

# PSYCHO? LOGICAL? BULLETIN

September 15, 2002

Volume 1, No. 9

## SURVIVAL SKILLS WORKSHOP

**Saturday, September 21, 2002**  
**4th floor Scaife Hall; Lecture room 2**  
**9:00 am - 3:00 pm**

- Selecting a research project
- Developing a training plan
- Managing time and stress
- Finding mentors; establishing an advising committee; networking
- Break-out session for Postdocs: Preparing for permanent employment; developing independence
- Break-out session for Graduate Students: Writing and defending a dissertation; getting out on time!

**COST:** \$5 in advance for the workshop; \$10 at the door, includes continental breakfast (8:30 am) & lunch.

### SIGN-UP TODAY!

To register in advance: Send name, department, address, phone number, email, and check (payable to "University of Pittsburgh") to Survival Skills Program; 4K57 Posvar Hall; Pittsburgh, PA 15260.

### FOR MORE INFORMATION:

www.pitt.edu/~survival  
Email [survival@pitt.edu](mailto:survival@pitt.edu)  
Call 412-624-7098

*A Survival Skills & Ethics Workshop  
University of Pittsburgh*

## CONGRATULATIONS!

### Christi Adams

Took Labor Day very seriously this year.

Christi is the proud new mother of baby girl

### Kendall Maria

born on 09/02/02  
3 lbs., 4oz.



## UPCOMING TALKS

**October 7**

### Dr. Mark Leary, Wake Forest University

The Powerful and Pervasive Effects of Interpersonal Rejection

Dr. Leary is the Editor of *Self & Identity*, but for the really interesting information on Dr. Leary, you need to visit <http://www.wfu.edu/~leary/facts.htm> where you'll find that he hasn't always been a social psychologist...

## PSYCHO? LOGICAL? BULLETIN ON THE WEB

Past and present editions of Psycho? Logical? Bulletin are available on the web.

[www.psy.cmu.edu/bulletin](http://www.psy.cmu.edu/bulletin)

## ANNOUNCEMENTS OR IDEAS?

This is your chance to get the word out to the entire department!

Forward announcements to Rochelle Croom ([rmcroom@andrew.cmu.edu](mailto:rmcroom@andrew.cmu.edu)).

You can also use the anonymous suggestion box in the 336B Lounge.

# BEFORE THEY WERE FACULTY...

Believe it or not, they weren't always psychology faculty. The jobs below are actual positions held by CMU Department of Psychology faculty. Match the job to the faculty member. Answers will be published in the next Psycho? Logical? Bulletin. (See the photographs on the next page for a hint!)

<b>John Anderson</b>	#	#	Assistant in a Classroom of Disruptive Children
<b>Marlene Behrmann</b>	#	#	Copper Miner
<b>Patricia Carpenter</b>	#	#	Late-Night Crisis Line Counselor at a Domestic Violence Shelter
<b>Sharon Carver</b>	#	#	Delivery Man for a Kitchen Remodeling Company
<b>Peggy Clark</b>	#	#	Department Store Model for Twist N' Trim Fitness Equipment
<b>Sheldon Cohen</b>	#	#	Ditch Digger
<b>Brooke Feeney</b>	#	#	Door-to-door Cemetery Plot Salesman
<b>Dick Hayes</b>	#	#	Elementary School Janitor
<b>Vicki Helgeson</b>	#	#	Fired from a Fast Food Joint
<b>Lori Holt</b>	#	#	Fit Shoes for the Children of the Rich and Famous (Chrissie Hind, Charlie's Angel Jaclyn Smith)
<b>Marcel Just</b>	#	#	International Monetary Fund (IMF) employee
<b>David Klahr</b>	#	#	Lifeguard
<b>Bobby Klatzky</b>	#	#	Nurses' Aide in a Nursing Home
<b>Ken Kotovsky</b>	#	#	NYC Taxi Driver
<b>Marsha Lovett</b>	#	#	Read to a Blind Man
<b>Brian MacWhinney</b>	#	#	Sewer Inspector
<b>Jay McClelland</b>	#	#	Short Order Fry Cook
<b>David Plaut</b>	#	#	Shoveled Elephant Poop, Held the Tightrope and worked with Bozo as a Circus Assistant
<b>David Rakison</b>	#	#	Speech Pathologist
<b>Lynne Reder</b>	#	#	Taught Anger-Management to Substance-Abusing Criminals
<b>Mike Scheier</b>	#	#	UPS Man
<b>Bob Siegler</b>	#	#	Waiter at a Resort in the Catskills



Portraits of a future CMU Psychology  
faculty member hard at work.

