Washington University in St. Louis hosted a conference Tuesday, Sept. 26, aimed at exploring the intersection of neuroscience and society. To learn more, click here.

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Privilege? What’s that got to do with diversity?

Paul Costello on November 21, 2017

For our ongoing 1:2:1 podcast series on diversity, Portraits of Stanford Medicine, I recently spoke with Alan Ceaser, PhD, a postdoc research fellow in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences.

We had an interesting discussion about his path to success, which involved enlisting in the Navy after high school, where he served as a neuropsychiatric technician; studying for his B.A. in Maryland while working as a training assistant at the NIH in the clinical brain disorders branch; earning a PhD 2015 in psychology from Washington University and then coming to Stanford. The goal of his research here is to better understand the neural mechanisms of complex cognition like working memory and executive control, particularly in the context of psychiatric diseases like psychosis, and to translate this work to improve treatment outcomes and functioning of individuals with psychotic spectrum disorders.

Ceaser was born in New Orleans and raised in Atlanta in a neighborhood he called “very middle class.” His mother is white and his father, black, the race to which he identifies: “African American, because of my skin color, [and] the things that I have experienced in my life.”

I inquired about his aspirations. “I wanted to go to college,” he told me. “My parents didn’t go to college. My mom was a German immigrant — you don’t know what you don’t know. My family didn’t know what it would take to get me there.” His older brother had joined the Navy and to his younger brother, a carefree life in the military that included a sports car and living abroad, didn’t look all too bad so after high school he enlisted.

I was struck by many things in our conversation, but one word stood out in particular when you venture into a discussion about diversity: privilege. There are keys in life that aren’t given equally to everyone at birth. He gave me a good example of that from a story that’s been going around the web; you may have heard it:

Privilege is blind. There’s a coach or something. He says, ‘We’re going to have a race. Whoever gets to the finish line first gets this $100 bill.’ He says, ‘Everyone line up on the starting line.’ Then he says, ‘We’re going to have some conditions first.’

He said, ‘If your parents are still married, take two steps forward. If your parents went to college take another two steps forward. If you’ve never experienced racial discrimination take another two steps forward. If you’ve never been homeless before take two steps forward. If you’re able bodied;’ or whatever.

After he made all these statements it was very clear that some people were starting from the starting line and some people were maybe only a few steps away from the finish line. None of the things that he mentioned were things that were the result of their own accomplishment. It’s not the result of their own hard work. [They’re] just conditions that they were born into.

That story reminded me of a quote from former Dallas Cowboys coach Barry Switzer: “Some people were born on third base and go through life thinking they hit a triple.”

Ceaser has thought long and hard about questions of race, diversity and what it means to be a minority in this nation. You’ll hear his perspective on those issues in the podcast. He’s reflective, thoughtful and also an activist. At Stanford, he founded #Against Hate, a university-wide organization of undergraduate and graduate students, faculty and staff committed to supporting communities targeted by acts of hate, and to reduce prejudice campus wide.

He’s wrapping up his fellowship at Stanford in the spring and is now seeking a full-time position here or at another university. You can be sure, wherever he ends up, this man will be bringing a life of success that he’s created all on his own.
Conference focuses on early brain development, social outcomes

*University wide initiative explores intersection of neuroscience and societal issues*

by Kristina Sauerwein • September 20, 2017

Washington University in St. Louis hosted a conference Tuesday, Sept. 26, aimed at exploring the intersection of neuroscience and society. The conference, “*The Developing Brain: New Directions in Science, Policy and Law*” was daylong at the Eric P. Newman Education Center on the Medical Campus.

In recent years, research has emerged detailing the detrimental effects of poverty and stress on early brain development. Such societal ills can reshape the human brain and cause lifelong problems in behavior, learning, physical health and mental wellbeing.

The conference represents the kickoff of a university wide initiative to distill and delve into the relationship between the immature brain and social outcomes such as crime and poverty.

