FACULTY SPOTLIGHTS: Elizabeth Fein and Derek Hook

We are pleased to welcome Elizabeth Fein and Derek Hook to the Faculty of the Department of Psychology. Elizabeth Fein joined Duquesne in fall 2014. She received her Ph.D. from the Department of Comparative Human Development at the University of Chicago. Derek Hook began teaching in the spring 2015 semester. He received his Ph.D. from the University of the Witwatersrand.

What is your area of research interest?

How do people make sense of their own experience? What role does psychiatric diagnosis play in this sense-making process? How do explanatory models and narratives from the “psyences” (like psychology and psychiatry) co-exist with those drawn from other ways of knowing – from art, let’s say, or politics, or religion? I’m interested in how people living under the description of psychiatric or neurodevelopmental diagnoses interpret their own subjective experience of phenomena that sometimes get called “symptoms”. I’m also interested in how psychological and psychiatric knowledge comes to reflect or otherwise instantiate broader sociocultural concerns. My main research method is ethnographic – I like to immerse myself as much as possible in the spaces where these negotiations take place, and observe and participate in these processes as they unfold over time, while taking a lot of notes. It’s a bit messy but it helps me get a sense (one of many potential senses) of what’s going on. A lot of my research has focused on Asperger’s Syndrome and related autism spectrum conditions. They’re generally considered to be disorders of an individual’s neurogenetic makeup, but their core manifestations are social and interpersonal, and that produces all sorts of interesting tensions.

What are you teaching at Duquesne, currently? What would you like to teach at Duquesne in the future?

Right now, I’m teaching two undergraduate courses – Developmental Psychology and Psychological Disorders. I’ve also taught a graduate seminar in Clinical Ethnography. I hope to teach that again in the future, and also to teach a course that relates in some way to clinical work with people on differing developmental trajectories, like we see in neurodevelopmental conditions like autism spectrum disorder or ADHD. I have a longstanding fondness for assessment that I’ve always wanted to do more with, so I may at some point teach that as well.

What brought you to Duquesne and/or how did you become interested in Duquesne as a potential academic home?

When I began applying for graduate schools, I was really shocked by how few programs trained research-practitioners in ways of understanding human experience and behavior that were grounded in qualitative and ethnographic research. The questions I wanted to

Monica Lawson recently sat down to interview Dr. Elizabeth Fein and Dr. Derek Hook about their recent appointments at Duquesne.

Please describe your academic and professional background.

I did my Ph.D. at the University of Chicago Department of Comparative Human Development. It’s an interdisciplinary department that brings together psychologists, anthropologists, sociologists, and people who are a little bit of each, to study the relationships between individual and social context. While I was there, they had a training program in clinical psychology that qualified students for licensure as clinical psychologists. I chose to study at this unusual sort of program because, as an undergraduate at Swarthmore College, I had been lucky enough to take several seminars with Jeanne Marecek and Ken Gergen, which sparked my interest in a qualitative and contextual approach to psychology.

Duquesne University

Highlights

- Introducing New Faculty: Drs. Elizabeth Fein & Derek Hook
- Dissertation Defenses
- Rockwell Hall Dedication
- Alumni Spotlight: Claire Lebeau
- Alumni Class notes
- In memory of Bernd Jager

We’ve Moved!

Last summer the Department of Psychology and the Clinic moved to a newly renovated space on the 2nd floor of Rockwell Hall. The space includes a beautiful conference room and several other smaller meeting spaces along with faculty offices, an undergraduate Psychology research Lab, a fully functional psychology clinic, and more. See photos on the last page of this newsletter.
explore – about how culture shapes us, how we shape culture, and how this process relates to the diagnosis and treatment of psychological distress – couldn’t be studied by abstracting people out of their social contexts or boiling their experience down to numbers. (I do think there are some psychological processes that can be studied effectively in this way – but also some that can’t). Since that time, I’ve been very committed to developing and articulating ways that qualitative research can inform clinical knowledge and practice. Duquesne is a great place to do that. There’s a sense of shared commitment to exploring the possibilities of what psychology could be. Working with graduate students also gives me the feeling that I can have some influence on the next generation of psychologists who will be shaping the field, even beyond my own work. In an Eriksonian sense, it helps me feel more generative.

