Psycho? Logical? Bulletin

The “slightly better than death and taxes” issue

VENERATED PROFESSOR SCANDALIZED BY PHOTOS TAKEN DURING FOOLISH YOUTH

by L. Heller

Oh, it seems like we’ve heard this tawdry story so many times before. A naïve young woman in her early college days, on the heels of the infamous “summer of love” in nearby Haight-Ashbury, is lured into a room with an older man she barely knows. He asks if it is okay to take some photographs; she innocently agrees; one thing leads to another and then…emotions run wild. Many years later, with her past behind her and a stellar career and professional reputation to protect, some muck-raking magazine digs up the old photos; the photos are all over the web, and the tweets are flying. Will these photos tarnish her legacy? We all know our society is hypocritical and judgmental about such things. But we aren’t!

Well actually we are. Yes indeed….admit it: you want to see the photos, don’t you? If the PLB would stoop that low, you would too, right? Turn to the next page to see them if you dare… (sensitive readers and junior faculty should skip to page 3)
Are you really sure?

Okay then…

For more sordid details see: http://memory.psy.cmu.edu/LynneEmotion.php
CARNEGIE MELLON PSYCHOLOGY STARTS CLINICAL PROGRAM

by S. Cohen & M. Tarr

Our reporters have uncovered the fact that CMU has apparently embarked on a new clinical psychology program under the direction of its world renowned clinician, Robert Siegler. Siegler who received his PhD in clinical psychology from SUNY at Stony Brook has made substantial contributions in the area of snake phobias, and looks forward to establishing a clinical program with a strong behaviorist base. Siegler said he intends to organize the program along the lines of the Cosa Nostra plan and that his first appointment is your reporter, Sheldon Cohen, as program Consigliere.

Also joining Siegler and Cohen in forming the program are David Klahr and Marcel Just, the major qualification for both being having spouses who are clinical psychologists. However, Cohen reports that Klahr has also been involved in (possibly as the target of) many clinical interventions and is ready to pass his knowledge on the budding clinical types. Just, on the other hand, was specifically appointed because of his success in getting younger scientists hooked on MRI. Just stated that he saw fMRI as “taking over” the field of clinical research and would ensure that all members of the new “family” would run “oodles and oodles” [aka a “boatload’] of MRI scans. Also joining the program is Marlene Behrman who has some type of clinical degree. When asked about her role in the program, Behrmann mumbled “omertá” and told us to talk to her lawyer. Finally, providing young blood for the program, Siegler and Cohen announced that they had recruited Kasey Griffin Creswell to the family. Griffin Creswell was heard to remark that it was an “offer she couldn’t refuse.”

Particularly exciting is the new funding for 20 new graduate students that the dean apparently provided after a brief discussion with Siegler and Cohen, as well as several outside consultants they hired to help with the negotiations. Flowers and get well wishes may be sent to Dean Lehoczky c/o Presbyterian Hospital. Provost Kamlet stated that it was clear that the clinical program was destined for great things and that he felt confident that he could fully support it without the need for any further face-to-face discussions.

ACTUAL (GOOD) NEWS

Sharon Carver was inducted as an honorary member of Mortar Board, a senior honor society, on April 4th, 2012. Sharon has served as the Mortar Board advisor for many years and they made a special appeal to nationals to allow Sharon’s induction as a way of honoring her years of dedicated service. Congratulations Sharon!
OUTGOING ADMINISTRATORS ENACT SWEEPING CHANGES

by M. Tarr

With President Cohon, Provost Kamlet, Dean Lehoczky, and Chairman Scheier all stepping down in 2013, your PLB investigative reporters have discovered that sweeping changes are in the works:

Sick of faculty whining about the quality of Schatz, the Provost plans to implement a “shut up and feed yourself” plan in which faculty will be employed as the Schatz serving and kitchen staff on a rotating basis. The Provost commented that not only would this save the university a trivial amount of money, but it would also remind the faculty about who “wears the pants around here”. Notices informing faculty about their assigned week of service will be sent via campus mail next week.

The Dean, always seeking greater efficiencies to H&SS*, has decided that faculty time should be more carefully accounted for. To this end, he is planning to install “EZ Trak” time card machines in each departmental office. Faculty will be required to punch in and out daily, with less than 48 hour work weeks being addressed by pay cuts and a loss of gym privileges.

