attention Network Task (ANT), a measure of attention that looked at alerting, orienting, and executive control, was administered to 180 undergraduate students. Based on prior research, we hypothesized that individuals with low neuroticism, low extraversion, high openness to experience, high conscientiousness, and high agreeableness would score higher on the ANT. After a regression analysis, we found significant correlations between conscientiousness, neuroticism and executive control. We also found a correlation between orienting and agreeableness. The implications of these findings will be discussed.
9:00 a.m.
What Grabs Your Attention? Stephanie Schumaker, Maggie Picolo, Shirlstine Miller, & Lisa Shauver (Dr. Acacia Parks), Hiram College.
A considerable amount of past research has suggested that the personality of an individual has a huge impact in selecting a mate. It has been suggested that individuals are more attracted to those potential partners that show the personality attributes typical of their sex. According to this model, women who are passive, for example, are more attractive than are women who are assertive. In the current study, participants were asked to view photos and read a brief personality profile describing an opposite-sex individual as either being passive, assertive or aggressive. Participants then rated the attractiveness of the imaginary person's physical appearance and personality attributes. Contrary to previous research, passiveness was universally unattractive compared to assertiveness or aggressiveness, regardless of the gender of the person in the profile.

9:15 a.m.
The Effect of Visual Media on Women's Body Esteem. Sarah Metzger, Ashli Pearson, Kristian Parks, Sarah Natoce, & Madeline Slack (Dr. Michele Acker), Otterbein University.
The average person is exposed to 3,000 advertisements a day. A large number of these advertisements focus on unrealistic, beautiful women. 4 out of 5 women are dissatisfied with their appearance. Research has shown that advertisements have a negative effect on a woman's body esteem. The purpose of this study is to obtain data on the correlation between media use and body esteem. 66 college-aged females took a three-part survey that included the Franzoi & Shields' Body-Esteem Scale, questions about personal media use, and demographic questions.

9:30 a.m.
Sexualizing Characteristics in Girls' Dolls. Emily Hage & Annie Schmidt (Dr. Sarah Murnen), Kenyon College.
The APA Task Force on the Sexualization of Girls has raised concern that recently developed dolls like Bratz are promoting an over-sexualized image to girls. In the present study we coded different types of dolls for the presence of sexualizing characteristics. The coding was based on previous research of girls' clothing. Clothing was defined as sexualizing if it revealed or emphasized a sexualized body part, and/or had characteristics associated with sexiness. For example, very low-cut shirts or lingerie-like dresses would be coded as sexualizing. We coded nine brands of dolls with multiple dolls in each category for a total of 120 dolls. One-way analyses of variance showed that there were significant differences in the doll types in terms of both the number of sexualizing and childlike characteristics. Several types of dolls had a large number of sexualizing characteristics including Monster High dolls, Moxie Girlz, Ty Girlz, and Bratz dolls.

9:45 a.m.
Video Games and Life Perspectives. Joseph Cathey, Theophilus Hines, & Kurt Stultz (Dr. Chi-en Hwang), Cedarville University.
While video gaming has garnered much attention regarding aggression and social interaction, we wanted to expand the spectrum to see what other realms of social interactions may be influenced. Modern video games often subject their players to variables beyond their control such as: technological limitations, computer error, and other human players. As a result, we hypothesize a positive correlation between hours of video game use, external locus of control, and degree of loneliness. Our survey contains demographic questions regarding the participant's basic information and other personal video game preferences. We included Rotter's Locus of Control scale and the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) Loneliness scale to assess the possible correlation between video game habits and reliable scales which report social interactions. Participants were recruited through email and Facebook via the online tool, Survey Monkey.
9:00 a.m.  
**Students’ Perceived Barriers to Reporting Rape and Sexual Assault at Small Colleges.**  
**Kathleen Sullivan (Dr. Erin Henshaw), Denison University.**  
The current study seeks to determine students' perceived barriers to reporting rape and sexual assault at a small college in the mid-west. Sixty-one undergraduate students completed survey research assessing barriers to reporting. Thirteen students participated in focus groups in order to obtain qualitative data. The qualitative data was analyzed through a coding process by the researcher. The results suggest that barriers to reporting at small colleges are consistent with those previously identified through research at larger universities as well as their own unique barriers based upon the intimacy of the community that is found on a small residential campus.

9:15 a.m.  
**With a Little Help from my Friends: A Brief Bystander Intervention for Risky Alcohol Situations.**  
**Niki Feehan (Dr. Erin Henshaw), Denison University.**  
Harmful consequences of excessive alcohol use are a central health issue on college campuses. Bystander interventions are designed to increase students' likelihood of intervening to prevent harmful alcohol consequences for a friend. The goal of this study was to evaluate the impact of a brief exercise on students' likelihood and confidence in intervening. Students were randomly assigned to a control or experimental group. The experimental group listened to two audio files of peers on campus describing (fictional) experiences with alcohol on campus: in the first, the person received no help and suffered from the consequence, and one in which a friend intervened, preventing harm. The intervention was intended to increase perceived severity of not intervening, and to normalize the process of intervening as an act of friendship. Participants completed a pre- and post-survey regarding likelihood and confidence in intervening for a friend in the future.