“My whole life, I’ve been drawn to people a little outside of the mainstream”

How was your first semester at Duquesne, and how are things going so far?

I’ve been very warmly welcomed and supported by the faculty, students, and staff here. I’ve been drawn into a lot of great hallway conversations about everything from the power of play to the pros and cons of APA membership. I’ve been exposed to new ways of thinking about humanity, and also feel like my own background and contributions are appreciated and embraced. Overall I feel extremely lucky to have become a part of this department. Pittsburgh is unlike anywhere I’ve ever lived – it has a character completely its own – and I’ve been enjoying the adventure of exploring it and getting to know its weird magic. I do wish the buses ran more regularly but I’ve heard that could get better in the future.

How did you become interested in your particular area of research/teaching?

My whole life, I’ve been drawn to people a little outside of the mainstream, and I’ve observed the ways that culture and subculture can both support and constrain difference. I did a lot of hanging out at goth clubs during my formative years (still do when I can stay awake late enough!), and it got me thinking about how people use symbol and ritual to develop and manage their identities, to deal with their vulnerabilities, and to build community. When I began to study psychology, I wanted to focus on the intersections between individual psychology and culture, and to look at what happens in the drawing of distinctions between normality and abnormality, or pathology and health. I got interested in Asperger’s Syndrome because it felt like a good topic within which to explore these kinds of intersections and distinctions. Also, I knew some people with Asperger’s and really enjoy their company; like many anthropologists, I study the people to whom I was intuitively drawn.

What are your hobbies and interests?

If you see me wearing a feathery hairclip, chances are I made it myself. I got into making hair ornaments while I was writing my dissertation; I needed something to do that was colorful and cheering and didn’t involve any words. I like to sing and write songs and am usually in some kind of band – right now I’m writing and recording music with a friend in Boston.

Give us some random facts about yourself.

My parents are classical musicians, so I travelled all over the world when I was a kid. I went to school in Australia for a few months and had to really get my act together – they were way stricter than my elementary school in New York! I joke sometimes that this is how I got interested in cultural psychology. Also, I can cross one eye at a time.

Congratulations Roger Brooke!

His book, Jung and Phenomenology, has been selected as a Classic Edition and republished by Routledge.

Jung and Phenomenology is a classic text in the field of Jungian scholarship. Originally published in 1991, it continues to be essential to conversations regarding the foundations of Jungian thought. This Classic Edition of the book includes a brand new introduction by the author.

Please describe your academic and professional background.

I spent the first chunk of my academic life as both student and lecturer in Johannesburg, South Africa, at the University of the Witwatersrand (‘Wits’ for short), where I majored in Psychology and eventually went on to do a PhD on power within psychodynamic psychotherapy. The PhD combined two of my key interests: theorizing power – particularly through the work of Michel Foucault, via a critical psychology approach, and the practice of psychoanalytic psychotherapy. This was quite a tumultuous time in South Africa’s history (I was a student between 1991-1999). There was a fair bit of police presence on the Wits campus – which was considered one of the more progressive of such institutions in South Africa – and my research interest in power, and, increasingly after my PhD in structures of racialized power, postcolonial theory (particularly the work of Frantz Fanon) was hardly surprising, given this context.

In 2002 I began to look for jobs in the UK, wanting both a change from Johannesburg, and the opportunity to travel. I was fortunate enough to be awarded a fellowship at Emory University in Atlanta where I spent four months at the end of that year. In 2003 I took up a position at the London School of Economics as a lecturer in Social Psychology. This was a tremendous experience, and I very much enjoyed being exposed to the particular brand of psychology taught there – a type of psychology influenced by an eclectic range of philosophical and sociological ideas. The course I co-convened and taught on for 8 years, part of an MSc Program called ‘Social and Public Communication’ was a case in point. We taught Habermas, Vygotsky, pragmatics, Aristotelian rhetoric, Freud and social representations theory, all as part of an introduction to the study of communications – a wonderful cross-section of theories.

