CONGRATULATIONS 2010 GRADUATES!

Ph.D.


Velgach, Sofya (2010, Spring). The impact of role involvement and perceive control on the experience of work-family interface in India.

M.S.


Gradshtein, Michal. (2010, Fall). Factors affecting DIF: The role of translation, culture, and item characteristics.


Neuman, Brendan. (2010, Fall). Measuring applicant faking through response latencies in online personality testing.

Honors & Awards

Charles Pounian Award - Anne-Sophie Deprez-Sims, M.S., received the Charles “Arch” Pounian Award. She has published research in international journals, and has presented papers at several national conferences. Her research is on discrimination in the employee selection process, specifically exploring bias against persons who speak with foreign accents. Anne-Sophie also served on the executive committee for the 2009 IO/OB conference. She is currently working at I/O Solutions as a Research and Development Specialist.

Rosabeth Moss Kanter Award - Dr. Kemp Ellington’s paper on occupational influences on work-family conflict, which was previously published in the Journal of Applied Psychology, was recognized in the Annual Competition for the Rosabeth Moss Kanter Award for Excellence in Work-Family Research as one of the “twenty best articles of 2009.”
Publications & Presentations

It gives us great pleasure to report the achievements of our faculty and students who have contributed to the field of I/O Psychology. Many alumni from our program also have publications. We regret that due to limited space we cannot recognize them all by name.

* denotes an IIT student


Publications & Presentations (Continued)


Mead, A. D. (Co-Chair; 2010, April). Issues in applying IRT to real-world problems. Symposium conducted at the 25th annual conference of the Society for Industrial and Organizational Psychology, Atlanta, GA.


Mead, A. D. (Co-Chair; 2010, April). Practical and methodological considerations for medium-of-administration research. Symposium conducted at the 25th annual conference of the Society for Industrial and Organizational Psychology, Atlanta, GA.


Elizabeth Howard, Sam Purachuri, and Sarah Rusakiewicz
Student Groups

Asian Psychological Association

The Asian Psychological Association was founded in February 2010 by several Chinese students in the I/O psychology program at IIT. We were lucky enough to have Dr. Roya Ayman as our advisor to support and guide us through the foundation procedure. Even though the title of this student club sounds exclusive it is open to all. From its beginning, APA commits itself to fully utilize the resources this university provides and as such it is open for all students who are interested in psychology.

In only three months, we successfully spread our reputation by organizing numerous activities. Since the Spring of 2010, we have been donating computers, monitors, printers, conference tables, chairs, refrigerators and printing paper to upgrade professors’ labs in order to give students a better academic environment to study and research. In March, we held an open house to promote our organization. That was followed by a movie night in April to get students to apply their knowledge by analyzing human behaviors in a movie. Additionally we funded up to 75% of trips for students who were interested in attending the SIOP conference in Atlanta, Georgia. We ended our Spring semester with a beautiful finale by cooperating with GAIOP to sponsor a farewell party for all graduates. Our organization has remained strong and we believe, with the leadership of our new president, Bo Ju, the APA will continue contributing to the I/O program and give every psychology student at IIT a colorful school life.

- Kelly Zhao, Spring 2010 graduate

Graduate Association of I/O Psychology

The creation of our organization spans several years. There are several steps to become a recognized student organization at IIT but it can be done. As time went by, more steps were being accomplished until in the last year when the Graduate Association of I/O Psychology Students (GAIOPS) was created. Thanks are in order for several students that helped push this organization into being: Roger Dimitrov, Stefanie Pugliese, Hsiang To, and Liwen Liu. Several students have since taken the reins of leadership in different capacities. Danny Gandara, DJ Sergent, Stephanie Adams, Jonas Neuhengen, and Avi Fleisher served as the first official executive board that directed the group to host several events. In the following year Jill May and Zeenat Kwon joined the group. Currently, the organization is being led by Danny Gandara, Jill May, and Jonas Neuhengen. There are several opportunities for students to take on leader roles.

GAIOPS has hosted several events and hopes to conduct many more. The organization has held workshops for developing resumes and curriculum vitae on the professional development side to hosting fun activities such as movie nights. GAIOPS has also done considerable work in soliciting funds to send students to SIOP and helped raise funds from the school when IIT hosted the 30th annual IOOB conference. There is plenty of room for the organization to grow and we welcome any and all ideas. Please contact Danny Gandara at d.a.gandara@gmail.com if you would like to be a part of the organization or have any ideas for the students of the I/O Program.