“We want to address topics where the fields of neuroscience intersect with emerging issues in our society,” said Anneliese M. Schaefer, JD, PhD, director of the Office of Neuroscience Research in the Department of Neurology at the School of Medicine. “For example, scientific understanding of brain maturity has been an important consideration in determining the appropriate sentence for convicted juvenile offenders. Likewise, social and neuroscience tools are being applied to determine the relationship between brain development and socio-economic status.”

Led by the Office of Neuroscience Research, the collaboration includes researchers at the School of Medicine, the Brown School, the School of Law, and Arts & Sciences. The project is supported by the Office of the Provost through its Bring Your Own Idea program, which provides grants to interdisciplinary faculty teams focused on meaningful topics.

“We are pleased that this initiative has been a multidisciplinary effort,” Schaefer said. “Neuroscience is a significant strength at Washington University, and we want to take advantage of that. Scientists can benefit by exploring the implications of their research while the public can benefit by learning about current methods, technologies and scientific findings. The goal is that direct conversations across these groups will provide transparency and informed understanding.”

The conference will feature esteemed speakers from the university and other notable institutions, and the panel will include a range of Washington University and other local voices.

“This is an opportunity for the community to gain knowledge about the important work in brain science that is being done both here at Washington University and across the academic field, and how it is relevant to understanding policies in regard to children,” said Deanna Barch, PhD, director of the Department of Psychological & Brain Sciences and one of the conference organizers. “Additionally, I hope the conference helps us to imagine further possibilities in terms of the types of work needed to inform key questions about brain development and children’s health and welfare.”
Barch researches the neural and psychological factors that create risk for developing mental health issues.

“The research increasingly points to critical environmental factors including poverty, exposures to stress and adversity, and family environment in either creating those risk factors or helping to reduce the negative impacts of those risk factors,” she said. “Such findings have important public health and policy implications that we would like to start to incorporate in our research.”

For more information about registration as well as the speakers, panelists and conference organizers, please visit neuroscienceandsociety.wustl.edu.

Washington University School of Medicine’s 2,100 employed and volunteer faculty physicians also are the medical staff of Barnes-Jewish and St. Louis Children’s hospitals. The School of Medicine is one of the leading medical research, teaching and patient-care institutions in the nation, currently ranked seventh in the nation by U.S. News & World Report. Through its affiliations with Barnes-Jewish and St. Louis Children’s hospitals, the School of Medicine is linked to BJC HealthCare.
Baugh elected to NAS Board on Behavioral, Cognitive, and Sensory Sciences

February 3, 2017

John Baugh, the Margaret Bush Wilson Professor in Arts & Sciences at Washington University in St. Louis, has been elected to serve on the Board on Behavioral, Cognitive, and Sensory Sciences for the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine. His three-year term began in January.

Part of the National Research Council, the board offers guidance on new behavioral science research and contributes its expertise on important policy issues in areas such as national security (helping intelligence analysts with decision-making tools), human capital (contributions to education and learning), and human interactions with technological advances.

Based in the Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences, Baugh also holds academic appointments in African and African-American studies, American culture studies, anthropology, education, English, linguistics, philosophy-neuroscience-psychology and urban studies, all in Arts & Sciences.
Andrew C. Butler, PhD ‘09 was appointed with tenure as associate professor of education in Arts & Sciences. Andy also has an appointment as Associate Professor of Psychological & Brain Sciences. He is the Director of the Memory Dynamics Lab.

Dr. Butler is interested in the malleability of memory – the cognitive processes and mechanisms that cause memories to change or remain stable over time. More specifically, his research focuses on how the process of retrieving memories affects the content (e.g., events, specific details, narrative structure, etc.) and phenomenological characteristics (e.g., confidence, emotional intensity, vividness, etc.) of those memories. His program of research addresses both theoretical issues in cognitive psychology and practical applications to education and mental health. The broad aim of this research program is to gain a better understanding of how retrieval affects: memories held by individuals and those shared by groups (i.e. collective memories); memories for simple materials (e.g., word lists, facts, etc.) to more complex memories that are rich in sensory detail, emotion, and self-relevance, among other characteristics; and newly formed, episodic memories in contrast to well-learned semantic memories that have been integrated into the knowledge base.
May 8, 2017

Five Washington University doctoral candidates were inducted into the Edward A. Bouchet Graduate Honor Society at the annual Bouchet Conference at Yale University. They are, from left, Jabari Elliott, Kelci Harris, Erika Wesonga, Andrea Bolivar and Jose Grajales.