I also spent three years at Birkbeck College, the University of London, in the Department
of Psychosocial Studies, which was a great experience, to be working alongside scholars who were intent on forging ahead in this new disciplinary area which linked cultural studies, psychology, social theory, psychoanalysis and sociology.

What is your area of research interest?

My interest in theoretical forms of psychology, and post-structural theory and psychoanalysis in particular drew me increasingly into the domain of postcolonial theory, and to a series of engagements with Frantz Fanon and a series of other related postcolonial thinkers (Edward Said, Homi Bhabha, and, to add a South African sprinkling to the mix, activists and authors the likes of Steve Biko, Chabani Manganyi and J.M. Coetzee also). This mix of theory and literature, taken in conjunction with my interests in psychology as mode of critique, inspired my book A Critical Psychology of the Postcolonial, which is still perhaps the book I am most proud of. Through this trajectory of research, a type of strategic combination of postcolonial and typically Lacanian theory, I developed a series of critical analyses of racism, alongside a likewise critical set of engagements with the post-apartheid South African context. This, and my involvement with a cross-disciplinary and international research group based in South Africa, namely the ‘Apartheid Archive Project’, spurred on the development and completion of a related book: Postapartheid Conditions. One of my current research projects, entitled ‘Post-apartheid libidinal economy’, extend the approach of these two earlier books and hopes to investigate the typical patterns of affect and accompanying fantasies and identities of whites in contemporary South Africa. It may take another two years, but I hope to develop a book with the title of White Anxiety on the basis of this project.

What are you teaching at Duquesne, currently? What would you like to teach at Duquesne in the future?

I am currently teaching a course on critical and post-structural psychology at an undergraduate level, and very much enjoying it. Critical psychology has long since been the mainstay of my career in psychology, only gradually overtaken by an interest in Freudian and Lacanian psychoanalysis and psychosocial studies (basically, social theory and psychoanalysis applied to the task of social critique). I am also currently teaching a graduate course on Lacanian Psychoanalysis, which I am likewise loving, perhaps particularly so because it is proving extremely helpful in generating examples and ideas for a book I am currently working on, and that I hope to finish within the year, Lacan and the Psychological. The students have been great also, in terms of the enthusiasm they bring, and their openness – and sharpness – regarding the clinical applications of this material.

What brought you to Duquesne and/or how did you become interested in Duquesne as a potential academic home?

Duquesne’s Psychology Department is one of a kind. The Department’s history, its long-standing commitment to and interest in phenomenological, humanistic, psychoanalytic and more theoretical forms of psychology really sets it apart. The rigorousness of its clinical training program, the colleagues I am now fortunate enough to work alongside, and the Department’s openness to critical psychology, the postcolonial and Lacanian approaches that form the basis of my scholarly output, all of these are factors that have made Duquesne my academic home.

How has your adjustment to Pittsburgh been so far?

Both great and tough. I love the bridges and rivers, and always get a thrill when crossing from the South Hills part of town to downtown, seeing the city, the Incline, the football stadium, etc. Other aspects of the move have been difficult though, needing to do one’s driver’s license again, for instance, not being able to buy a car without a state ID, which itself is difficult to get for a jumble of bureaucratic reasons, not having any US credit history, etc. Those things will all sort themselves out in due course. In another way, it is good to need to struggle a bit – it makes you appreciate what you previously took for granted.

How did you become interested in your particular area of research/teaching?

The domain of Lacanian psychoanalysis intrigued me because of the adventurousness of the theory. Lacan was an omnivorous intellectual, and the sheer number of ‘digested’ resources in his work is staggering; he seems at once to both stay loyal to facets of Freud and nonetheless to be a pioneer. I was draw to the ambition of the Lacanian conceptual enterprise, and to its conjectural nature. It was also my way into clinical practice, and to a training in psychoanalysis.

What are your hobbies and interests?

