



CLASP Notes



A Newsletter of the Clinical and School Psychology Graduate Student Association

GREETINGS

CLASP is pleased to offer you this newsletter to keep you abreast of the current CLASP news and upcoming events. For those who are unfamiliar with CLASP, we are the Clinical and School Psychology Graduate Student Association. CLASP is composed of the following 2nd level students: Mike Hickey - President, Tara Mandel - Vice-President, Melanie Levine - Treasurer, Dawn Dugan - Secretary, and Chris Browne - Member at Large. We have all been hard at work planning a variety of events that include social activities, community service events, guest speakers and so on. Our purpose is to serve as a representative organization for the students of the Clinical and School Psychology Ph.D. Program. In doing so, we strive to provide a variety of unifying activities and educational experiences outside of the classroom for our students and faculty/staff members. CLASP has already been active in these endeavors. We hosted a gathering for the first year students after their orientation to welcome them to the Program. We also met with the PERCC

staff to discuss issues regarding test availability and organization. Information on both of these events can be found within this newsletter. In the upcoming weeks we will be hosting a Welcome Back Luncheon and the first of our Alumni Lecture Series. Please see the corresponding articles for details about these exciting events. Additionally, CLASP is in the process of planning a holiday party at the end of the semester, more guest lecturers, community service opportunities, a ski trip, and a spectacular end of the year formal event! We hope you will enjoy this newsletter and we encourage you to give us feedback and ideas for future CLASP events. You may do so by personally talking to any of the CLASP members or by placing a note in our suggestion box in the graduate lounge. CLASP can also be contacted via our own e-mail account that we have set up. Feel free to drop us a line @ CLASP0405@aol.com. We hope you have a great semester and we look forward to seeing you at our events!

*Article Contributed by:
Mike Hickey, President*

2004 - 2005 CLASP Members



From Left to Right: Tara Mandel, Mike Hickey, Dawn Dugan, Melanie Levine, Chris Browne

WELCOME BACK PARTY



As mentioned, the members of CLASP are currently planning several activities for the upcoming year. One of these activities is a "Welcome Back" party to be held on Wednesday, October 6th in PERCC Room 202 between the hours of 11:30AM and 1:30PM. As we all know, the first few weeks of the school year are very busy. The "Welcome Back" party will give everyone an opportunity to catch up



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with others and meet the first level students. There will be food, drinks, and other refreshments. All are invited!

*Article Contributed by:
Chris Browne, Member at Large*

CLASP PRESENTS:

Dr. Danny Carragher in the First of Our Alumni Lecture Series

We are excited to introduce our first in a series of Hofstra University Alumni speakers. Let us welcome Dr. Danny Carragher who will be sharing information on the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) community as well as his experiences following graduation. This training will cover a broad range of topics that will serve as an introduction to the LGBT community. The purpose of this training is to make participants aware of terminology, concerns and research findings related to the LGBT community. By the end of this training, participants should possess a better understanding of sexual orientation identity development and the specific health and mental health concerns (and their related

causes) of LGBT people. Please join us on **Tuesday, October 12** at 12:15 pm at the Saltzman Community Center. A light lunch and refreshments will be served.

*Article Contributed By:
Dawn Dugan, Secretary*

Alumni Speaker Spotlight



Danny Carragher, Ph.D. received his B.A. in Psychology from Temple University, his M.A. in Counseling Psychology from Boston College and his Ph.D. in Clinical/School Psychology from Hofstra University. Dr. Carragher is currently the Project Director of Project BUMPS, a four-year, NIDA-funded, longitudinal study examining party drug use amongst gay and bisexual men in New York City. He is also the staff psychologist at a residential home for gay and transgender adolescents, teaches as an Adjunct Professor at New York University, has a private practice based in Manhattan, and provides diversity training for gay health

and mental health issues. He has worked both inpatient and outpatient health and mental health centers including New England Memorial Hospital in Stoneham, Massachusetts where he was name Counselor of the Year, Children's Hospital/Dana Farber Cancer Institute in Boston, and the Adolescent AIDS Program at the Montefiore Medical Center in the Bronx where he served as the first Director of the Gay and Lesbian Adolescent Health Research Center. He has been an invited speaker on the topic on gay youth health and mental health issues at various conferences both nationally and internationally, and was awarded a travel/research award from the University of Ripon and York, St. John, in York, England where he guest lectured and co-authored two articles comparing American and British gay youth.



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CLASP & Other 2nd Year Class Members Welcome the 1st Year Class with a Chili's Outing after Orientation



After the first year class had their orientation, the second years invited them out to Chili's. It was such a fun time! We shared food, drinks and many laughs as we helped to break the ice and got to know each other so much better. The first year students enjoyed the relaxed atmosphere and were very appreciative for the opportunity to spend time with us and ask whatever questions they might have had about starting school. Thanks to everyone who participated and helped make our first outing of the year a success!



*Article Contributed by:
Melanie Levine, Treasurer*

CLASP Meets with PERCC Staff: Update

In the week before school started, the members of CLASP met with Dr. Scardapane and Lena Andersen (3rd Level PERCC Assistant), to discuss the improvements and changes that will be in effect for the current academic year. The staff at PERCC have spent the summer reorganizing the protocols and tests. (When you see them, thank them for all their hard work!) It was stressed that the only way to keep

the center organized and user friendly is if we all actively take a part in keeping test kits and protocols where they belong. As a reminder, if the center is low on protocols, or if you find that something is missing from a test kit, please notify Lena, or Joan and Earleen. Lena can be reached by putting a note in her mailbox, calling her at (516)946-1202, or emailing her at xlenasa@hotmail.com. New policies at PERCC include restricting first years from utilizing the protocol filing cabinets and test kits. All protocols and materials needed for assessment class should be given to first-year students directly from the professor or teaching assistant. Teaching assistants for all assessment classes will be responsible for making sure that all testing equipment is returned in good condition. Finally, congratulations are in order for Dr. Scardapane, who is now the director of the entire Saltzman Community Center!

*Article Contributed by:
Tara Mandel, Vice-President*



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"PASSING THE TORCH"



CLASP would like to extend a special thank you to last years CLASP members (Suzanne Main, Michelle Gicz, Susan Gaylord, Karen Chin, and Wanda Vargas). They have been tremendously helpful in sharing their experiences with CLASP and giving us advice and direction as we all start out in our new positions. As everyone who attended their events knows, they will be a hard act to follow but we look forward to taking on the challenge and having another fantastic year of CLASP events!