9:30 a.m.  
**Virtual Reality Therapy and Substance Abuse.**  
**Alexandra Martin (Dr. Paula Millin), Kenyon College**  
This review of literature examines the applicability of emerging virtual reality technology to the use of cue exposure therapy to treat substance abuse disorders. Cue exposure therapy is a treatment grounded in learning theory that involves systematic exposure to both internal and external stimuli that have been associated with physiological responses that lead to harmful behavior patterns. Neutral exposure to these stimuli decreases psychological and physiological response to these cues. With the advent of virtual reality technology this treatment program has the potential to be more widely and effectively used. This review will concentrate on examination of learning theory in drug addiction, past research regarding cue exposure treatment and the available literature on the use of virtual reality in exposure paradigms. Potential implementations of virtual reality technology in substance abuse treatment as well as the possibility of increasingly robust therapeutic regimens will be discussed.

9:45 a.m.  
**Understanding Risky Decision Making Practices.**  
**Alexandra Trott (Dr. Joseph Johnson), Miami University.**  
The purpose of this survey study was to assess the perception that people have of risky, personal behaviors between two populations: Miami University undergraduate students & the homeless, urban population of Cincinnati. Participants were given a survey asking them to rate their perceptions of risks and benefits for a list of 17 behaviors. Additionally, they were asked to rate the likelihood that they would engage in the behaviors. Generally speaking, the homeless population perceived both risks and benefits of the behavior as higher than the college population. Additionally, the homeless population was more likely to engage in the risky behaviors in question. The perception of greater benefits could serve to explain the homeless population's higher likelihood of engaging in risky decision making behaviors.
10:05 a.m.

**Differences in Family Functioning Among Legally or Actually Blind Persons.** Marilyn J. Rush-Ossenbeck (Dr. Lynn A. Olzak), Miami University.

This study aims to better understand the social and familial issues that persons with legal blindness undergo in their daily lives. Through the utilization of a qualitative on-line questionnaire, family members of those who have a form of legal blindness either sustained at the time of birth or after the age of eighteen were surveyed. The results of the study indicated that for those individuals who became blind later in life it was harder to change their daily functioning and try to adapt to their newfound disability. In most cases the participant was confined to their house and totally dependent on their family to take them places and to care for them. Thus the family experienced strain in their family functioning. These individuals experienced a decrease in their social functioning as well. The sample size was N=16 with eight blind at birth or shortly after, and eight blind later in life. The average age of the participant was 44.7 with a range of 19 to 75. The average age of blindness of the family member after the age of eighteen was 29.75 with a range of 19 to 80.

10:20 a.m.

**An Investigation into the Construction of a Hoped For Possible Self on Facebook.** Amanda Martin (Dr. Sarah Murnen), Kenyon College.

This study sought to investigate the desire to create a "hoped for possible self" as a mediating variable between Self-Compassion and Facebook use. The results of this study did not produce a statistically significant correlation between Self-Compassion and Facebook use, or between Self-Compassion and MAPSOF (Martin Assessment of Possible Self on Facebook). Identity construction was assessed by the Identity and Experiences Scale, and it was found that self-compassion is negatively correlated with identity accommodation and positively correlated with identity balance. Additionally, the Fenigstein Self Consciousness Scale (FSCS) was positively correlated with identity accommodation. A slight positive correlation was found between FSCS and MAPSOF, and between identity accommodation and MAPSOF. This research suggests that, while there appears to be no significant direct relationship between Self-Compassion and Facebook use, Self-Compassion is correlated to identity construction and self-consciousness, which are correlated to the desire to create a "hoped for possible self" on Facebook.

10:35 a.m.

**Sex Differences in Masturbation Frequency and Attitudes.** Deidre Wise, Sarah Holbrook, & Maddie Holmes (Dr. Michele Acker), Otterbein University.

Research shows that there tends to be sex differences in the frequency and attitudes towards masturbation. Although both men and women practice masturbation and research has shown positive outcomes for both sexes, men still tend to masturbate more frequently and have more positive attitudes towards masturbation than women. This study focuses on sex differences in masturbation in terms of frequency and attitudes. The Negative Attitudes Towards Masturbation Scale, (NATMS), (Abramson, P.R., & Mosher, D.L, 1975), is used to measure attitudes while using a control and experimental group with the experimental group receiving an educational, positive intervention vignette before receiving the scale. We expect to find that men will masturbate more frequently than women, and also at a younger age than women; that single status peoples will masturbate more than those in relationships; and those persons who have participated in sexual intercourse to masturbate more frequently than those who have not experienced intercourse. We also expect to find that men will score less negative on the NATMS than women and also those women who receive the intervention vignette will score less negative on the scale than those women who did not, but there will be no difference in men in between groups.
**Sex and Gender Differences in Mental Rotation. Abigail Santorine (Dr. Michele Acker), Otterbein University.**

Mental rotation tasks are one of the most robust findings of sex differences available. However, very little literature has examined transgender or transsexual participants' scores on mental rotation tasks. Transgender or transsexual participants allow different insight into some of the main theories of sex difference in mental rotation; namely, socialization, androgen theory and masculinity/femininity. Evolutionary theories of mental rotation are also discussed, but are not able to be examined. In this study, we looked at the influences of sex, gender identity, hormonal medications and Spence, Helmreich and Stapp's (1975) Personal Attributes Questionnaire (PAQ) on tasks of mental rotation. Participants completed 48 mental rotation tasks, then answered questions on hormonal medication and completed the PAQ. Analysis indicated that there were no significant differences between a transsexual population and non-transsexual, regardless of hormonal medications or masculinity/femininity. Limitation of the study and directions for further research are discussed.