- Danny Gandara, 3rd year

Kelly Zhao, Lily Chuang, Maple Chen, and Peter Chi

Jonas Neuhengen, Danny Gandara, and Anna Brown
Professional Activities

**Alumni**

Michael Collins: Human Resources Officer for the national parks in Arizona.
Renee Czeryba: Manager of Marketing Change Management at Sears Holdings Company.
Allan Fromen, Ph.D: Vice President of Consulting at GfK.
Mitchell Gold, Ph.D: Director of Client Services at Service Management Group in Kansas City.
Anwaar Judeh: Compensation & Benefits Specialist at Amcor Flexibles Inc. in Mundelein.
Linda Liang, Ph.D: Department Chair for the Online Ph.D. Program in Organizational Leadership at The Chicago School of Professional Psychology. She was on the 10:00 pm news on Channel 7, ABC, to talk about the Art of Negotiating.
John Nawn: Founder of ThePerfectMeeting.com, has established himself as a thought leader in the area of meeting effectiveness and efficiency. In addition to facilitation coaching and conducting workshops on maximizing productivity, John designs corporate and association meetings which focus on enhancing the attendee experience.
Sandra Nelson, Ph.D: Personnel Research Psychologist in the Classification, Assessment and Policy Group at the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) in Washington D.C.

**Students**

David Blitz works as a Job Analysis Psychometrician for the Social Security Administration.
Anna Brown works as a Consultant at the Center for Research and Service. She is also working as a Testing Coordinator for the CPS project.
Matt Devereaux worked as a Human Resources Intern at the Chicago Police Department.
Kevin Franke works as an Associate Consultant at the Center for Research and Service.
Danny Gandara works as an Organizational Development Consultant with the Interprofessional Projects Program at IIT.
Bonny Lawrence worked as an Employee and Organizational Development Intern at Rush Hospital.
Jill May works as an Assessment Consultant with the Interprofessional Projects Program at IIT.
Jonas Neuhengen works as an Associate Consultant at the Center for Research and Service.
Brendan Neuman works as Project Director at the Center for Research and Service.
Christine Overfors works as a Human Resources Intern at the Environmental Protection Agency.
Samantha Paruchuri works as an Associate Consultant at the Center for Research and Service.
Stefanie Pugliese works as an Associate Consultant at the Center for Research and Service. She is also working as a Testing Coordinator for the CPS project.
DJ Sergent works as an Associate Consultant at the Center for Research and Service.
Rodney Vallejo works as an Associate Consultant at the Center for Research and Service.
Jeremy Watson works as an Associate Consultant at the Center for Research and Service. He is also a part-time Instructor at Illinois Institute of Technology.
Megan Wheeler works as an Associate Consultant at the Center for Research and Service.
Brad Williams works as a Human Resources Intern at the Chicago Police Department.

We are grateful to all IIT alumni for providing us with their continual support, resources, and feedback over the years.

IIT students not only obtain academic knowledge but also hands-on practical experience by working with organizations and with our very own alumni.
Faculty Activities

Dr. Roya Ayman

Dr. Ayman has completed 20 years serving IIT as the director of the I/O program. As a researcher, with her students and colleagues, she is involved in a number of research projects related to leadership, work family conflict, and diversity & organizational climate. Last year, Dr. Ayman collaborated with alumni and students on several projects which yielded publication and presentations listed earlier. With several of her students, Roya also provided consulting for University Health System Consortium, on topics of supervisor subordinate relationships. She also provided leadership training for a group of Chinese managers and professionals from Inner Mongolia in Hohhot – Inner Mongolia China. She was awarded the leadership fellowship by Leadership Trust, U.K. for her contribution to culture and leadership research. She is the section editor of Journal of Management and Organization and is on the editorial board of Leadership Quarterly and International Journal of Cross-cultural Management and has provided reviews for other journals and conferences such as SIOP, Academy of Management, European Academy of Management, European Journal of Work and Organizational Psychology, and Applied Psychology: International Review Journal of Applied Social Psychology. Roya also works with the Leadership Academy at IIT as a faculty evaluator.