The Chair has been seen with architectural plans for extensive renovations for the third floor. Amenities include a sauna, racquetball court, and indoor motorcycle parking. The style is said to be a departure from CMU’s yellow brick campus with Hawaiian-themed wallpaper. Although these new features may seem highly attractive, office space will be reduced significantly – current occupants of the third floor will be relocated to the Baker Hall roof, where much more space efficient tiki huts will be constructed using left over lumber from Spring Carnival.

*Officially now known as The Marianna Brown Dietrich College of Humanities and Social Sciences or MBDCoH&SS for short.

MYSTERY MAN

What mysterious link is there between Brooke Feeney and this man? Reliable witnesses at Schatz saw Brooke mysteriously walk over and give this man the piece of cake he is eating in this photo secretly taken by L. Heller. Yet Brooke denies knowing him... Will we ever know why? Will he ever know why?
NEW DEPARTMENTAL SAFETY STANDARDS

by L. Heller

CMU Human Resources – in the spirit of closing the barn door after the horses have left – has taken notice of our accident-prone faculty and the rapidly increasing cost of health care. To address this situation, HR has enacted the following new rules, effective immediately (next to each new rule is the name of the rule’s sponsor, each citing “personal reasons”):

- Helmets required when lecturing (co-sponsors: E. Thiessen, psycomp)
- Face shields required when walking to lunch (sponsor: S. Cohen)
- Back braces required when giving keynote talks (sponsor: M. Behrmann)
- Foot braces required when using athletic facilities (sponsor: M. Scheier)
- Finally, the Middle Earth water filter will now dispense vicodin-laced, brown water

CMU BRAIN SCIENTIST BOLDLY REINVENTS STUDENT ASSESSMENT

by M. Tarr & L. Heller

Fed up with rampant grade inflation and a lack of TAs, Marcel Just has introduced a new, automated method for grading students in his classes: the Automated Grading Assessment Imaging Method (“A-GAIM”). Using state-of-the-art machine learning tools combined with neuroimaging, Just declared “from now on we plug em in, ask them the questions, and read their answers directly”. No guessing, no long, rambling essays, and no whining about grades – scanners don’t make mistakes.” Per agreement with the Provost, students in Just’s classes will now be billed $325 per an exam, with finals running to as much as $975.
THE OBLIGATORY, GRATUITOUS SQUIRREL PICTURE

Even the local CMU wildlife are boycotting Schatz and ordering out for pizza. (Paid for by Ken Kotovsky).

HAPPY PASSOVER!

After 39½ years of wandering in the desert, Mrs. Moses secretly asks for directions.

HAPPY EASTER!

“I see no new taxes, followed by some new taxes”
In an effort to increase their research budgets, several faculty are apparently trying their talents in the modern-day cyber-gold rush: Apps! Some of you are probably aware of these gadgets called iPhones and iPads that all the students are playing with during your lectures. Apparently, there is this thing called the “App Store” where people can actually download programs for their iStuff (and yes, Marcel, you can do this with an Android phone too, and, yes, David Plaut, you can still download apps after jailbreaking). On a recent visit to the App Store, the PLB’s official technology reporter, David Rakison (still pathetically using a vintage Motorola RAZR), discovered that a number of faculty members have developed their own eponymously entitled Apps and are raking in the dough not skimmed off the top by Apple. For your PLB pleasure he has listed a few of them below. Bear in mind that these are real Apps that you can find at the App Store, so please don’t download them because the faculty here already have sufficient cash to, for example, eat lunch every day.

It’s hard to be logarithmic in a linear world. In this new, co-op game Bob Siegler goes underground to fight wave after overlapping wave of number-line errors wherever he finds them. As player level up, they have to teach ever younger and lower SES individuals to represent numbers on a linear scale.

Meet Marcel, a Shell. In this new game, Marcel must fill his empty shell with as much grant money as possible while receiving data from his one Fully Moveable Rotating Eye (or FMRi). The paid version allows grant submission to NIH, NSF, DoD, NASA, the IRA, and the Cockapoo Kennel Club.

What Apple product isn’t complete with the classic quotes of jokester Sheldon Cohen? Included here is his beautiful soliloquy about the terrible hot chocolate machine in Schatz, his heartbreaking speech about the new soda machine on the 3rd floor of Baker, and how tasteless he finds water. Almost sounds as if he has a drinking problem.