**Predicting Academic Achievement from Cognitive and Noncognitive Variables. Gabriella Evans (Dr. Meredith Frey), Otterbein University.**

Previous research has attempted to illuminate the relationship between academic achievement with other variables such as intelligence, academic motivation, stereotype threat, stigma consciousness, and socioeconomic status. However, these variables are seldom researched simultaneously. The present study attempted to uncover the role of race in determining the relationship of these variables with predicting academic achievement. One hundred and thirty seven undergraduate students from a small liberal arts college were assessed. Racial and ethnic group differences did emerge. In addition, the predictors of academic achievement varied across subjects identified as Caucasian and Black/African American. The present study is a precursor for possible future research in understanding predictors of academic achievement and methods of intervention for some variables (i.e. motivation, stereotype threat, and stigma consciousness) to improve achievement.

**The Effect of High and Low Associations on Encoding Specificity. Colette C. Bauer & Cara Schossow (Dr. Christopher Edmonds), Ursuline College.**

Encoding specificity is the way the brain stores a memory. In some cases, though, it has been shown that highly associated groupings may alter the way memories are stored, thus thwarting encoding specificity. In this study, we manipulated the context of a target stimulus with either high or low associates to encourage encoding specificity or misremembering ("cross coding") to another stimulus modality. A slideshow of items was presented that varied high and low association of word-first or picture-first groups. It is assumed that subjects will "cross code" the characters of highly associated groups. Consistent with our hypothesis, the outcome for cross-coding shows a significant main effect of associations. Surprisingly, there is a significant main effect of modality.
10:05 a.m.
Television for Babies: Amount of Exposure and Effects on Toy Play. Amanda Zamary (Dr. Tiffany Pempek), Otterbein University.
Although the American Academy of Pediatrics discourages television use by children under the age of two, research shows that they are exposed to both foreground television (developed for infants) and background television (developed for adults) daily. This study investigates the amount of television young children are exposed to at home and the effects of background television on toy play in the laboratory. Approximately 62% of families reported that the television was on half the time or more in their home, yet they also reported that their children only watched 3.4 hours of television per day on average. This suggests that parents may be underestimating background television exposure. Although past research found effects of background television on toy play, results for this study were not significant for number of toys played with or toy play switches. These findings suggest that further research on the effects of background television is warranted.

10:20 a.m.
The Effects of Background Television on Attention and Engagement in Young Children. Lauren A. Wargelin (Dr. Tiffany Pempek), Otterbein University.
Previous research has found that background television has negative effects on young children. This study sought to expand on previous research by investigating how formal features affect attention and engagement in infants during free play. Twelve- and 24-month-old children were observed during free play for 30 minutes, during which they were exposed to 10 minutes of Wheel of Fortune (high in formal features), 10 minutes of Charlie Rose (low in formal features), and 10 minutes of no television (control condition). Sessions were recorded and coded for attention (visually orienting to toys, television, or other) and engagement with toys (casual, settled non-focused, and settled focused). The results showed that the children paid more attention to the television during Wheel of Fortune, the program containing the highest amount of formal features, and that the presence of television decreased the average length of episodes of settled non-focused engagement regardless of formal features.

10:35 a.m.
Social Mimicry in Preschool Children. Alicia Clark & September Staley (Dr. John Marazita), Ohio Dominican University.
Social mimicry, which includes behavioral congruence and similarity in intentions, fosters social relationships (Ondobaka et al., 2011). This study seeks to explore the social and cognitive foundations of social mimicry during a one-on-one interaction with preschoolers from high or low risk backgrounds in order to explore the developmental roots of mimicry. Current research suggests that top-down processing may be employed in the decision to imitate an action; however, the study will explore the possibility that young children have not yet developed this ability and alternatively employ automatic processes. Preschoolers played a game in which they touched the larger of two shapes. During the trials, the experimenter subtly reached for either the correct or incorrect shape in order to measure the degree to which young children are sensitive to anticipatory movements. Results seem to show an increase in RT and error rate as a function of the experimenter's incorrect anticipatory movements.
The Basic Cognitive Processes of Intelligence. Chelsi Campbell (Dr. Meredith Frey), Otterbein University.
The purpose of this study was to use a computer-based battery of cognitive tasks of increasing complexity—including analogies, match-to-sample, and visual and auditory n-back tasks—to measure academic achievement. There were significant effects of task complexity on the number correct and median reaction times for the analogies task, the match-to-sample task, and the visual n-back task. Additionally, performance on several tasks and subjective workload measures were found to significantly predict grade point averages obtained from student transcripts.