Five doctoral candidates at Washington University in St. Louis were inducted into the Edward A. Bouchet Graduate Honor Society at the annual Bouchet Conference on Diversity in Graduate Education April 7-8 at Yale University.

Washington University’s 2017 Bouchet fellows are (from left)
- Jabari Elliott in biochemistry;
- Kelci Harris in psychological and brain sciences; and
- Erika Wesonga in psychological and brain sciences.
- Andrea Bolivar in anthropology;
- Jose Grajales in neurosciences.

The Bouchet Society recognizes outstanding scholarly achievement and promotes diversity and excellence in doctoral education and the professoriate. Its network of pre-eminent scholars exemplifies academic and personal excellence, character, service and advocacy for students who have been traditionally underrepresented in the academy.

For bios on the new fellows and more on the society, visit the Bouchet Society website.
Jackson installed as Rosenzweig Associate Professor

Joshua Jackson was installed as the Saul and Louise Rosenzweig Associate Professor of Personality Science at Washington University March 21. Jackson poses for a photo with his family, including his wife, Jenessa, and 8-month-old son, Beckett, during the ceremony. (Photo: Sid Hastings/Washington University)

Joshua Jackson has been installed as the Saul and Louise Rosenzweig Associate Professor of Personality Science at Washington University in St. Louis. A ceremony and reception were held March 21 in Holmes Lounge in Ridgley Hall to celebrate the occasion.

Jackson’s scholarly expertise focuses on how personality develops across the lifespan, the effects that personality has on important life outcomes, and how best to measure personality across time and context. His current studies emphasize understanding how personality relates to physical health and whether educational experiences change personality.

The endowed professorship was made possible by a generous gift from the Foundation for Idiodynamics from the bequest of Saul Rosenzweig, a member of the Washington University psychology faculty in Arts & Sciences from 1948 to 1975, and his wife, Louise.

“I am deeply grateful to the leadership at the Foundation for Idiodynamics for this professorship honoring Saul and Louise Rosenzweig and their enduring contributions to the university,” Chancellor Mark S. Wrighton said. “During his long tenure on the Washington University faculty, Saul Rosenzweig was an influential figure in the field of personality science, and this professorship will further extend his remarkable legacy.”

“It is certainly a pleasure to be able to recognize the outstanding work of such a bright and engaging scholar of psychology,” said Barbara A. Schaal, dean of the faculty of Arts & Sciences and the Mary-Dell Chilton Distinguished Professor. “Joshua Jackson’s star has only begun to rise and we are very proud to call him a member of our faculty. This endowed professorship serves as acknowledgement not only of his many accomplishments in his field, but also of the exciting discoveries that no doubt lie ahead as he continues to build on his exceptional body of work.”

Jackson has served since 2011 as director of the Personality Measurement and Development Lab at Washington University and has published his research in a wide variety of scholarly journals, including Psychological Science, the Journal of Personality and Social Psychology, the European Journal of Personality, JAMA Psychiatry, Psychology and Aging, and Journals of Gerontology. He received the Best Paper Award from the Journal of Research in Personality in 2014.

Jackson has received grant funding from sources including the National Institutes of Health (NIH)’s National Institute on Aging, National Institute of Mental Health, and National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke; the National Science Foundation; and the John Templeton Foundation. He is an associate editor of the Journal of Personality and the European Journal of Personality, and is co-editor of the forthcoming Handbook of Personality and Health.
A 2005 graduate of the University of Wisconsin-Madison, Jackson earned his doctorate in personality psychology from the University of Illinois in 2011. The same year, he received the J.S. Tanaka Dissertation Award for methodological and substantive contributions to the field of personality. Among his many honors, he also has received a Rising Star award from both the Association for Research in Personality and the Association for Psychological Science, and an Excellence in Mentoring award from Washington University.