Ever wanted to know about Mike Tarr’s system? Me neither, but now anyone can with this inexpensive sequel from the makers of “The System of Doctor Heller.” Learn all sorts of stuff about Mike, including why his hair is no longer blue, how he cheats at poker, and why 50 is the new 60.
**Psycho? Cartoon Pages**

*Vintage Grad School Art by L. Heller*

**Early Morning Animal Learning Class**

**The Coffee Drive**
(or, how to tell when you need a cup of coffee)

**9:05 AM**

*COFFEE.*

**9:15 AM**

*WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN DISHABITUATION AND SHTINGING ARTIFACTS?*

**9:25 AM**

*Coffee.*

**Phase 1:** Intervention highly recommended

**Phase 2:** Intervention desperately needed

**Phase 3:** Too late

**In Rochel Gelman’s Lab…**

*Hi! My name is Teddy and I live in Rochel’s Lab. She uses me to test kids’ understanding of intimacy and artifacts.*

*So, smartypants, what’s your excuse for reading this?*

*She found that by the age of 18 months, most children know that teddy bears are not alive and therefore can’t talk.*

*Maybe it’s a good idea to avoid class…*

*When one-trial learning is not soon enough*
STAFF COUNCIL NOTES – MARCH 2012

By Ellen Conser, H&SS Staff Council Rep 2006-2012
conser@andrew.cmu.edu March 21, 2012

THIS ISSUE:

• New HR-Payroll-PTO software system
• How PAT cuts will affect CMU riders
• TODSTW Day: Call for volunteers
• President Cohon Open Forum rescheduled
• Healthy Campus Committee update
• Growing student load impact (Faculty Senate news)

New HR-Payroll-PTO computer system
By about 2014, CMU will implement a new software product to unite and manage HR functions, attendance, payroll, paystubs, PTO scheduling, and the like. The current system is outdated, unwieldy and otherwise problematic. We had a presentation and PowerPoint by Aubrey Fulmer (HR Computer Services) about the new system. The product is called Workday HCM Payroll Solution, and the university has already signed the agreement with the vendor. When implemented, you’ll use it instead of ADP to print paystubs. It’s possible that starting in 2014, you’ll be required to get preapproval in advance for PTO days or PTO vacation dates you’d like to take (via an automated email to your supervisor, who would have to sign off on it). It’s not clear right now whether individual departments will be given the autonomy to decline that function, if they’d like to retain scheduling flexibility for their staff. Ms. Fulmer is also unsure at this time whether employees will be required to enter their hours daily (similar to a time clock) or retrospectively (weekly or bi-weekly); and whether individual departments will be given any autonomy on this issue, either.

Visit here to follow the progress of Workday (also known as ‘CMU Works’), bookmark http://www.cmu.edu/hr/cmu-works/

Impending PAT Cuts’ Effect on CMU Riders (Presenter, Ryan Wolfe)
Ryan Wolfe (Director, Campus Services) gave us an update and synopsis of the Port Authority situation with threatened cutbacks. He showed via PowerPoint the extent to which it’ll affect the CMU community. Since 2006 PAT ridership by CMU-affiliateds (faculty, staff, students) has grown by 30%. The following routes are heavily used by CMU riders and are all on the chopping block: 64, 28X, 69, 58 and more. Of the 100 routes most ridden by CMU affiliateds, 40 are up for elimination. In short, legacy costs (pensions and private retiree healthcare insurance benefits) are threatening to destroy PAT, as they consume ~50% of the annual budget and largely cause the $64 million deficit. In other news, you may have noticed that Pitt riders tap their IDs on an electronic reader instead of just showing them to the driver. It’s called the ‘smart card’ function and CMU will launch it on a trial basis this summer, with hopes to fully implement it next summer (2013).

Visit here: http://www.cmu.edu/staff-council/news/2011-2012/PAT-update.html to view Ryan’s PowerPoint, with lots more detail than I have room for here, on the impending cuts and how it’ll affect each of us riders (and drivers, who will encounter lots more traffic on local roads).

TODSTW: Call for Volunteers
The annual Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Day will be held on Thursday, April 26, and we are still in need of volunteers—faculty, staff, students are all welcome. Your help is needed in any of these areas: registration tables, lunch service, or session guides. The entire event will be taking place within the UC, so there will be no

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traveling around campus involved. If you’re able to help, email Gloria (ggruber@andrew.cmu.edu).
If you want to sign up for a specific role let her know which you’d prefer. Registration volunteers are needed from 10:45am - 12:15pm. Lunch Service volunteers are needed from 11:45am - 1:00pm. Session Guides are needed from 1:00pm – 3:00pm. These times are somewhat flexible if you have a conflict.