I am an audiobook freak. The best way to get me to attend to household chores, is to hand over my ipod, with a brand new book loaded onto, and let me listen while I work. I am learning that this is a good thing to do while shoveling snow! I used to be a rather fanatical runner, and managed to do a handful of marathons in a 3 years period, including a few ultramarathons, the most challenging being South Africa’s Comrades marathon, an 89km event which amounts, effectively to a double marathon. I have two lovely kids now (a 2 year-old girl and a 5-year-old boy) and so now my recreation time is more focused on library visits with them, trips to the park and associated outings with them and my wife.

Give us some random facts about yourself.

I did an MA in Creative Writing last year that I am very proud of. I was once a comics-cum-graphic novel mega-nerd.

DR. ROBERT ROMANYSHYN (PH.D. ’70) is one of our most illustrious and accomplished alumni. He is currently an Emeritus Professor at Pacifica Graduate Institute, and has written several books, many of which are studied here and are readings within our curriculum. Imagining Psychological Life is a Festschrift; a celebration of Dr. Romanyshyn’s life and works. It is edited by another friend of the department and colleague for 20 plus years, Dr. Mike Sipiora. It also includes articles and papers by several current faculty (Roger Brooke and Eva Simms) and alumni [Scott Churchill (Ph.D. ’84), Karen Malone (M.A. ’79), Rex Olson (Ph.D. ’02), Stanton Marlan (Ph.D. ’81), and Brent Robbins (Ph.D. ’03)].
ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT on Claire Lebeau (Ph.D. ’13)

Interview by Erica Freeman

Tell us about your new position at Seattle University.

In my new position at Seattle University, I teach foundations, ethics, and phenomenology courses at both a graduate and an undergraduate level. I am also teaching Developmental and Writing to undergraduates too. It is amazing to be able to teach classes in things that I love and to see the excitement of student’s learning in applying philosophical concepts to their own experiences, relationships, and vocations. I remember that awe inspiring feeling of encountering these ideas when I was an undergraduate at Duquesne, taking classes with Eva Simms, Ed Murray, Mike Sipiora, Paul Richer, and Eric Dodson. I had the feeling that I was onto something huge. When I moved to Seattle in 1995 to attend the Master’s Program here, all of the ideas I had encountered were given flesh in the application to the healing arts. My mentors were both former Duquesne graduates, Steen Halling, George Kunz, and James Risser, as well as some of the most profoundly human practitioners and researchers in the field, Kevin Krycka, Lane Gerber, and Jan Rowe. I was very lucky indeed.

What was the experience of transitioning from defending your dissertation to taking a position as a tenure-track faculty member at your alma matter? Like in some senses you went straight from being a student to teaching, what has that experience been like?

The process of coming back to Seattle University has felt as natural as breathing. I have two homes in my life and coming back here has simply felt like coming home. The process of being a teacher was not strange having taught in Community College out here before and from all of the student teaching at Duquesne. The strangest part was teaching courses that had meant so much to me as a student, Levinas, which I took originally with George Kunz, and Therapeutic Communication, which I took with Jan Rowe when I was 22! Also very weird is the fact that I have Steen Halling’s old office, an office where I would go regularly when he supervised my integration paper in 1997. It is truly an unfathomable honor to be in this place, teaching phenomenology, and carrying forward the legacy of so many truly great healers and scholars who invested their wisdom and care in me.

How does your experience as a graduate of our program influence your current position?

The training I received at Duquesne both as an undergraduate and a graduate student has had a tremendous impact on teaching now. I use particular chapters from Eva Simm’s book Child in the World in my Developmental class. She was the first professor of psychology I had back in 1991. I use Connie Fischer’s collaborative assessment foundations and I even taught Bill Fisher’s anxiety study to my undergraduate phenomenology course last February. Everything I ever learned about neuroscience came originally from the gorgeously poetic and rich styling of Paul Richer. I am in love with the beauty of it as he was because he taught that reverence to me. I use this in my teaching. On a regular basis, I use the phrase “we make each other be”, shared so eloquently by Tony Barton, whose wisdom continues to inform both my teaching and my clinical practice. There are so many influences from faculty, students, and experiences at Duquesne. There are far too many to count or to adequately express my gratitude. I guess I express my thanks by using this powerful foundation in my teaching, in my work with patients, and simply in the movement of my thought. It is a tremendous gift.