About Saul and Louise Rosenzweig

A Boston native, Saul Rosenzweig earned his doctorate in clinical psychology from Harvard University in 1932. He joined the Washington University faculty in 1948 and continued teaching until his retirement in 1975. As a professor emeritus, he remained actively involved with the university, conducting research with postgraduate students until shortly before his death in 2004.

In 1972, Rosenzweig founded and served as the first president of the International Society for Research on Aggression, becoming one of the first psychologists to actively attempt to define and study aggression. The same year, he established the Foundation for Idiodynamics, a philanthropic organization that supported personality research. Following Rosenzweig’s death, several faculty members of Arts & Sciences’ Department of Psychological & Brain Sciences were serving on the board of the Foundation for Idiodynamics and continued its philanthropic work, including Randy Larsen, the William R. Stuckenberg Professor of Human Values and Moral Development; Henry Roediger, the James S. McDonnell Distinguished University Professor; and adjunct professor Eric Nuetzel, MD, from the St. Louis Psychoanalytic Institute. Thomas Oltmanns, the Edgar James Swift Professor in Arts & Sciences, also assisted the foundation. In 2011, the Foundation for Idiodynamics decided to fund an endowed professorship to honor Saul and Louise Rosenzweig and to support research at Washington University in the area of personality science.

Rosenzweig was the author of more than 200 articles and papers on such topics as experimental personality psychology, psychoanalysis, frustration theory, and the idiodynamic approach to studying personality and human behavior. He authored numerous books, including “The Historic Expedition to America (1909): Freud, Jung and Hall the Kingmaker,” which chronicled Sigmund Freud’s trip to America with Swiss psychiatrist Carl Jung.

Remembered as an influential figure in the field of clinical psychology, Rosenzweig’s notable contributions include the formulation of the “Dodo Bird Hypothesis,” which concerned outcome studies about the effectiveness of psychotherapy. He argued that many forms of psychotherapy are effective because they share common factors, and named his hypothesis after the Dodo Bird verdict in Lewis Carroll’s “Alice in Wonderland,” in which the Dodo Bird declared, while judging a race, “everybody has won and all must have prizes.” Rosenzweig also was known for developing the Rosenzweig Picture-Frustration Scale, internationally recognized as a measure of aggression.

Louise Rosenzweig, who died shortly after her husband, was a frequent collaborator of his, in addition to being a lifelong companion.
McDaniel recognized for prospective memory research

Mark McDaniel, professor of psychological and brain sciences in Arts & Sciences at Washington University in St. Louis, is co-recipient of a 2017 Lifetime Achievement Award from the International Conference of Prospective Memory (ICPM).

The award, presented Jan. 3 at the ICPM’s 5th annual meeting in Melbourne, Australia, is shared with Gilles O. Einstein, professor of psychology at Furman University.

McDaniel and Einstein are being recognized for their work on prospective memory, a form of memory that involves remembering to perform a planned action or recall a planned intention at some future point in time. During their careers, McDaniel and Einstein have co-authored dozens of journal articles exploring memory issues and two books, “Memory fitness: A guide for successful aging” and “Prospective memory: An overview and synthesis of an emerging field.”

Roddy Roediger, another Washington University researcher who studies human memory, praised their work.

“They have conducted numerous laboratory studies on theoretical issues, but they have also consulted with various organizations (such as the Air Force) on practical implications of their research,” he said. “McDaniel and Einstein, more than any other researchers, helped put the study of prospective memory on the intellectual map of psychology. Now the topic is a whole subfield of study.”

Media Contact: Gerry Everding
Roediger elected chair of AAAS psychology section

Henry L. “Roddy” Roediger III, the James S. McDonnell Distinguished University Professor in Arts & Sciences at Washington University in St. Louis, has been elected chair of the psychology section of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS).

As section chair, Roediger will help identify broad issues in science of interest to AAAS and the psychology section, assist in the planning of future initiatives and participate on a committee that selects future AAAS psychology fellows. His three-year term includes one year each as chair-elect, chair and retiring chair. AAAS, the world’s largest general scientific society, is an international nonprofit dedicated to advancing science, engineering and innovation for the benefit of all.
Roediger elected to National Academy of Sciences

May 4, 2017

Four university scientists are among the 84 members and 21 foreign associates recently elected to the National Academy of Sciences (NAS) in recognition of their distinguished and continuing achievements in original research. Election to the academy is considered one of the highest honors accorded a U.S. scientist or engineer.