Dr. Scott Morris

Dr. Morris and his students are involved in a number of research projects related to personnel selection and statistical analysis. Several ongoing projects focus on adverse impact analysis, exploring how we can improve assessments of employment discrimination through the use of more advanced statistical techniques. Along with Elizabeth Howard and Zeenatooohi Kwon, Scott presented some of this research at a symposium titled, “The 4/5ths Rule Is Just a Fraction: Alternative Adverse Impact Methodologies” which was included on a DVD of the top 20 reviewer-rated sessions at the 2010 SIOP conference. He also delivered a workshop on adverse impact analysis at the SIOP conference, and participated in a National Technical Advisory Committee on the topic. A related area of research is on statistical methods for detecting measurement bias. These techniques use Item Response Theory to identify measurement artifacts that confound the interpretation of group differences on test scores or survey items. Specifically, Scott is currently working with students to refine former professor Nambury Raja’s DIFIT framework to better identify problematic items. Other projects include a meta-analysis of leadership training programs, and a validity generalization study of individual psychological assessments as employee selection tools. This year, Scott began working as a statistical consultant for the Center for Adherence and Self Determination, a NIMH-funded research center exploring how consumer empowerment can improve participation in mental health services. Currently, he is leading a team of students on a research project examining the measurement equivalence of an empowerment scale across ethnic groups. Dr. Morris serves on the editorial boards of Journal of Applied Psychology and Personnel Psychology. In addition to his role as a member of the I/O faculty, he is also the Associate Dean of the Institute of Psychology and Chair of IIT’s Institutional Review Board.

Dr. Alan Mead

Dr. Mead has worked with several of his students on a variety of projects and presentations. He has divided his time teaching graduate level courses, researching, and working as a consultant. Alan taught three different class last year including individual differences and personality, psychometrics, and structural equations modeling. Alan’s research continues to focus on personality, methodological, and technological topics. His lab and students also support these research ideas and continue to work on publications, presentations and address current issues related to each topic. Additionally Alan devotes his time to reviewing articles for the Journal of Business and Psychology, Journal of Applied Psychology, Educational and Psychological Measurement, Personnel Psychology and SHRM Foundation grants. In August 2010, Alan received a contract from Pearson to summarize the state of the art in automated item generation. Alan also serves as a consultant and Scientific Advisor to the Center for Research and Service, advising mainly on psychometric, selection, or computerized testing application.
Faculty Activities

Dr. Kemp Ellington

Dr. Kemp Ellington’s paper on occupational influences on work-family conflict, which was previously published in the *Journal of Applied Psychology*, was recognized in the *Annual Competition for the Rosabeth Moss Kanter Award for Excellence in Work-Family Research* as one of the “twenty best articles of 2009.” Kemp was also invited to serve on both SIOP’s 2010 Lee Hakel and Graduate Student Scholarship Committees. With regard to research, Kemp has continued his training effectiveness research with the U.S. Special Operations Forces (SOF), and recently presented a study on the transfer of SOF foreign language proficiency training at the 2010 APA conference in San Diego. He has also been involved in several studies examining the influence of changing or “dynamic” job performance on supervisor evaluations of performance.

I/O Open House

Experiencing a variety of food, drinks and friends sounds like fun and yes, it was fun! The I/O Open House was an unforgettable memory for me. My cohorts and I went to Dr. Ayman's home together, of course, with our own special food and drinks. When we arrived, the party had already begun. It was my first time attending an open house. Everything was fresh to me. At the beginning, I was overwhelmed by the delicious food. There were so many types of food on the tables and it made it look like a food festival, which was a result of having diverse members in our program. With time passing on, more and more people joined us. My attention was directed more towards persons than on the food. Looking around the apartment, I realized that it was a totally different social style compared to my past experience. From my point of view, people would get to know each other through a third party, such as a common friend, a colleague or a relative. They would eat food and have conversation while sitting around a table. However, people at this event were more likely to take the initiative. They walked around, approached and started a conversation by introducing themselves. The faculty members, senior students and alumni seemingly enjoyed meeting each other in their own ways. I had to admit that I was not used to the situation at first. Then, the faculty members and other students put me at ease with their consideration and kindness. They encouraged me to get out of my comfort zone and helped me to fit in with the new circumstance. We talked about academic life, cultural differences, and exciting experiences. I am so glad that I am a member of a tolerant and supportive group. I do appreciate that Dr. Ayman and her kind family held the awesome activity, which gave me an excellent experience. A big welcome to join us this year!

- Jialin Huang, 2nd year
IOOB Student Conference

The 31st Annual Industrial/Organizational-Organizational Behavior (IOOB) graduate student conference was held in the prime time of conference season last year on March 12-14, 2010. The conference was hosted by the University of Houston in Houston, Texas. This year the conference theme was “Thriving in an Ever-Changing Economy: the Role of I/O and OB.”

IOOB allows students to present their research as posters or formal presentations in front of other I/O graduate students and academics. It is a wonderful starter’s conference for students who are looking to ease into the conference experience. IIT had the highest representation of any I/O program attending the conference, with six students participating/attending. IIT students contributed five papers to the conference. The paper "Assessing Ethical Climate in Undergraduate Project Teams: Adapting a Measure" co-authored by me and Danny Gandara was nominated for the Robert J. Wherry Best Paper Award.