The Effect of Caffeine on State-dependent Learning of Two Cognitive Tasks in Human Subjects. Karen Huntsman (Dr. Paula Millin), Kenyon College.
Caffeine is a widely used central nervous stimulant that has been found to affect learning and memory in both human and non-human animals. This study examined whether 300 mg of caffeine administered in decaffeinated coffee could induce state-dependent learning for a word recall and an object recognition task. Thirty-two college students were randomly assigned to one of three conditions: Caf-Caf, Caf-Water, or Water-Water. The first designation indicates whether participants received caffeinated coffee or plain hot water prior to learning and the second designation indicates the beverage consumed prior to recall testing that occurred twenty-four hours later. Results were analyzed using two one-way ANOVAs with the recall and recognition scores as dependent variables. The ANOVAs were not significant, suggesting that caffeine did not induce state-dependent learning under our experimental conditions.

There is no 10:35 talk in this session.
Facebook and Self-Perceptions. Erin Ziegelmeyer (Dr. Robert Carels), Bowling Green State University.
The Rosenberg Self-Esteem Scale, Balanced Inventory of Desirable Responding, and Body Shape Questionnaire were administered online to examine self-esteem, body image, and socially desirable responding in relation to Facebook usage. Responses of 103 female college students found that females who reported displaying no inappropriate content on their Facebook profiles had higher self-esteem, impression management, and body image than those who had content on their profile they wouldn't want viewed by others. Females who had over 575 total pictures on their Facebook had significantly more Facebook friends than females with fewer pictures, "liking" more popular clothing pages on Facebook was positively correlated with higher numbers of Facebook friends, and females who had BMI's of obese had significantly less Facebook friends than girls with normal BMI's. Results portray Facebook as a complex ground for gaining social popularity and performing competitive social comparison, with implications for social media-induced weight stigma.

Gay Identity and Body Esteem: The Mediating Effects of Self-stereotyping. Thomas Ball (Dr. Michelle Nario-Redmond), Hiram College.
In an attempt to supplement current explanations for the prevalence of body image dissatisfaction among gay men, the present study posits that strongly group-identified gay men may experience more discontent with their bodies as a result of endorsing consensually held stereotypes of an idealized prototypic gay male body. Tajfel and Turner's (1979, 1986) social identity theory is used as a framework for addressing this phenomenon. Gay male participants will be given a brief questionnaire to examine ingroup identification and self-stereotyping as predictors of body image dissatisfaction in gay men. It is predicted that path analyses will show that body image is best predicted by a model of group identification mediated by self-stereotyping. Implications for the degrading effects of self-stereotyping on body image in gay men and potential directions for the results are discussed.

The Effect of Media Viewing on Female Mood, Body Dissatisfaction, and Future Behaviors. Ashleigh Pona (Dr. John Yost), John Carroll University.
A large proportion of the mass media in Western society has been aimed towards young women, with a focus of content primarily being that of body image and eating behaviors. The media's portrayal of the ideal woman's body can negatively affect a woman's body image, mood, and concern about weight. Sociocultural theory provides the most strongly supported theoretical explanation for these effects experienced by many women in Western society. It states that the current societal standards for beauty emphasize the importance of thinness to an unhealthy extreme and at a level impossible for many women to achieve. The resulting quest for thinness has important consequences in lowered body esteem, excessive weight-altering practices, and the surfacing of clinical eating disorders. The purpose of this study is to experimentally assess whether exposure to the thin-ideal image portrayed in the media impacts women's mood, body dissatisfaction, and future behavioral expectations.

African American Students' Perception of Racial Issues at a Predominately White Christian University. Allie Hundley & Shaun Frazier (Dr. Amanda Burger), Cedarville University.
The purpose of this study was to examine the perceptions of African American students at Cedarville University in relation to diversity and discrimination on a predominately white campus. A qualitative study was used to interview 20 Cedarville students that were garnered using the snowball method. Questions ranged from topics of general or personal discrimination, interactions with students and faculty, and suggestions for increasing diversity. The interviews were transcribed and then analyzed for themes, using the nVivo software. Preliminary results showed themes of minimal discrimination, experienced mostly by older students and in an indirect way. The majority of students felt their professors did not treat them differently because of their race. Desires for increased diversity and an awareness of race issues in the school were expressed. Most students felt the best way to increase diversity on campus was through sending admissions teams to areas with a more diverse population.
1:05 p.m.

Perceptions of STEM Professors: The Impact of Gender, Parenthood, and ADHD. Steffanie Norris (Dr. Michele Acker), Otterbein University.