Washington University’s new academy members are Fiona Marshall, the James W. and Jean L. Davis Professor, and Henry L. “Roddy” Roediger III, the James S. McDonnell Distinguished University Professor, both in Arts & Sciences; and L. David Sibley, the Alan A. and Edith L. Wolff Distinguished Professor of Molecular Microbiology, and David Van Essen, the Alumni Endowed Professor of Neurobiology, both at the School of Medicine.

“Each of the four members of our faculty elected to the National Academy of Sciences has made pioneering research contributions in their area of scholarly activity,” said Chancellor Mark S. Wrighton. “I am proud of their achievements, and extend enthusiastic congratulations on the important recognition they have received by their election to the National Academy of Sciences.”

Roediger is a cognitive psychologist known for his scholarship on human learning and memory. His research explores factors that increase learning and retention and their application to education; memory illusions and the development of false memories; the study of people with highly superior memory abilities; and collective and historical memory. He has published more than 250 articles, chapters and reviews and has written or edited 14 books. Three of his textbooks have been through a combined 23 editions.
John Baugh is the Margaret Bush Wilson Professor in Arts and Sciences at Washington University in St. Louis, where he holds academic appointments in Psychological and Brain Sciences, Anthropology, Linguistics, Education, English, African and African American Studies, American Culture Studies, Philosophy-Neuroscience-Psychology, and Urban Studies. His research evaluates the social stratification of linguistic diversity in advanced industrial societies with relevance to matters of policy in education, medicine, and law. He is best known for advancing studies of linguistic profiling and various forms of linguistic discrimination that were supported variously by the Ford Foundation.

What do you think is the biggest challenge facing the field of linguistics today?
I am pleased that my primary academic appointment at Washington University is in the Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences, however, my career began within linguistics departments at Swarthmore College and The University of Texas at Austin. Whereas Psychology is a discipline that is ubiquitous, with departments at nearly every institution of higher learning in the United States and around the world, including community colleges, many institutions of higher learning do not have full departments in linguistics, or worse, they do not offer any courses in linguistics. For example, there are no departments of linguistics at any of the Historically Black Colleges and Universities, and I know of no community college that maintains a department of linguistics. As a result, the content of our science is not well known despite its universality and relevance to every other academic field, to say little of linguistic relevance to nearly every human endeavor. It is partially for this reason that the work I was honored to initiate through leadership of the, then, newly created LSA public relations committee has proven to be extremely important.

Read more: https://www.linguisticsociety.org/content/november-2017-member-spotlight-john-baugh
Psychological & Brain Sciences staff win Outstanding Staff Award from the Graduate Student Senate

The main requirement for the Outstanding Staff Award is the outstanding service of a staff member to graduate students. While outstanding service comes in different forms, the following three criteria were used in evaluating all nominations:

- Makes unique contributions to graduate student(s) and/or the graduate student community
- Fosters a supportive and positive environment for graduate students
- Demonstrates a sincere and active interest in the wellbeing of students

Meg McClelland

“What is most amazing about Meg, however, is not her organizational prowess or her ability to remember everyone she interacts with (there are about 70 PhD students in the program at any given time), but her utmost dedication to the success and well-being of all the students in the department.”

Ms. Meg McClelland has been a part of the Washington University community since 1987. She worked in the Physics Department, the now defunct Correspondence Center (she described the center as what we now call personalized email listserv back when there was no email), and University College for a total of 8 years. Since 1995, she has been an integral part of the Psychology Department holding positions of the Senior Typist, the Coordinator for Undergraduate Studies, and the Assistant to the Director of Clinical Psychology and Director of Graduate Studies. Meg’s positive attitude and genuine interests in every graduate student’s success have been a source of comfort for many past and current graduate students during their rocky journey throughout the graduate career. One of her nomination letters described her as “the heart and soul of the department,” a description that many people in the department can agree on. On her own time, Meg enjoys spending time with her 3 grandchildren.