“I learn more and more and find I know less and less and feel insatiably hungry for this work.”

Please tell us anything about your current position or post-graduate experience that we have not addressed with the above questions.

I am lucky to be welcomed back to my home. I am so lucky to still be mentored by so many great people. George and I continue to celebrate the movement and relevance of Levinas’ thought to the practice of psychotherapy. Every year, the small seminar of the Psychology For the Other continues to bring in a wide net of researchers, clinicians, and scholars, and students, who care deeply for the “radical altruism” that Levinas proposes. I learn more and more and find I know less and less and feel insatiably hungry for this work. I believe that hunger was inspired in me in the earliest of my days at Duquesne, a place where I grew up loitering in the Music School practice rooms, waiting for my mom to finish her organ lessons. Duquesne is my home too and that makes us family. If you ever find yourself in or around your West Coast home, please look me up.
Karin Arndt (Ph.D. ‘13)
Began a Visiting Scholar position at the Mind and Life Institute at Amherst College in Spring 2015.

Victor Barbetti (Ph.D. ‘03)
Elected President of the Greater Pittsburgh Psychological Association in September 2014.

Aaron B. Daniels (M.A. ‘95)
Dr. Daniels just published his third book: Jungian Crime Scene Analysis: An Imaginal Investigation.

Eugene DeRobertis (Ph.D. ‘00)
Dr. DeRobertis has several forthcoming articles: Becoming enthusiastic about learning for the first time as a child, The Journal of Humanistic Psychology; Philosophical- anthropological considerations for an existential-humanistic ecopsychology, The Humanistic Psychologist; The phenomenology of happiness: Stephen Strasser’s eidetic explication, The Humanistic Psychologist.

Laurie Donaldson (Ph.D. ‘02)
Dr. Donaldson obtained Florida licensure in May, 2014 and is currently a consulting psychologist with PsychCare Services, LLC where she provides psychological services to three nursing homes in Melbourne, FL.

Andrew Felder (Ph.D. ‘04)

Steen Halling (Ph.D. ’76)
Published the following article: “The phenomenon as muse: On being open to friendly invasion.” In the Indo-Pacific Journal of Phenomenology, 14 (1), May 2014. (Click here to view article.)

Mark Kroll-Fratoni (Ph.D. ‘13)
Has been named Coordinator of the Cologne Academy for Lacanian Psychoanalysis and has also opened a private practice in Cologne, Germany.

Stanton Marlan (Ph.D. ‘81)
Stanton Marlan is on the board of directors and is the mentor coordinator for the American Board and Academy of Psychoanalysis (a specialty board of the American Board of Professional Psychology, ABPP), and has recently become their President-elect.

He completed a second Ph.D., in philosophy, at Duquesne in Nov. 2014. His dissertation committee was comprised of Tom Rockmore, Chair; Jim Swindal, and Ed Casey. He is currently working on a revision of his dissertation, The Philosophers’ Stone: The Alchemical Imagination and the Souls Logical Life, for publication.


Michael Melczak (Ph.D. ’07)
Opened a brand new private practice in Aspinwall, PA.

Michael Miller (Ph.D. ’07)
Dr. Miller’s book, Lacanian Psychotherapy, was just published in Korean.

Paul Murray (Ph.D. ’90)
Runs an Existential psychotherapy practice in Vancouver. www.paulmurray.ca

Deborah Pollack (Ph.D. ’06)
Dr. Pollack was honored as “Psychologist of the Year” for 2013 by the Central New York Psychological Association and is now the President of that organization.

Brent Robbins, (Ph.D. ’03)

Robert D. Romanyshyn, (Ph.D. ’70)
Awarded the title of Emeritus Professor at Pacifica Graduate Institute.