Courtesy stigma, gender bias, and negative perceptions of the mentally ill are well documented social phenomena. Parents of children with mental disorders may experience higher levels of stigma and bias. In this study, 157 faculty professors from 37 states evaluated a tenure extension request made by a pre-tenure STEM professor, seeking an extension due to a child being diagnosed with Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder. Participants responded to Likert items measuring the perceived warmth and competence of the professor as an academic and a parent. Results showed professors treating their child with ADHD medication were rated significantly lower on measures of warmth and competence compared to professors using psychotherapy to treat the child. Professors using medication for treatment were also less likely to receive a tenure extension. Attitudes about ADHD in our sample were negative, with the majority of participants expressing that the disorder is over-diagnosed and children are over-medicated.

1:20 p.m.

Gender Differences in Conceptual Knowledge in Preschool Children. Jenna Sketch & Sindhia Swaminathan (Dr. Monica Mitchell), Cincinnati Children's Hospital/University of Cincinnati.

Research has shown that gender differences in emotional knowledge and regulation begin to emerge in preschool. This study examines gender differences in school readiness, social, and quantitative conceptual knowledge using the Bracken Basic Concept Scale. Children enrolled in full-day child care and preschool programs in the Cincinnati area were assessed in the fall (pre) and spring (post) of the 2010-2011 academic year. Results showed that there were significant gender differences in social subtest scores. However, no significant interaction between gender and time was found, indicating that males and females enrolled in these programs are developing at similar rates. These results imply a need to investigate why males are scoring lower on these assessments and how preschool curriculum can be adapted to address this developmental gap.

1:35 p.m.

Correlates of Maternal Stress and Child Age during a Co-Constructive Task. Angela Mahoney, Amanda Maxwell, & Katlynn Stoll (Dr. Ebenezer de Oliveira), Malone University.

Based on Vygotsky's mediation paradigm, forty-five preschool children and their mothers worked together to construct a house of blocks following a model. The task consisted of two difficulty levels: Somewhat difficult and more difficult. We hypothesized that maternal self-perceived stress would be (1) negatively correlated with maternal verbal cognitive, emotional, and autonomy support; (2) positively correlated with verbal negative feedback; (3) negatively correlated with maternal gaze at child, and positively correlated with maternal gaze at model. Consistent with the notion of scaffolding we hypothesized that child age would be (4) negatively correlated with amount of maternal verbal support and gaze at child. Zero-order correlations partially supported hypothesis 1, 3, and 4. The data did not support hypothesis 2. First-order partial-correlations were used to control for maternal education and results corresponded with previous analyses. Therefore, as mothers' self-reported stress increases, their level of support decreases depending on the co-constructive task difficulty.

1:50 p.m.

Knowledge of Daycare Facts and Findings by Students, Parents and Caregivers. Michelle Haycook, Steffanie Norris, & Angela Sammons (Dr. Noam Shpancer), Otterbein University.

Research on childcare has expanded greatly in recent decades, due to the increased reliance on non-parental daycare in the US (Myers & Jordan, 2006). While research findings have increased, questions remain about how these findings are disseminated to the public at large. This study explores the level of knowledge about childcare and child development in parents, caregivers, and college students. 298 participants completed the Knowledge of Daycare Questionnaire, an online survey instrument designed specifically for this study. Results showed international college students performed significantly better than US students on general child development measures. Male students performed significantly better than females on general child development questions. Between-groups ANOVA revealed caregivers had significantly higher levels of knowledge than parents and students. Implications and future research directions are discussed.
1:05 p.m.

**The Effects of Altruism on Attraction.** Nicole McKay, Arielle Cenin, & Elizabeth Swearman (Dr. Christopher Edmonds), Ursuline College.

Scientists suspect that sexual selection may play a role in viability of altruistic traits. For instance, some male birds have brightly colored feathers to attract mates, though this trait makes them more visible to predators. Just as a male peacock attracts a mate, altruism may be a human way of "spreading our feathers". Two biographies of a male were designed, one "neutral" and one "altruistic". All traits were held constant, except for added altruistic traits of the latter. Sixty female subjects were given one of two bios, and then a questionnaire. Physical and personality attractiveness, along with desirability to commit, were measured based on Ss ratings of the male. Lack of significance in the dependent variables may be due to altruistic traits being assumed in the neutral bio; as well as traits included in both bios that females find attractive, such as financial success, outweighing the effects of altruistic traits.

1:20 p.m.

**Attitudes Towards Masturbation.** Brooke Bishop & Abigail Santorine (Dr. Michele Acker), Otterbein University.

As masturbation is not a commonly discussed activity, there is not much accessible information about it. Young women and men typically receive messages about masturbation from the media, peers, and sexual partners. Because of a relative lack of public discussion, young people tend to receive mixed messages about this subject. Some people experience feelings of shame, guilt, or disgust when speaking about or after engaging in masturbation. This study surveys current attitudes about masturbation between different age groups. Participants will be gathered from Otterbein University and recruited from the surrounding central Ohio area. As part of the experiment, participants' masturbation practices and attitudes will be assessed. All the participants will then complete the Negative Attitudes Towards Masturbation Scale (Abramson, & Mosher, 1975). It is predicted that men will have more initial positive feelings about masturbation than women, and that younger participants will have a more positive attitude towards masturbation than older participants.