In addition to the poster sessions, student presentations, workshops, and symposiums, the conference included talks by some of the leaders in the field. Keynote speakers included IIT alum Dr. John Scott as well as Dr. Walter Borman, Dr. Robert Eisenberger, and Dr. Sheldon Zedeck. On the lighter side, there was also a Saturday night social event and IOOB Jeopardy.

The upcoming IOOB conference will be held in sunny San Diego, CA March 4-6, 2011 at Alliant University. Conference organizers are currently accepting submissions. For more information, visit the website at http://www.ioob2011.com.

Jill May, 3rd year

SIOP Conference

Every year the Society for Industrial and Organizational Psychology (SIOP) holds its annual meeting in a different city around the country. Exploring those cities is part of what makes attending the conference so fun. This past April, SIOP chose to celebrate its 25th anniversary in Atlanta, Georgia. The students and faculty of IIT were well represented, and from what I could tell, everyone made the most of their time down south.

This year’s conference was packed with interesting seminars and posters. During the course of three days, I tried to take in as many sessions as possible. Two of my favorites included environmental sustainability and a panel discussion of the different perspectives of the practice of I/O psychology across the globe. The discussion on environmental sustainability focused on scalable behaviors or actions that employees engage in or bring to an organization that contribute to sustainability. The cross-cultural discussion was interesting because there was a wide global representation of psychologists, with panelists from Sweden, Chile, Australia, and China. Each psychologist spoke to the differences in how their particular culture utilizes industrial/organizational psychology.

The weekend ended with Saturday night’s IIT reception. Roya Ayman hosted a beautiful party with wonderful appetizers and a great turnout of alumni. The APA (Asian/Academic Psychology Association) presented Roya with the gift of an amazing IIT banner. APA did a great deal for the I/O students last semester, and the gift was such a warm gesture from the graduating members of the club.

It was a pleasant surprise that the submitter for the international perspectives on I/O was an IIT alum, Mark LoVerde. This was my first exposure to the feeling that IIT really has a global reach. You never know who you’ll meet and what they can teach you. The conference was a rewarding and educational experience in becoming part of the I/O community. I encourage all students to attend SIOP in 2011. Best of all, it will be in Chicago!

Megan Wheeler, 2nd year
The Center for Research and Service offers professional consulting and research services through the Institute of Psychology. Its staff partners with clients to assess and improve individual, team, and organizational performance. The Center presents expertise in areas related to human resource measurement, including design and administration of organizational surveys and 360-degree feedback instruments, test development and validation, and training needs analysis and evaluation.

Over the past year, the Center for Research and Service has continued to stay busy. The Center is still able to fund a number of students, including, Project Director, Brendan Neuman; Consultant, Anna Brown; Associate Consultants: Kevin Franke, Jonas Neuhengen, Samantha Paruchuri, Stefanie Pugliese, DJ Sergent, Rodney Vallejo, Jeremy Watson and Megan Wheeler. Additionally, the Center has employed 12 project workers, of which 5-7 are working on a consistent basis.

This fall, everyone stayed very busy both with start-up projects, as well as on-going projects from last year. Some of the current projects going on are Item Development and Validation tasks, with 12+ project workers joining the Center to complete such assignments. In addition to employing and supporting I/O graduate students, the Center is also able to fund 1st year Clinical graduate students who assist with placement testing for CPS students. This year, Stefanie and Anna will oversee this project which started last winter. Rodney works directly with Dr. Marcus in career and educational services scoring individual assessment tests.

Brendan was recently promoted to Project Director and continues to work closely with Dr. Fisher, Director. Together they offer a new suite of services to their bank and credit union clients. New services consist of an employee engagement survey, 360 degree instrument, and a selection tool tailored to the jobs in financial services institutions. All of these services were created with frontline sales employees in mind. Currently the Center is in the process of developing norms for the engagement survey and the 360 degree instrument. Megan has assisted in the development and norming of the 360 degree instrument. Anna’s responsibilities continue to expand and she continues to expand her project management duties with the Center’s largest bank client. DJ has joined Brendan and Anna’s team in serving banks and credit unions. DJ has also begun working on university survey initiatives, such as “Students Speak”. Kevin and Sam remain occupied with the many large survey projects the Center undertakes annually, handling the tasks of survey design, administration, reporting, and follow-up. Kevin has also been working closely with Anna on a fully customizable online survey system to assist in employee feedback for organizations. Jeremy was recently hired as an associate consultant and has learned several roles quickly assisting with various projects. The Center’s scientific consultant, Dr. Alan Mead works with Jonas on programming development and server management to fulfill the Center’s IT needs. The whole team has also been occupied developing personality tests to select managers and staff.