Dr. Romanyshyn continues to write and publish, for example most recently: Leaning Toward the Poet: Eavesdropping on the Poetry of Everyday Life 1914-2014. The Humanistic Psychologist, 42(4), 413; Phenomenology as a Poetic Realism: Remembering Jan Hendrick van den Berg. The Humanistic Psychologist, 41 (3), 309-318; (2015); Webinar on Depth Psychology Alliance. Conversations Between a Psychologist and a Poet: The Healing Power of Language.
Peter J. Rosan (Ph.D. ‘99)

Published "The varieties of ethical experience: A phenomenology of empathy, sympathy, and compassion," in Phaenomenologische Forschungen, (2014) and will be available this summer. The editors translate the German name of the journal into English as Phenomenological Research, but it has also been translated as Phenomenological Studies. Published once a year by Felix Meiner Verlag, Hamburg, with occasional supplements, the journal publishes peer reviewed articles in their original German, French, or English.

Ellen (Benswanger) Sucov (Ph.D., 1975)

Ellen and her husband Gene moved permanently to Jerusalem, Israel in 2013. Ellen has eight Israeli grandchildren and four great-granddaughters. She is the author of "Fragmented Families: patterns of estrangement and reconciliation," which won a National Jewish Book Council Award in 2006. Ellen writes: "The splendid education I received at Duquesne continues to enrich my life and thought."

Jackie (Grimesey) Szarka (Ph.D. ‘09)

Book chapter: The Tragedy of Domestic Violence: Dynamics and Solutions as Understood through the Lens of Emmanuel Levinas’ Totality and Infinity, (click here for link to book.) While she continues to work in Health Services Research & Development at the Veterans Health Administration - Puget Sound in Seattle, Jackie also opened a private practice in 2014, focusing on serving trauma survivors and their families, including combat veterans, survivors of sexual assault and/or domestic violence, and other trauma.

Amy Taylor (Ph.D. ‘12)

Dr. Taylor was recently granted a Scholar’s Award from the Couple and Family Therapy and Psychoanalysis section of APA Division 39.

Peter Titelman (Ph.D. 76)

His fifth edited book on aspects of Bowen family systems theory was just published, Differentiation of Self: Bowen family Systems Theory Perspectives, Routledge.

Allan Zuckoff (Ph.D. ‘02)


He is also first author of two chapters (in press) in H. Arkowitz, W.R. Miller, & S. Rollnick (Eds.), Motivational interviewing in the treatment of psychological problems (2nd ed.), also from Guilford: “Motivational interviewing as a prelude to psychotherapy of depression” and “Enhancing the effectiveness of exposure and response prevention in the treatment of obsessive-compulsive disorder: Exploring a role for motivational interviewing.”

He is Editor of the online open access journal Motivational Interviewing: Training, Research, Implementation, Practice and was Chair of the Board of Directors of the international Motivational Interviewing Network of Trainers from 2012-2014.


Stephanie Swales (Ph.D. ‘11)

In the fall of 2014, Dr. Swales was appointed as a tenure-track Assistant Professor of Psychology at the University of Dallas. She is pleased and honored to be a part of a university that maintains so many connections to Duquesne--through its faculty, ethical perspectives, and the human science tradition in general and existential-phenomenology and psychoanalysis in particular.

Don’t forget to like us on Facebook!

https://www.facebook.com/Duquesneclinicalpsych
Congratulations to our new interns:

José Arroyo
Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, IL

Terri Dilmore
Howard University Counseling Service, Washington, DC

Rachel Gottlieb
SUNY Stony Brook Counseling Center, Stony Brook, NY

Camille O'Connor
Western Washington University, Bellingham, WA

Katie Wagner
Albany Consortium/Albany Med College, Albany, NY

Jonathan Yahalom
Sharp Healthcare, San Diego, CA

Recent Dissertation Defenses


Callanan, Jessica. (2014). Becoming a sex offender: A study of constitution at the intersection of the mental health and legal systems. Directed by: Martin Packer, Ph.D.