President Cohon Open Forum
The date and location for the Forum have changed; see Save the Date below. If you’re the administrative coordinator for your department, I’d really appreciate it if you’d be willing to print off a copy of the attached flyer and put it in a prominent place in your area like the kitchen/ lounge or reception area to help get the word out. These fora are geared towards everyone—students, faculty and staff.

Healthy Campus Committee update
I accidentally omitted the February Healthy Campus meeting minutes from the February Notes. They’re attached this month.

Growing Student Load Impact (News from Faculty Senate)
Over the last couple years, the Faculty Senate has been discussing the challenges associated with CMU’s decision to admit more undergrads, and many more grad students. These impacts include greater faculty workloads, very tight classroom space and more. Since you might not have occasion to visit the FS webpage, I’ve attached a recent document by Mark Stehlik (CS) presented for FS consideration that may be of interest to you, and is full of interesting detail.

Save the Date (Staff Council-related & other events of interest to staff)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date &amp; Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Contact</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CMU RecycleMania (competing against other U.S. universities)</td>
<td>Feb. 5-Mar. 31</td>
<td>Recycling bins on campus</td>
<td>Barb Kviz, SC Green Committee Chair, bk11@andrew</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Staff Council Rep Nominations</td>
<td>Mar. 26-Apr. 6</td>
<td>Online</td>
<td>Adam Rauf, SC president, araud@andrew</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>President Cohon Open Forum</td>
<td>Weds. Apr. 12, noon NOTE DATE &amp; BLDG CHANGE</td>
<td>Doherty Rm. 1212</td>
<td>Submit questions in advance to <a href="mailto:staff-council@andrew.cmu.edu">staff-council@andrew.cmu.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Staff Council Regular Meeting</td>
<td>Thurs. Apr. 19, noon</td>
<td>Gates-Hillman Room 4307</td>
<td>Adam Rauf, SC president, araud@andrew Anyone can attend; Only reps can vote</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TODSTW Day</td>
<td>Thurs. Apr. 26</td>
<td>UC</td>
<td>Gloria Gruber, <a href="mailto:ggruber@andrew.cmu.edu">ggruber@andrew.cmu.edu</a> or Chris Nolin, <a href="mailto:cnolin@andrew.cmu.edu">cnolin@andrew.cmu.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Staff Council Elections</td>
<td>Apr. 23-May 4</td>
<td>Online</td>
<td>Adam Rauf, SC president, araud@andrew</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kennywood Day</td>
<td>July 7</td>
<td>Kennywood</td>
<td>Barbara Price, <a href="mailto:bp0a@andrew.cmu.edu">bp0a@andrew.cmu.edu</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Discounts, Offers, Events

Psycho? Logical? Bulletin
SC-related discounts and many events are listed on our website (URL below).

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Attachments:
- Minutes, Mar. 2012 SC meeting
- Flyer for Pres. Cohon Open Forum on Apr. 12  **please post**
- Minutes for Healthy Campus cmte. meeting held Feb. 24
- Growing Student Load Impact (pdf)

Visit and bookmark http://www.cmu.edu/staff-council/ for more about Staff Council
Grad Students Discover Some Facts About Sheldon Cohen
by Crista Crittenden

Sheldon Cohen roundhouse kicked Chuck Norris out of Chuck Norris Facts.

The only person Sheldon Cohen really likes . . . is Sheldon Cohen.

Sheldon Cohen doesn’t have to do anything for a Klondike bar.

Sheldon Cohen makes onions cry.

Antibacterial gel kills 99.9% of the germs. Sheldon Cohen kills ALL the germs.

Ghosts sit around the campfire and tell Sheldon Cohen stories.

Superman owns a pair of Sheldon Cohen pajamas.

Geico saved 15% by switching to Sheldon Cohen.

I once saw Sheldon Cohen slam a revolving door.