1:35 p.m.

**Expectations of Chivalry in Romantic Relationships.** Jenna Cooperider & Jake Preston (Dr. Michele Acker), Otterbein University.

Society uses fairy tales to idealize femininity in women, and expect women to depend on men for a satisfying life, leading to the idea of chivalry (Rudman & Heppen, 2003). Benevolent sexism is a set of attitudes that favor keeping women in submissive roles, but present positive feelings on women (Viki, Abrams, & Huchison, 2003). The primary aim of this study is to examine the connection between the levels of gender identity using the PAQ scale, the degree to which a person expects chivalrous behavior in a relationship, and the results of the benevolent sexism survey. The primary hypothesis was that people that have high score in femininity will expect more chivalrous behavior in relationships, people that have high scores in masculinity will be expected to perform more chivalrous behavior in relationships. It is also expected that people expecting chivalry in relationships will score high on the benevolent sexism scale.

1:50 p.m.

**Adult Attachment Orientation and Perception of Others in Conflict.** Shannon Mooney & Brittney Gilabert (Dr. John Marazita), Ohio Dominican University.

Relationship working models are developed across early childhood and continue to impact adult relationships (Simpson, Rholes, & Winterheld, 2010). Using the perspective that memory is schematic one can understand how working models for relationships affect perception and memory. This study aims to see if one's attachment orientation affects the perception of support and distance observed in couples in a conflict. Participants completed the AAQ (Adult Attachment Questionnaire) and then viewed two conflicts. After each clip of conflict they rated support and distance. Attachment orientation predicted participant's perception of the conflicts.
1:05 p.m.
The Effects of Locus of Control and Progressive Muscle Relaxation on Cognitive Performance. Katlyn Orient & Anna Vendl (Dr. Milton E. Becknell), Cedarville University.
The purpose of this study is to determine the effect of progressive muscle relaxation training and locus of control on a cognitive task. Thirty-eight Cedarville University students were tested to determine internal or external locus of control. Each group was randomly assigned to conditions of relaxation training or a simple word search exercise before being administered a mental arithmetic task. Heart rate, skin temperature, and facial tension (frontalis) was monitored. Data is collected; results will be analyzed by mid-April and presented at the conference. We hypothesize that results will demonstrate that relaxation training and an internal locus of control will be positively correlated with cognitive performance and negatively correlated with autonomic arousal. This study could help identify who is most likely to respond to and potential benefits of self-regulation training. The homogenous nature of the participants is a limitation, but implications may be broadened by studies with more diverse populations.

1:20 p.m.
You Could Be Happy: The Effects of Positive and Cognitive Bibliotherapy on Well-Being. Rebecca Szanto (Dr. Acacia C. Parks), Hiram College.
In the present study, we were interested in the effects of two self-help interventions -- positive bibliotherapy and cognitive bibliotherapy -- on the well-being of college students. 54 freshmen were randomly assigned to positive bibliotherapy (The How of Happiness by Sonja Lyubomirsky), cognitive bibliotherapy (Control Your Depression by Peter Lewinsohn), or a control group that simply logged about naturally managing their mood. All three groups had 8 weeks to complete assigned activities (if any), and were asked about their well-being before and after the intervention. Preliminary data analyses have revealed that when controlling for baseline CES-D levels, participants from both book conditions reported fewer symptoms of depression after the 8 weeks than those who simply logged about naturally managing their mood. Future analyses plans to look at other outcomes, and the role of person-activity fit.

1:35
Gender, Sexual Orientation, and Preferences in Psychotherapy. Steffanie Norris & Joel Butler (Dr. Meredith Frey), Otterbein University.
Client preferences are an important element of evidence-based psychotherapy and therapeutic outcome. Research is lacking on how client preferences shape the therapy experience, and impact the overall outcome of treatment, especially for LGB (lesbian, gay, bi-sexual) clients. We studied the influence of gender and sexuality on common therapy variables in 58 college students. Participants completed an online survey utilizing the Klein Sexuality Grid (1978), Personal Attributes Questionnaire (Spence et al, 1973), and forced choice questions are evidence-based practice and common therapy variables. Results showed significant differences between LGB and heterosexual clients on endorsement of evidence-based practice psychotherapy, with LGB clients expressing less interest in common therapy variables than heterosexual clients. PAQ masculinity sub-scales were highly correlated with the Klein sexuality scale. Implications and future research directions are discussed.

1:50
Stigma as a Barrier to Care in the United States Military: Recommendations for a Military-Specific Stigma Reduction Program. Kevin M. O’Brien (Dr. Michael Levine), Kenyon College.
It is estimated that only 38-45% of returning armed service members who screen positive for a mental disorder indicate any interest in receiving treatment. While many barriers have been identified that are thought to contribute to this lack of treatment seeking, one major barrier within the military is stigma. Specifically, soldiers fear the negative social and career consequences associated with being labeled as having a mental disorder. This project will review the literature in several fields in order to develop a set of recommendations for the content and evaluation of an intervention designed to reduce the type(s) of stigma that creates barriers for effective identification and treatment of combat-related psychological disorders. Both the role of stigma in deterring soldiers from treatment, military and civilian programs for mental illness stigma reduction will be explored and analyzed. To translate the findings from these reviews into a stigma reduction program that is applicable to military settings, specific criteria were developed and applied for selecting already existing programs on the basis of a reasonable balance between (1) methodological rigor; and (2) potential applicability to military settings.
2:10 p.m.