Guess Who! What Is He Doing?

## Movie Lists, Movie Lists, and More Movie Lists (a.k.a. Lists et al) by David Rakison

People, especially those in the movie industry, love lists. Every year there is a list of the top movie stars, the best (and worst) dressed people in film, the hottest (meaning exciting) new actors, and the biggest disappointments. If you like films, and you have some sort of social life that involves spending time with other people (unlike me), then you have probably discussed your favorite movies at least once. In the third "installment" of this column (a la Star Wars, consider it is part of a trilogy with prequels to follow), I thought it would be interesting to show you some lists of movies that have been compiled recently with a view to us, the Psychology department's members, developing our own.

A few years ago, my movie bible, the Time Out Film Guide, decided to ask 100 or so actors, directors, producers, and critics to list their top ten movies. The contributors ranged from people like Jackie Chan to Sydney Pollack to Steven Spielberg. The movies were ranked by some from 1 to 10 or just in a list of 10 in no particular order. From this input a list of the top 100 movies was compiled - the top 15 results are below:

### *Time Out: Actors, Directors, Producers, Critics*

- 1. *Citizen Kane (1941) Orson Welles***
- 2. *Godfather I & II (1971/74) Francis Ford Coppola***
- 3. *La Regle Du Jeu (1939) Jean Renoir***
- 4. *Vertigo (1958) Alfred Hitchcock***
- 5. *Seven Samurai (1954) Akira Kurosawa***
- 6. *Lawrence of Arabia (1962) David Lean***
- 7. *Raging Bull (1980) Martin Scorsese***
- 8. *Touch of Evil (1958) Orson Welles***
- 9. *Tokyo Story (1953) Yasujiro Ozu***
- 10. *L'Atalante (193) Jean Vigo***
- 11. *The Night of the Hunter (1955) Charles Laughton***
- 12. *The Conformist (1969) Bernardo Bertolucci***
- 13. *Les Enfants Du Paradis (1945) Marcel Carne***
- 14. *A Matter of Life or Death (1946) Powell and Pressburger***
- 15. *The Magnificent Ambersons (1942) Orson Welles***

I'm guessing that a lot of you have seen, perhaps, 5 or 6 of these films - Kane, Godfather, Vertigo, Lawrence, Raging Bull, and perhaps Seven Samurai. That was pretty much where I was before I saw the list. Now I've seen all of them (I told you I had no life), and to tell you the truth it's a high-brow list with some real classics as well as some so-called classics. A couple of the films were perhaps groundbreakers at the time but nowadays aren't quite so interesting: La Regle Du Jeu, Tokyo Story, and L'Atalante are about as much fun as finding a car space on Frew Street after 8.30 a.m. In fact, and I might make some enemies over this, I find Kane quite the snoozefest. On the other hand, I would heartedly recommend Touch of Evil and Magnificent Ambersons, both by Welles, Night of the Hunter (Laughton's only turn as a director and with a very scary Robert Mitchum) and Les Enfants Du Paradis, which is a post-war French masterpiece. Anyhow, enough of my Ebert impersonation.

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A couple of years later, the same Time Out guide asked readers to send in their top ten movies of all time, and around the same time, the American Film Institute (see [www.AFI.com](http://www.AFI.com)) compiled the "100 greatest American movies". Not surprisingly, both lists were quite similar and quite different from the actors/directors/critics list. The top ten of the two lists are below:

<i>Time Out Readers List</i>	<i>American Film Institute List</i>
<b>1. <i>Godfather I &amp; II (1971/74)</i></b>	<b>1. <i>Citizen Kane (1941)</i></b>
<b>2. <i>Casablanca (1942)</i></b>	<b>2. <i>Casablanca (1942)</i></b>
<b>3. <i>Citizen Kane (1941)</i></b>	<b>3. <i>The Godfather (1972)</i></b>
<b>4. <i>Blade Runner (1982)</i></b>	<b>4. <i>Gone with the Wind (1939)</i></b>
<b>5. <i>Vertigo (1958)</i></b>	<b>5. <i>Lawrence of Arabia (1962)</i></b>
<b>6. <i>Apocalypse Now (1979)</i></b>	<b>6. <i>The Wizard of Oz (1939)</i></b>
<b>7. <i>Some Like It Hot (1959)</i></b>	<b>7. <i>The Graduate (1967)</i></b>
<b>8. <i>Taxi Driver (1975)</i></b>	<b>8. <i>On the Waterfront (1954)</i></b>
<b>9. <i>2001 A Space Odyssey (1968)</i></b>	<b>9. <i>Schindler's list (1993)</i></b>
<b>10. <i>It's a Wonderful Life (1946)</i></b>	<b>10. <i>Singin' in the Rain (1952)</i></b>

Although three of the top five are the same as those in the first list, something is pretty clear to me. The "readers" don't really give a toss about what's meant to be good - they voted for films they have seen and enjoyed, films in which things, generally exciting things, happen. (Maybe you're thinking this is always the case in movies, in which case I'd suggest you go and rent *The Shipping News*.) In other words, people tend to choose their favorite movies, not what they think are the "best" movies. This makes more sense to me, but it got me thinking: How does one choose a top X number of favorite films. Or songs? Or anything along similar cultural media lines? What criteria do we use? Are there criteria at all?

One of the most obvious reasons to choose a movie as a favorite is that it reminds you of a certain time, place, or person (is this just associationist theory rearing its head?). I know that one of the favorite movies of a senior faculty member is *Animal House* - read into that what you will - and I can only assume that this person connects the film to a certain time, place, or, ahem, activity. I know that people often vote for a film they saw early in the relationship of a now-partner (does the film become demoted if the relationship fizzles?) and similarly, movies seen as a kid often hold a special place in the heart (though on re-watching can be very disappointing: examples, *War Games*, *Ferris Bueller's Day Off*, anything with Burt Reynolds). Are there any other important criteria? Identifying with one of the main characters is a good reason (unless we're talking about *Psycho*), as is the case if it's a ripping good yarn, or one is simply admiring the beauty of the director's and actor's work (probably true for many for *Blade Runner* and even the *Godfather*).

***Continued on the Next Page...***

That's as far as I got. But, after in-depth and often discourteous on-line discussion on this topic with my Global Internet Movie Pals (nickname: GIMP), I came up with the following criteria, in no particular order, for including a movie in my top X list. (The irony here is that I'm making a list to help me make a list). These criteria are not so much about the content of the film, but more my reaction to it.

1. I can watch the film many, many times (say >7) and not get bored.
2. Every time I watch the film it makes me cry, laugh, be scared, and so on.

Not a long list, I know, but I never was one for making them. The point here is that you must love a movie to watch it over and over again (thus the inclusion of *It's a Wonderful Life* on the "readers" list) and it can't help but evoke some emotion in you.

So, having given you some of the previously generated top 10 lists, and potential criteria for deciding on which movies to include, I thought it could be fun to compile a top 10 movie list within the department. Here's how it will work. Send me (via email to [rakison@andrew.cmu.edu](mailto:rakison@andrew.cmu.edu) or by carrier pigeon to "the coop on the top of Baker Hall") your top 5 list of movies. Either rank them (in which case the movies will score 5, 4, 3, 2, and 1 respectively) or place them in no particular order (in which case they will each score 3). I will compile the top 10 list and it will be presented in the next issue of the *Psycho? Logical? Bulletin*. Any movies can be included, and the more people that take part, the more representative the list will be (this is a plea to boost the power of the sample - I will accept top 5 list from relatives, friends, semi-casual acquaintances, and pets). Keep in mind that it's up to you whether make the list from your "favorite" movies or the ones you think are the "best". Either is fine. One last thing: At the same time, send me the name of your favorite director, actor, and actress. *Time Out* did that too - but I don't want to prime you by giving you their results.

Happy List Making

This periodical is not peer reviewed and as such, the editorial board takes absolutely no responsibility for its contents! This is an invitation to you. Submit us your stunning artwork (or doodles), your embarrassing departmental photographs, your biting satire, and your humorous stories. We'll publish them here without the benefit of review!

Submit what you wish to Rochelle Croom at [rmcroom@andrew.cmu.edu](mailto:rmcroom@andrew.cmu.edu) or use the anonymous drop box in the 336B Lounge.