Every Fall it has become a tradition for many of us to attend the Oklahoma Network for the Teaching of Psychology conference. This year the conference was held on the OSU campus in Stillwater. As with every year, the conference was a great way to get exposure to new teaching techniques and network with colleagues from around Oklahoma.

Some of the highlights of the conference were the “Academic Dishonesty” discussion led by Dr. Stephen Davis, in which my eyes were opened to the amount of creativity students put towards cheating and plagiarism; the “Psychology of Hate Groups” talk given by Dr. Linda Woolf, who again opened my eyes to an important topic. This talk had many of us near tears as we considered the ramifications of hate on our campuses.

This past month, myself and two graduate students (Genia Harrison & Christie Schramm) and faculty from the Education Department also had the opportunity to attend the Grant Writing Workshop provided by Robert Bradley. The experience provided set us on the road to obtaining funding for many of the planned programs in Psychology’s near future.

Lastly, on a very recent Saturday, some of our students (& family) along with faculty participated in the Homecoming float. The psychology department would like to thank all those who participated and took their time out on Saturday afternoon to walk in the parade, hand out candy, and proudly wear the ECU colors (and “Rory the Tiger” Costume) with pride.

Wow, it’s already been a busy semester and we are just getting started. We have number of events planned for the remainder of the semester including a Graduate School and Licensing Lunch for Undergraduate students, and T-Shirt orders for Psi Chi.

Have a Great Semester!

To many Academics and Students alike, the fall semester brings with it the start of another new year. We don’t celebrate the start like we do with New Years, but we hold many of the same thoughts and traditions. We often create goals or resolutions (“I will attend class more often” or “I will work that new material into my lecture”, we are happy to see old friends, and excited to see what new things are in store for us.

In fact, I personally have always considered the start of the school year as the “turning over a new leaf” point in my year, while New Years has been relegated to that “break between fall and spring semesters”.

Regardless of when you “start” your year, take this opportunity at the beginning of the Fall Semester to try a fresh approach, to do those things you never found time for before, and to enjoy the rejuvenating effects of a new academic year.

Marc Klippenstine
At the beginning of this semester I officially became a member of Psi Chi. While I have been a co-advisor of our chapter I was never fully a Psi Chi member. That ended when I completed my Ph.D. in January and was eligible to become an official member. This semester I would like to welcome all our new members and also note the following changes to our elected officials:

**President:** Melissa York.

**Vice President:** Pepper Peters

**Treasurer:** Genia Harrison

**Secretary:** Geri Coppenbarger

Also at the beginning of this semester, the Department of Psychology is instituting a degree program change that will affect all students starting under the Fall 2010 academic year.

The change includes the addition of a required course (PSYCH 3933 - Writing and Design for Psychological Research) and moves our program to a 40 hour major.

This addition was made after an evaluation of other programs in Oklahoma by Dr. Joanna Harris-Young and Dr. Marc Klippenstine. These changes were deemed necessary to make our students more prepared and competitive with students of other schools. Please advise students of these changes accordingly.

### UPCOMING/RECENT EVENTS

**October 16**

**Homecoming Day and Parade**

Join us as we represent our Department in the Homecoming parade.

**November 1 to 5**

**Pre-Enrollment Week**

For Students: Get your classes picked early and enroll before classes close.

For Faculty: Remind your advisees about their ability to enroll, being sure to keep in mind the changes to our program.

**November 3**

**Graduate and Licensing Lunch**

Students are encouraged to attend this semester’s Psi Chi sponsored event and come learn about graduate school (e.g., how to apply, where should I apply, what do I need to do now) and the various types of licenses that are available to students with a MSPS.

**November 19**

**President Hargraves’ Inauguration**

Join us at the Kerr center to celebrate the inauguration of ECU’s Eighth President.

**December 6 to 10**

**Exam Week**

**December 11**

**Graduation Day**