If at first you don’t succeed, you’re not Sheldon Cohen.
Faculty Failure to Launch PLBs Leads to Inappropriately-Timed GradTalk Article

Former GradTalk editor Alan Jern wrote this excellent piece for the “January 2012 PLB”. Unfortunately, by the time the first PLB of this year was published, the readership has had four months to inevitably wipe all memories of the 2011 Pub Quiz from their minds, rendering several of Alan’s clever references obsolete.

But, since there are critical nuggets of information to be gleaned from his article for the 2012 Pub Quiz, the GradTalk editors have decided to publish it anyway.

Hi, I'm Alan. Those of you that attended December's department holiday party may remember me as the source of the bonus question during the pub quiz. It's unclear why I was the only one to send David my favorite movie picks. Surely it's not because his request was buried almost cryptically deep within the final paragraph of a 1200 word article. More likely, you all just hate movies.

In any case, in the interest of fairness for future holiday parties, I wish to now disclose all of my favorites, for your benefit.

My Top 3 All-Time Favorite TV Shows
1. The Wire
2. Breaking Bad
3. Seinfeld

My Top 3 Favorite Nuts
1. CornNuts
2. Peanut M&Ms
3. Raisins

My Top 3 Favorite Digits Between 1 and 3
1. 2
2. 1
3. 3

My Top 3 Favorite CMU Psych Department Novelty Newsletters
1. The Dussy Dispatch
2. The Ran Report
3. Collection of orphaned pages from the shared department printer stapled together

Runner-up: The PLB

You now know everything there is to know about me. Good luck at next year's quiz!
Some Faculty Members Discover “Instagr.am” Makes Them Instantly Look More Hip

Tired of being stuck with the “serious scientist” image, some faculty members were recently spotted taking Instagr.am photos of themselves and posting them on the internet.

“I used to think that it was only acceptable for Hipsters to use this cool photo service,” Erik Thiessen remarked. “But now that Facebook has bought the company, it’s totally mainstream and accessible.”

NOTE: One of the following photographs is genuine (e.g. it was actually not Instagr.am-ed by a grad editor!) Figure out which one and win a BIG PRIZE!

John Anderson uses the “spotlight” filter on an old vacation photo to emphasize its main subject, his laptop.

Erik makes his lecture-induced wounds look mysterious and bad-ass, à la David Lynch.
Marlene and Dave are actually just happy hippies masquerading as a scientific power-couple.

David offers us a rare glimpse into his emo, brooding soul.

Ken thought the “early bird” filter would be a fitting one for this photo, achieving the trendy “Vintage Turkey” look.
Fourth Year Grad Student Colleen Davy realized today, as she was approached to contribute to this month’s GradTalk, that, other than her contributions to the Psycho?Logical?Bulletin’s GradTalk section, she had no other publications to her name.

Davy served as Grad Talk editor from 2010-2011, alongside fellow contributors Matt Wood and Alan Jern, both of whom have also been published in journals that actually exist.

Davy suggests that her lack of publications stems from a number of factors, but may primarily be due to the fact that she has chosen to do research is incredibly work-intensive and requires a lot of time before she can actually see results. She also cites the fact that she is easily distracted by other projects that are more intellectually interesting than writing up results to projects that have already occurred.

“For example,” Davy reports, “I should be working on writing my piece of a book chapter right now. But instead I’m writing a self-deprecating column about how I don’t have any publications.”

Grad Appreciation Week Post-Script: How Well Do You REALLY Know Your Grad Students?

Match the secret fact to the grad student! Email your guesses to ranliu@cmu.edu. If you get all of them correct, you will be featured in the next PLB’s Faculty/Post-doc Hall of Fame.

1. Nora Presson
2. Matt Wood
3. Chris Paynter
4. Caitlin Tenison
5. Bryan Matlen
6. Ran Liu
7. Sarah Schipul

A. Has 7 wisdom teeth and 3 spleens. Planning to join the circus if the PhD doesn’t work out.
B. Donated money to both John McCain and Barack Obama in 2008.
C. Once worked in a mustard factory.
D. Used to be an Emergency Medical Technician.
E. Once spent 2 hours socializing with homeless drug dealers under a bridge in Portland, OR.
F. Met Quentin Tarantino in 2002 at a rave on the Great Wall of China.
G. Played a singing lizard in a college play entitled “Starmites”.
H. Once won a year’s supply of M&M’s in the “Find The Imposter M&M” contest.

**NOTE:** You may have noticed there are more facts than grad students. In FACT, two of the facts belong to the same grad!