

# BGSU DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY

monthly newsletter

## in this issue...

- Instructor appreciation
- Upcoming conferences
- Safe Zone training
- ACBS Student Spotlight Award

## WELCOME!

**Welcome back!** As we get back into the swing of another semester in a pandemic, I would like to highlight some of the positive feedback we received from undergraduate students last semester. Whether in teaching evaluations, informal conversations, or direct feedback to the department, students expressed a variety of kudos. Thank you to all of you who made so many adjustments and worked hard to give our students a positive experience.

Read more in **Carolyn's Corner!**

## A NOTE FROM SUE WAX

**Hello everyone and welcome back!** I have just a couple of reminders this month:

- The university is not purchasing or reimbursing any equipment for remote work locations (i.e. home offices).
- Principal Investigators, I highly recommend reviewing the Grants Accounting guide for PI's – it's great reading!  
<https://www.bgsu.edu/content/dam/BGSU/finance-and-administration/controller/grants/documents/PI-Guide-January-2020.pdf>

Stay well!  
Sue



## UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS

D. Klopfer | 2/20

W. O'Brien | 2/23

C. Gebers | 2/28

## IMPORTANT EVENTS

In **Spring 2021** the department will be completing a self-study for our external review. We will be part of two clusters: Psychology/Sociology and Neuroscience/Biology. Carolyn will lead this effort, and will be seeking input from faculty and students starting in January.

## CONTACT OUR OFFICES

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# DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION

This month we are highlighting a few upcoming BGSU events. Please feel free to email [cgebers@bgsu.edu](mailto:cgebers@bgsu.edu) to add any others to future newsletters!

The **BGSU Black Issues Conference** will be taking place virtually on February 25th 2021. The theme for the Conference this year is “Our Untold Stories.” Information on last year’s conference is here:

[https://events.bgsu.edu/event/20th\\_annual\\_black\\_issues\\_conference\\_words\\_into\\_action\\_power\\_expression\\_activism#.YAdPnOhKiU](https://events.bgsu.edu/event/20th_annual_black_issues_conference_words_into_action_power_expression_activism#.YAdPnOhKiU)

The **BGSU Latino/a/x Issues Conference** will be taking place virtually on Wednesday March 10: <https://www.bgsu.edu/arts-and-sciences/cultural-and-critical-studies/news-events/latino-issues-conference.html>

**Safe Zone training** will take place on February 1 from 3:00-5:00pm for faculty and staff interested in improving the climate for LGBTQ+ people at BGSU. To register, go to: [https://events.bgsu.edu/event/safe\\_zone\\_training\\_for\\_faculty\\_4643#.YAnyNehKhjU](https://events.bgsu.edu/event/safe_zone_training_for_faculty_4643#.YAnyNehKhjU) For general information on Safe Zone training for students or faculty/staff, check out: <https://www.bgsu.edu/equity-diversity-and-inclusion/lgbt-resource-center/bgsu-s-lgbt-safe-zone-program.html>

- Carolyn

## CAROLYN'S CORNER

Students have particularly highlighted their appreciation for the positive attitudes of their instructors. In a time when we might feel disconnected or discouraged, they appreciate instructors for their enthusiasm, energy, approachability, friendliness, and passion for their course topics.



### Specific pedagogical approaches that were highlighted include:

- Starting each lecture with an informal question like, “what should I binge on Netflix?” that students can answer on Chat as they come in
- Having small groups work together in Zoom breakout rooms on a shared Google Doc—both in real time and asynchronously
- Using online programs like TopHat or Kahoot
- Interactive activities during lecture, including asking students to respond to questions or polls—though some students prefer to have their cameras off and responding in chat
- Instructor recordings! Students appreciated an instructor recording themselves talking through important notes, and others enjoyed the opportunity to re-review lectures in preparation for exams. (admittedly, others expressed a strong preference for real-time lectures)

### Some students appreciated practices that are not unique to online teaching:

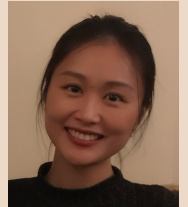
- Tying course content to real-life examples
- General good, clear communication
- “Fast” responses to email
- Leaving each class with a clear understanding of the next assignment

Finally, a number of students expressed their thanks for the flexibility of their instructors in a unique and stressful time. Students felt supported as they attended online classes from different time zones, sometimes struggled to complete assignments on time, or needed help with other adjustments. Repeatedly students noted the importance of feeling their instructors cared about them and sympathized with them as they tried to do well in class while facing any number of stressors.

*(P.S. - instructors, don't worry! Lots of students like it when your cat or dog walks through your screen.)*

## STUDENT SPOTLIGHT AWARD FOR JANUARY 2021

Congratulations to Clinical Psychology student **Huanzhen (Psyche) Xu** for receiving the **Student Spotlight Award** for January 2021 from the **Association of Contextual Behavioral Science**. The award highlights students who are doing important work in the Contextual Behavioral Science



community for research, clinical, and/or volunteer-humanitarian efforts.

**To learn more about Psyche’s work, check out:**

[https://contextualscience.org/student\\_spotlight\\_award\\_recipient\\_huanzhen\\_xu](https://contextualscience.org/student_spotlight_award_recipient_huanzhen_xu)

## GRAD STUDENTS REMINDER!

### REMINDER TO GRADUATE STUDENTS.....

Every time you hold a committee meeting please make sure you complete the online documentation. All documents are available on the Graduate College website (under student resources and documents and forms).

### Popular forms are.....

- topic approval-thesis (used for the thesis proposal)
- defense and manuscript approval form-thesis (used for the thesis defense form)
- preliminary exam application (used for the prelim proposal)
- preliminary exam report (used for the prelim defense)
- topic approval-dissertation (used for the dissertation proposal)
- defense and manuscript approval form-dissertation (used for the dissertation defense)
- preliminary exam application (used for all prelims)
- preliminary exam report (used for the defense)