Fitzpatrick, Teal. (2014). Primitive defenses and unilateral termination of psychotherapy: Are the Lerner defense scales useful in predicting premature termination in psychotherapy? Directed by: Roger Brooke, Ph.D., ABPP


Jayme Jenkins graduated from Indiana University Bloomington with a B.A. in Anthropology. Uninterested in the Anthropological career trajectory, where most who stay within the field are maintained in the academy, she sought a way to apply her passion for understanding culture and individual life-worlds toward social change. She found Duquesne’s approach to Psychology as a Human Science to be compatible with her desires and is very happy to have made this decision. Her interests include gender studies, discourses of power, and community engagement.

Henry Hao Cai Chen was born in San Francisco and grew up in Hong Kong and Montreal. He completed his undergraduate studies in Geography and East Asian Studies at Mount Allison University in New Brunswick. After a couple of years working in business and a year of Mandarin courses, he finished a master’s program in clinical and counselling psychology at Beijing Normal University in China. His thesis was an experiment on using nonviolent communication between conflicting parts of the self. His interests include Gendlin, self-compassion, and dialoguing humanistic phenomenology with mainstream methods.

Monica Lawson graduated from Transylvania University with a B.A. in Psychology and Writing, Rhetoric, and Communication. In college she bridged her two fields of study by employing rhetorical analysis as a way to understand and conceptualize research and practice in clinical psychology. Given her background in rhetorical studies, she has a particular affinity for critical psychology and discourse analysis. Her passion for clinical work led her to Burlington, Vermont where she recently completed a Master of Arts degree in clinical psychology with an emphasis in psychodynamic and humanistic approaches to clinical practice at Saint Michael's College. Further impassioned by her discovery of Amedeo Giorgi, phenomenology, and human science psychology (and her growing frustration at not being exposed to the human science perspective in college) she arrived at Duquesne where she hopes to deepen her studies of human science psychology. Her interests include qualitative research, gender studies, and intersubjectivity.

Kay Chai graduated from the University of Washington, Seattle, with a B.S. (groan...) in Psychology. She defected from her natural science training and came to Duquesne, thanks to the formative influence of Irvin Yalom and Rollo May’s writings. In real life, i.e. when she is not stressed out writing about herself in the third person for a newsletter, she is a compulsive punster, loving catsitter, brown-thumb urban farmer, and amateur Old Time musician; the dissonant whines and twangs from her fiddle and banjo could keep you awake without caffeine during finals week. All her silliness aside, she has a surprisingly somber career aspiration: she wants to work with people who are chronically ill or dying, and to advocate for their care.

Erica Schiller Freeman graduated in 2014 with her M.A. from the Existential-Phenomenological Therapeutic Psychology Program at Seattle University. Erica has worked as an intern clinician in a private practice setting at Seattle Therapy Alliance, as an intern group therapist at The Emily Program for Eating Disorders (Seattle, WA office), as an applied researcher and data analyst at New Beginnings Ending Domestic Violence Program, and as a life skills case manager at the YMCA of Greater Seattle. Prior to entering the field of clinical psychology, Erica graduated with her M.A. in history and philosophy of science from the University of Notre Dame. Her thesis was on ethical life, moral psychology, and evolutionary theory. Erica’s clinical interests include feminist-oriented psychotherapy, eating disorders, and embodiment. Her current scholarly interests include history and philosophy of psychology and interdisciplinary conceptual foundations.

Danny Sharara is a student of the sacred sciences and an adherent to the Traditionalist/Perennial School of Philosophy. His academic interests are in contemplative psychology, esoterism, and refugee/immigrant issues. His clinical orientation incorporates elements of existential-phenomenology, attachment theory, and mindfulness-based psychotherapy.