Maria Rodriguez

“Her sunny and friendly demeanor brightens my day and her work ethic and diligence is admirable. She is such an integral part of our department that when she goes on vacation, people in our department miss her.”

Ms. Maria Rodriguez moved to the United States from Mexico in 1983. She has lived in St. Louis for 18 years and has worked at Washington University for 17 years. Maria is married, has 4 children, and 2 grandchildren. She enjoys going to church and spending time with her family. Maria enjoys working at Washington University and views the Wash U community as part of her family. Maria’s consistency and attention to detail have been a subject of praise by many members of the Department of Psychological & Brain Sciences. She is described as “a model of grace, consideration, and consistency” in a nomination letter. Her outstanding work ethic and the positive energy that she brings to work each day is an essential part of the healthy functioning of the department. Professors, staff members, and graduate students echo how she always “cheer them up” and “brighten up their day.” As one of the nominators wrote, “Maria’s happiness is contagious.”
In the News 2017

The following items are recent online articles citing the work of the Psychology Department’s faculty, postdocs and graduate students.

Deanna Barch
- How Stronger Parenting Can Curb The Effects Of Poverty On Child Brain Development
- What’s going on in the teenage brain? St. Louis part of study aiming to find out
- Here’s What We Know About What Weed Does to Teens
- Depression may start much earlier than previously thought

John Baugh
- Whose streets? Officials adopting protest words and tone

Tim Bono
- The Science of Gift Giving: Experiences Mean More Than Stuff
- Curiosity: Tim Bono on student success and happiness
- 9 Signs You Spend Way Too Much Time on Facebook
- Gratitude, 2nd Careers & Defending Thanksgiving!
- A simple attention challenge too painful for many college students to complete
- Gratitude is Good for Your Health
- The Case for Thanksgiving: The BEST Holiday!
- Reconciling love and friendship after bad behavior

Todd Braver
- Why did I do that?

Todd Braver and Heather Rice
- Investigating Mindfulness: A Story in Three Parts

Brian Carpenter
- What you need to know when making end-of-life health-care decisions for family, yourself

Lameese Eldesouky and Tammy English
- Couples may miss cues that partner is hiding emotions, study suggests

Denise Head
- This Could Be the Earliest Sign of Alzheimer’s Disease (Hint: It’s Not Getting Lost)

Patrick Hill
- Want to stay strong as you age? Find a purpose
- For a healthier 2018, find purpose in life

Calvin Lai
- The world is relying on a flawed psychological test to fight racism

Alan Lambert
- Why we can’t we get rid of racism, according to one psychology professor

Lori Markson
- Infants know what we like best, study finds
• Are We Born Optimistic? Or Is It a Coping Skill We Learn as Adults?

Mark A. McDaniel and Regina Frey
• Do Your Students Learn by Rote? Or Can They Recognize Patterns?

Mark A. McDaniel and Emily Waldum
• No excuses: Real reason you’re late may vary with age
• These are the psychological reasons why some people are always late

Tom Rodebaugh
• Arachnophobia

Henry L. Roediger III
• Ask Sinbad About How False Memories Spread
• As New Year’s resolutions begin to fade away, what are the best ways to ensure new habits stick?
• How to train your brain to be like a memory champion’s
• 2016 didn’t just give us “fake news.” It likely gave us false memories.
• The science behind why fake news is so hard to wipe out

Henry L. Roediger III and Andrew DeSoto
• How Facebook, fake news and friends are warping your memory

Henry L. Roediger III and Adam Putnam
• Misinformation may improve event recall, study finds

Henry L. Roediger III, Kathleen McDermott
• Lessons in Memory from a Champ

Lauren Richmond
• Unwinding the Movie Reels in the Mind’s Eye

Rebecca Treiman
• Toddlers begin learning rules of reading, writing at very early age, study finds

Sara J. Weston and Debbie Yee
• Why You Should Become a UseR: A Brief Introduction to R

Denise Wilfley
• A key to tackling childhood obesity: Involve families and follow up