Overall, the Center and its many dedicated workers continue to successfully impact the organizational effectiveness of companies across the United States and uphold the professional reputation of IIT’s I/O program, with the guidance and support of their Director, Dr. Bruce Fisher. To learn more about the Center, please contact Bruce at fisherb@iit.edu or 312.567.6471.
Incoming Students

Ph.D. Track
Carter, Cassia: Pepperdine University
Gandara, Daniel: University of Texas-Arlington
King, Adrienne: Ohio State University
Krishnadas, Devika: Elmhurst College
Lee, Mirinae: University of Washington
Rand, Andrew: Union College
Sergent, Jessica: Illinois Institute of Technology

Wright, Sean: Florida State University

PHRD Track
Ahmed, Shujaat: Coastal Carolina University
Carlson, Kristin: Bates College
Gakhar, Vasishali: University of Rajasthan (India)
Min, Sylvia: University of Illinois-Chicago

Olbie, Nicole: University of Illinois-Urbana-Champaign
Olson, Paige: Washington State University
Osnowitz, William: Miami University
Pinkus-Huizenga, Betsi: Illinois Wesleyan University
Qin, Mengran: Hebei University (China)
Taylor, Stephanie: Spelman College
Vallejo, Rodney: University of Kentucky

Orientation Adventure

I probably can’t speak for everyone in our class, but I was a little freaked out on our IIT orientation day. I was absolutely certain everyone else had extensive experience in the field, I/O specific undergraduate majors, multiple publications, and were all basically I/O geniuses, and I, who had never even taken an I/O class, was going to be thoroughly outpaced. And then, to add to my nervousness, I was that girl that showed up 10 minutes late.

However, my fears were quickly put to rest. Even though we came from very diverse backgrounds and places, with experience in many different areas, and different reasons for being at IIT for this program, we all shared a desire to grow in the field of I/O and an excitement for research and practice. I remember telling someone right after orientation that I was so excited because I finally found a bunch of people out there just like me!

Having the opportunity to meet all the professors and get a sense of their research interests and go down to the Center and get a feel for what happens there was also really reassuring. Everyone was welcoming and inviting and willing to answer questions. It made me feel excited about the opportunity to spend the next however many years of my life in a place that was encouraging me to do something I loved and was willing to support me in every step of the way.

By the end of the day, after a comprehensive overview of what to expect and introductions to many of the people that will be there for us through the process, I think we all felt a little more comfortable and confident. And no matter where we all came from, we felt a sense of belonging and togetherness as we embarked on the next exciting step in our lives and careers.

- Cassia Carter

Teaching Assistants

Peggy Boyer  Jalin Huang  Christine Overfors  Catherine Savage  Brad Williams
From The Director’s Desk

Congratulations to our students who maintained not only one but two students clubs. Their efforts provided support for student registration at SIOP, celebrations of end of the year and graduation gifts, and overall enriched moral of the program. Our thanks go to Peter Chi, Kelly Liao, Lily Chuang, Maple Chen and Danny Gandara for their commitment and support for the program. I hope that this club will continue and more students will get involved and take charge. We are very proud of the students’ engagement in our program and their efforts to make it meet their needs.

As always, I would like to also thank all the alumni and friends of the program for their support and giving their time generously by attending our internship meetings, our open house, and the orientation and meeting with the students. Particularly last year we would like to thank Chad C. Legel, M.S. President-Industrial/Organizational Solutions, Inc., Bruce Fisher Ph.D. Director of Center for Research and service at Institute of Psychology- IIT, Amy Logue, Ph.D. from Advocate Health Systems, Jennifer Fron, MS, from Harris Bank, and Groag Orit, MS from Inteflex Inc. for giving their time for presenting at the internship meetings.

We want to stay connected and strengthen our network. For those alumni who are connected with us we send any information about opportunities that come our way and also provide assistance and support through our students when they need manpower. Please stay in touch and let us know if you meet an alumnus who has lost touch with us. We try to send you career opportunities during the year and we hope that staying connected has some value for you as it has much value for us. You can also join our linkedin group, IIT Psychology Alumni Network.

Also, it goes without saying that the program is extremely grateful to Dr. M. Ellen Michell, Dean of Institute of Psychology for her support and encouragement and for Dr. Bruce Fisher, Director of the Center for Research and Service for his care and support of the program and particularly attention in providing career opportunities and guidance to our students.