Elizabeth Brown completed her undergraduate studies at Agnes Scott College in Decatur, GA. Her previous research included women’s sexual experiences, as well as sexual satisfaction among women in dual income partnerships. In her previous professional life, she worked in I/O psychology as a contract consultant. She is excited to continue research into women and sex (who isn’t?), and is thrilled to be pursuing the meaningful work of clinical and research training at Duquesne. She has two adorable cats and one awesome husband, and is fully dedicated to continuing the search for the best brunch in Pittsburgh.
Dear friends and colleagues,

It is with sadness that I let you know that Bernd Jager, who received his PhD from the Duquesne Psychology Department in 1967, died on Monday, March 30, 2015. Many of you knew and loved Bernd, and I briefly want to share an excerpt from the note his colleague Christian Thiboutot sent me, and a few remembrances I have of Bernd:

_I’m sadly reaching out today to inform you about our friend and collaborator Bernd Jager, who died Monday, late in the evening, peacefully, surrounded by his son and closest students._

I have known only one other man who valued hospitality and friendship as much as Bernd, and that was Ivan Illich, who, like Bernd, brought the sensibility and depth of an earlier era into the present. Both created a contrasting perspective, rooted in a deep spirituality and the richness of their respective studies and cultural experiences, and challenged the assumptions and superficialities of our current academic projects. Their lives stirred the conscience: they reminded us by example that our work should be good for people and that life can be lived with grace, compassion, friendship, and hospitality.

When I visited Montreal the last time, Bernd made sure that I had a guide (thank you, Yann!) to show me the real Montreal. We had a great supper because he appreciated food and wine and the hospitality of the earth. He invited me into his beautiful home, where you could still feel the presence of his wife, who before her passing had drawn up the plans for furniture arrangements, colors, and the placement of art, and Bernd had followed her guidance: her care for Bernd was still palpable, and you could sense the deep connection between them. The center of the home was the big “seminar table”, where we gathered that evening with his students to talk about phenomenology and human science and the need for integrating the literary and artistic traditions and the cultural imaginary into our work.

I will re-read one of his papers on eating and hospitality in the next few days, and I am sure his spirit will be looking over my shoulders and tell me that hospitality goes beyond the confines of an individual lifetime.

My sympathies are with Bernd’s family and friends, but especially with his students, who loved and appreciated him deeply.

With warm regards,
Eva Simms

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_In Loving Memory, a remembrance of Bernd Jager_

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_Event Gallery_

In this picture, Dr. Elizabeth Fein and graduate students posed with Gary Greenberg after the March Distinguished Speakers Workshop.

Sheldon Solomon presented a talk on Feb. 27, 2015. Many students and faculty as well as community members attended.

Ryan Hunt, (Ph.D. ’07) Delivered a powerful talk at our January Psychology Colloquium titled “Just following orders”: Torture and the dark side of the American Psychological Association.
On September 24th, 2014 a dedication ceremony celebrated the renovation and relocation of the Psychology Department and Clinic to the 2nd floor of Rockwell Hall. The Psychology Clinic was dedicated as the Rita M. McGinley Psychology Clinic, made possible by the generous support of John R. “Jack” McGinley Jr. The Clinic was named in memory of Mr. McGinley’s beloved aunt Rita, a teacher and secondary school guidance counselor for which she earned a certification from Duquesne University. Mr. McGinley also supported the refurbishment of the James S. McGinley Psychology Conference Room, in honor of his brother. Mr. McGinley, President Dougherty, Dr. Jim Swindal, Dean of McAnulty College of Liberal Arts, and Dr. Jessie Goicoechea, Director of the Psychology Clinic, spoke at the dedication ceremony, which was attended by Psychology Department faculty, staff, and students, family members of Mr. McGinley, the Provost and other university personnel. Dr. Goicoechea noted that the unification of the Department and Clinic in one location marked a defining moment in the history of the Psychology department at Duquesne University, along with the founding of the department just over 50 years ago, and the accreditation 14 years ago of the doctoral program, the first, and only, human science-based clinical program to be accredited by the American Psychological Association. United in one location, the faculty, graduate students, and the Clinic have been enjoying opportunities for greater collaboration and seamless integration of scholarly and clinical projects. While the Clinic will continue to offer all of the same services as before, the new space is equipped with an additional session room, state of the art video equipment for training purposes, a play therapy session room, and a group therapy room, primarily for groups that we do in collaboration with Duquesne's Counseling and Wellbeing Center.