Jeff Zacks
• Brains Prefer Stories to Make Decisions
• Exploring Diversity Science
• Why ‘This Is Us’ Makes You Cry So Much
• Cinema Of The Brain

Jeff Zacks and Todd Braver
• Researchers to model brain’s memory network
Awards & Accomplishments
Annual Department award winners

Henry L. Roediger III Wins Washington University Distinguished Faculty Award

James S. McDonnell Distinguished University Professor
Professor of Psychological and Brain Sciences
Arts & Sciences

Henry L. “Roddy” Roediger III is a nationally recognized expert on human memory who has co-authored three textbooks on research methods in psychology. The books have been published in a combined 23 editions, helping to educate generations of students since the 1970s.

Roediger joined Washington University in 1996 as chair of the Department of Psychology, now Psychological & Brain Sciences. During his eight years as chair, the department doubled in size to about 30 full-time faculty members and is now ranked 13th in the country by U.S. News & World Report. In 2004, he became dean of academic planning in Arts & Sciences, serving for eight years and helping to lead the successful effort to re-establish the Department of Sociology in Arts & Sciences.

Roediger has a keen interest in all aspects of human memory, including the role memory plays in the criminal justice system. He has developed techniques for studying illusions of memory, or false memories, and implicit memory, how past experiences can unconsciously influence current behavior. Recently, he has begun to study collective memory, how groups remember the past. In 2014 he co-authored, with Peter Brown and Mark McDaniel, the book Make It Stick: The Science of Successful Learning.

The founding editor of Psychonomic Bulletin & Review, the flagship journal of the Psychonomic Society, Roediger also served as editor-in-chief of The Journal of Experimental Psychology: Learning, Memory, and Cognition. Over the course of his career, he has served as associate or consulting editor for 19 journals. He holds these roles with 11 journals and has edited or co-edited 10 books.

A beloved educator, Roediger has advised dozens of undergraduate and graduate students as well as postdoctoral fellows, many of whom have gone on to distinguished careers in academia. He received the Washington University Graduate Student Association Mentoring Award and the Outstanding Mentoring Award from the Association of Psychological Science.

Roediger earned his undergraduate degree from Washington and Lee University and his doctorate in cognitive psychology from Yale University. He is married to Kathleen McDermott, also a professor in Psychological & Brain Sciences, and has two children: Kurt Roediger of New York City, and Rebecca Roediger, MD, a gastroenterology fellow at Washington University School of Medicine.
Debbie Yee has won the department outstanding Teaching Assistant award.

Debbie, a student in Todd Braver’s lab, was the TA in Psychology 5066/5067 (Quantitative Methods I and II) course during the academic year. During office hours, Debbie assisted students personally to help master particular problems they were having with conceptual material or application of R. Debbie performed all of these tasks with admirable speed and clarity; I lost track of the number of times students stopped by just to mention how helpful she had been, often staying beyond her scheduled office hours or meeting at other times to accommodate student needs. … And, when Debbie noticed that there were particular R concepts that students were really struggling to master, she developed workshops beyond her office hours to demonstrate the particular R concepts (e.g., statistical simulation techniques).

I’ve had some terrific TAs over the years but I don’t recall one putting in this level of effort and dedication. “Above and beyond” doesn’t even begin to describe her role in this course. She is very deserving of this award.

The Psychological & Brain Sciences Department Outstanding Teaching Award recipient for the 2016/2017 academic year was Brian Carpenter.

This is Brian’s second department teaching award, the last in the 2006-07 academic year.

“… specifically for his Biopsychosocial Approach to Understanding the End of Life course. Professor Carpenter has transformed such a provocative, delicate, and triggering subject into a comfortable forum where students can unlock emotions, beliefs, and narratives that are rarely invited to be discussed so openly. Furthermore, out of all my premedical courses at Washington University, I am confident that this will have the greatest impact on my medical career. Professor Carpenter is a pioneer for leading this rewarding course—I can only hope that all premedical students sign up for his class before they graduate.”

Faculty

- **Mark McDaniel** was recognized with a Lifetime Achievement Award from the International Conference on Prospective Memory. See [story in this publication](#).