Are You Sexier than a Fifth Grader? An Analysis of Girls' and Women’s Halloween Costumes. Kaye Otten & Melissa Straus (Dr. Sarah Murnen), Kenyon College.

Today in the United States, popular Halloween costumes have shifted from representations of traditional ghouls and ghosts to popular culture icons. For women and girls, costumes are not only disconnected from the spirit of Halloween, but also marketed towards promoting gendered appearance standards (Nelson, 2000). This study explored the prevalence of both “sexy” and child-like characteristics in the most popular Halloween costumes for girls, tweens, teens and adults in 2011. These costumes were coded for specific sexualizing and child-like characteristics based on a scale originally created for girls' clothing (Goodin, Van Denburg, Murnen and Smolak, 2011). We hypothesized that as the costumes' target age increased, sexualizing characteristics would also increase as child-like characteristics decrease. While our data showed generally low levels of sexualizing characteristics for girls' costumes, costumes for tweens, teens and adults all had high numbers of sexualizing characteristics with no significant difference between age groups.

2:25 p.m.

Age and Gender Differences in Moral Beliefs of University Students and Alumni. Hannah Holmes & Brigitte Ray (Dr. Charles Dolph & Dr. Chi-en Hwang), Cedarville University.

This study examined 391 University students' and alumni's beliefs and the development of those beliefs over time and life experiences. Beliefs were measured with a survey in the form of 5-point Likert scales (strongly agree, agree, neutral, disagree, strongly disagree). Statistical analysis will be performed to examine whether there are any gender or age differences in various moral and religious beliefs. We hypothesize that age will positively correlate with conservative dogmatism and negatively correlate with liberal dogmatism. Based on past research that suggests women tend to be more religious, we also hypothesize that women will have more conservative beliefs about morality than men. Data analysis is in progress, and results will be presented at the conference.

2:40 p.m.

Impact of Domestic Abuse Upon Children. Sarah Morford & Christina Pleasant (Dr. Michele Acker), Otterbein University.

The negative consequences of being mentally or physically abused as a child are well documented, however, much less is known about the impact on children of observing mental or physical abuse in the home (Adams, 2006). In this study, we are exploring the experiences of college students who may have experienced mental or physical abuse as a child. We predict that students with a family history of abuse or those who have observed abuse in their home as a child will show a significantly higher rate of being in an abusive relationship as an adult. Resources for treatment and steps on how to leave an abusive relationship are discussed.
2:10 p.m.

*Body Image In College Students: Males vs. Females, Athletes vs. Non-Athletes.* Rachel Denz, Chris Davis, Angela Sammons, & Nisa Williams (Dr. Michele Acker), Otterbein University.

This study was conducted to analyze the stereotype that women care more about their body image than men. A survey was developed to evaluate whether or not there is any truth to this stereotype. The participants were male and female college students. Participants were compared on gender, but also on participation in college athletics and rates of physical exercise. Our hypothesis was that females would have lower confidence in body image than males. However, we also hypothesized that female athletes would have higher confidence in body image than non-female athletes. Overall, we predicted that participation in college athletics would be correlated with higher confidence in body image for college athletes, both male and female. We will be presenting the results of our study and describing potential consequences of body image issues in athletics at the conference.

2:25 p.m.

*Women’s Aspirations Based on their Background.* Caitlin Collins, Drew Markley, Leslie Willis, & Lauren Zachrich (Dr. Michele Acker), Otterbein University.

In our experiment we studied how growing up in rural environment versus an urban environment affects female college students' college, career, and life aspirations. A similar study found, "women's life-role values, aspirations, and early sexual experiences were associated with the ways careers were shaped" (Huang, El-Khour, Johansson, Lindroth & Sverke, 2007). We surveyed women to collect our data with a series of questions about personal information including demographics, their education, and relationship status. Likert scale items we used to measure goals and aspirations. We expect to find that women who grew up in rural areas will choose to remain close to home and value a balance between work and home life greater than women who grew up in an urban area.

2:40 p.m.

*Sassy or Sweet: Representations of Gender in Descriptions of Girls’ Dolls.* Claire Greenfield & Katherine Poinsatte (Dr. Sarah Murnen), Kenyon College.