- **Roddy Roediger** was elected to National Academy of Sciences. See [story in this publication](#).
Psychological & Brain Sciences Assistant Professor Julie Bugg is a recipient of the 2017 Emerson Excellence in Teaching Award

Each year, Emerson recognizes teachers throughout the St. Louis metropolitan area with an Excellence in Teaching Award. This award recognizes educators who teach from the K-12 through undergraduate levels for their passion for teaching, their impact on student learning, and their knowledge and creativity. Awards are given during an awards ceremony with a reception each November. Washington University honorees are selected for innovation and leadership in undergraduate teaching. Julie was recognized for innovations in integrating active learning into Introduction to Psychology, her continual emphasis on improving teaching by participating in the university-wide teaching community, and her contributions to research on teaching and learning.

Postdocs and Students

- **Adam Culbreth** won a Smadar Levin award at Society for Research in Psychopathology for his conference poster “Effort, Avolition, and Emotional Experience in Schizophrenia: Analysis of behavioral and biological data with relationships to daily emotional experience.” The Smadar Levin Award was created to honor the memory of Smadar Levin, who left a lasting mark on psychopathology research before her untimely death. The award is given at the Annual Meeting each year to the graduate student or other predoctoral individual who makes the most outstanding poster presentation. Up to five other strong poster presentations receive SRP Travel Awards.

- **Marina Gross** was a recipient of Women in Cognitive Science Travel and Networking Award. This is a highly selective honor awarded to a handful of scientists each year. Marina is doing her graduate work with Ian Dobbins. She received her Bachelor of Science in Psychology with Honors and Phi Beta Kappa distinction from the University of Oregon under the supervision of Nash Unsworth. Her research utilizes pupil dilation as an online measure of various cognitive process, such as attentional orienting and effort, to better understand their contributions to memory encoding and retrieval. One of her current projects aims to differentiate pupillary effects arising from time pressure versus depth of processing during memory encoding. She was awarded a three-year NSF Graduate Research Fellowship for this proposal.

- **Felix Cheung**, Post-Doctoral Research Scholar wins the 2016 Tanaka Dissertation Award for the best personality psychology dissertation from 2016. In his dissertation, “Income redistribution and life satisfaction,” Dr. Cheung approached the topic of income and life satisfaction via a consideration of income redistribution. Drawing from two longitudinal datasets of impressive size and scope, Dr. Cheung provided evidence that increases in income redistribution at the state- and country-level predicted greater levels of life satisfaction. Moreover, this association was positive for welfare-receivers and tax-payers, for liberals and conservatives, and for the poor and the rich. Dr. Cheung completed his dissertation at Michigan State University, where his advisor was Rich Lucas. His current work focuses on individual and societal predictors of subjective well-being and the measurement of life satisfaction.
• **Lameese Eldesouky** won a 2017 APA Dissertation Research Award for “Calm, cool, but distant: Why hiding your emotions might be a double-edged sword.”

• Post doc **Laura Hennefield** received a Ruth L. Kirschstein Postdoctoral Individual National Research Service Award.

• **Grace Hwang** was selected as this year’s recipient of the American Psychological Foundation’s 2017 Kenneth B. and Mamie P. Clark Grant. Grace will receive grant funds to support her research on “The effects of race and racial diversity on children’s learning and trust.”

• **Elissa Kozlov** won the APA Society of Clinical Geropsychology Student Research Paper Award.

• **Meghan McDarby** recently won the 2017 A Place for Mom Senior Care Scholarship.

• **Marilyn Piccirillo** received a Ruth L. Kirschstein Predoctoral Individual National Research Service Award.
Faculty, staff, students and alumni gathered for the 2017 Trailblazers Recognition Ceremony in Hillman Hall’s Clark-Fox Forum May 2. Arts & Sciences’ Robert L. Williams, Professor Emeritus of Psychology, PhD ‘61 (left) and the Brown School’s Jack Kirkland (right), who were both honored with legacy awards, visit with Jacqueline David-Wellington. Learn more about the Trailblazers and this year’s honorees. (Photo: Sid Hastings/Washington University)