The number of roles available for young women in American culture has increased; it is now acceptable for women to express masculine-stereotyped traits. However, women are still expected to express traditional feminine traits, and simultaneously achieve appearance ideals. Stephen Hinshaw called this a “triple bind”. In the present study we examined girls' dolls to see what types of roles were represented. Recent dolls have character descriptions associated with their product. We examined descriptions of eight types of dolls (N = 65) and coded for emphasis on appearance, emphasis on achievement, and personality type. Overall, 57% of the doll descriptions focused on appearance, with GroovyGirlz and Bratz having the strongest focus. 43% of dolls focused on achievement, with some dolls focusing on achievement within the realm of appearance. Monster High dolls were characterized as "sassy," while other dolls were "neutral" or "sweet."
2:10 p.m.  
Development of the Patience Scale. Hin Yan Wong, (Dr. Acacia Parks), Hiram College.  
Little research exists pertaining to patience. Patience, as a psychological construct, has been described as the tendency to endure difficult and trying situations. Due to the lack of existing patience measures, we decided to create a patience scale. We hypothesized that patience would be comprised of three subscales: flexibility (willingness to change one's schedule when met with obstacles), emotion (positive and negative emotions expressed during trying events like acceptance), and time (willingness to wait to achieve one's goal or just quit). After a series of item analyses to optimize internal consistency, the final version of the Patience Scale (PS) has an alpha of 0.78 with subscales showing alphas of 0.86 for flexibility, 0.70 for time and 0.71 for emotion. The PS shows both convergent and divergent validity with other relevant scales. Our methodology of item design and inclusion, along with the details of our validity analysis, will be discussed.

2:25 p.m.  
Goals, Beliefs and Motives: What Relates to Studying Among Community College Students? Eric N. Gray, Meghan Pierce, Shaina Mendez, Michelle Kwiatkowski, Sandra Johns, & Sean Brown (Dr. Julia Krevans), Cuyahoga Community College.  
Three aspects of study strategies, effort, time management, and cognitive engagement, as well as intrinsic and extrinsic motives were assessed for 108 community college students with Pintrich’s Motivated Strategies for Learning Questionnaire. Students' educational goals and their beliefs about the value of a college education for career success were also measured. The students' belief in the value of college was positively related to effort, r(91)=.32, p<.01, time management, r(81)=.45, p<.001, and cognitive engagement, r(86)=.45, p<.001, as was extrinsic motivation, r's (n's = 82 to 93)= .32, .38, and .51, respectively, p< .01. Intrinsic motivation was most strongly related to cognitive engagement, r(88)=.53, p<.001. Other relationships were dependent on students' age, hours of paid work and caregiving obligations. Higher educational aspirations were associated with better time management, only, and only for students under 25 years old.

2:40 p.m.  
There is no 2:40 talk in this session.
2:10 p.m.
Facebookopolis Revisited: The Interaction Between Social Networking, Self-Esteem, and Communication. Christopher Flynn & Gabrielle Lassetter (Dr. Chi-en Hwang), Cedarville University.
Our purpose in conducting this study is to shed some light on the interaction between social network usage, Self-Esteem, and communication skills. This information could give those who work with young adults a better idea of how to relate to their clients. We are administering three surveys. One of these is based on the Internet Addiction Test (Facebook Addiction Test), another is the Interpersonal Communication Skills Inventory, and the third is the Rosenberg Self-Esteem Scale. We are administering these along with demographic questions to students at Cedarville University who are randomly chosen to participate. We are using www.surveymonkey.com in order to ensure complete anonymity. We predict that we will find a positive correlation between increased social network usage, lower self-esteesms, and poorer communication skills. We also predict that there will be a higher incidence of Facebook addiction found in female students.

2:25 p.m.
Exposure Factors Affecting Children's Analogical Problem Solving: Interaction versus Television. Colleen Russo (Dr. Gina Dow), Denison University.
This study compares performance on analogical problem-solving tasks in 140 preschool-aged children after being exposed to a problem through either a television show clip of "The Wonder Pets!", an identical interactive toy scenario or a combination of the two. The target tasks included a close mapping and a far mapping problem. Results show that children in the experimental conditions performed significantly better than those in the control condition (no base problem presented) for both target problems. Results showed that children performed equally well on the close mapping target problem regardless of the experimental exposure (television, interaction or a both). For the far mapping problem, however, children performed significantly better in the double exposure conditions (combination of interaction and television) than they did in the single exposure conditions (just interaction or just television). Results are discussed in the context of using educational media as a supplement to live interaction.

2:40 p.m.
Be Kind to One Another: An Historical Content Analysis of Verbal Interactions in Children's TV. Colleen Russo (Dr. Gina Dow), Denison University.
Because children learn social behaviors from television, children's television is investigated as a possible predictor of bullying behaviors. Study 1 analyzed all neutral, positive and negative speech instances in 15 different children's television shows over the past two decades. Results showed that the older shows have significantly more positive content than the newer shows, while the newer shows have significantly more negative content than the older shows. Additionally, parents and adults are treated significantly worse by children in the newer shows compared to the older shows, and teachers are portrayed more negatively in the newer shows than they are in the older shows. Study 2 analyzed ratings of 17 values within each of the 15 children's television shows. Results showed that the value of benevolence is significantly more important in the older shows while values associated with fame and bullying behaviors are significantly more important in the newer shows.
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<td>Cincinnati Children's Hospital/University of Cincinnati</td>
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## Concise Schedule

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<th>Name</th>
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<td>Cedarville University</td>
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