



THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Department of Psychology



2016/17
ANNUAL REPORT



Research and Innovation

2016-2017 Highlights

\$7,583,732 million in research grants awarded

\$4,248,569 Tri-council

\$1,549,627 Other government

\$1,187,197 Industry & non-profit

\$600,000 Canada Research Chairs

221 peer-reviewed articles published

7 books and edited volumes published

Research Excellence

Dr. Janet Werker was appointed Officer of the Order of Canada. She also received the 2017 Pickering Award for Outstanding Contribution to Developmental Psychology in Canada.

Dr. Frances Chen and **Dr. Rebecca Todd** received Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research Scholar Awards.

Dr. Kalina Christoff was named a Wall Scholar by the Peter Wall Institute.

Dr. David Klonsky received a 2017 UBC Killam Research Fellowship.

Dr. Kristin Laurin received the International Social Cognition Network's Early Career Award for Outstanding Contributions to the Study of Social Cognition and was named a CIFAR Azrieli Global Scholar.

Dr. Joelle LeMoult was named a 2017 Rising Star by the Association for Psychological Science.

Dr. Kiran Soma received a James McKeen Cattell Fellowship.





Teaching and Learning

2016-2017 Highlights

16,412 total undergraduate students enrolled

7,690 undergraduate students

2059 BA psychology majors

130 BSc psychology majors

125 honours & directed studies students

34 co-op students

\$7,825 in psychology undergraduate awards

Student Awards

Psychology students **Yousef Shahin** (2016) and **Austin Rothwell** (2017) were named Wesbrook Scholars, a designation awarded to senior students with outstanding academic performance, leadership abilities, and community involvement.

Teaching Excellence

A UBC Killam Teaching Prize was awarded to **Dr. Steven Barnes**. The award reflects excellence throughout his teaching career at UBC.

In recognition of their commitment to teaching, **Dr. Frances Chen** and **Dr. Janel Fergusson** received Robert E. Knox Teaching Awards.

Advanced Education Minister **Andrew Wilkinson** visited **Dr. Benjamin Cheung's** social psychology class to talk to students about how they benefited from using open textbooks.

Dr. Catherine Rawn received the 2017 Early Career Award from the Society for the Teaching of Psychology, Division 2 of the American Psychological Association.





Graduate and Post-doctoral Training

2016-2017 Highlights

254 graduate student applications

114 graduate students

36 MA students

78 PhD students

20 post-doctoral fellows

\$30,471 median support provided to graduate students

54% of graduate students held fellowships

\$852,400 in new graduate student fellowships

17 MA degrees awarded

16 PhD degrees awarded

Scholarly Excellence

Grace Truong received a 2016-17 Killam Graduate Teaching Assistant Award for her contributions to teaching and learning at UBC.

Antonya Gonzalez and **Carly Parsons** were recipients of the prestigious Vanier Canada Graduate Scholarship.

Kyle Gooderham received the 2017 Demetri Papageorgis Teaching Assistant Award

Anthea Pun was awarded a 2017 Killam Doctoral Scholarship.

Post-doctoral fellow **Dr. Daniel Tobiansky** was awarded the Bluma Tischler Post-Doctoral Fellowship.





Leadership and Community Outreach

2016-2017 Highlights

272 conference presentations by faculty
126 invited addresses by psychology faculty
24 journal editorships and associate editorships held by faculty

Leadership

Dr. Liisa Galea became the UBC Neuroscience Graduate Program Director.

Dr. Toni Schmader received a \$2.5 million dollar SSHRC Partnership Grant to fund the Engendering Success in STEM consortium.

Dr. Janet Werker was awarded a University Killam Professorship, UBC's highest honour.

Our place in the world

UBC Psychology ranked first among Canadian psychology departments by Maclean's magazine — and the department continued to move up in global rankings.

Public Engagement

As part of the University Killam Professor Lecture series, **Dr. Janet Werker** hosted a public screening of the acclaimed documentary *Babies*.

At the 2017 Quinn Memorial Lecture, **Dr. Robert Knight** presented his talk *Insights into Human Cognition from Direct Brain Recording*.

Nine international speakers were invited to UBC to deliver colloquium talks on a wide range of topics.





People in 2016-2017

New faculty members

Dr. Benjamin Cheung, Lecturer

Dr. Joelle LeMoult, Assistant Professor

Dr. Lillian May, Lecturer

Promotion and tenure

Dr. David Klonsky, Professor

Dr. Catharine Winstanley, Professor

Departing faculty

Dr. Micheal Souza accepted a new position, Associate Professor, Teaching Stream, at the University of Toronto.

Dr. Joseph Henrich accepted a new position, Professor of Human Evolutionary Biology, at Harvard University.

Retirement

Dr. Don Dutton, Emeritus Professor

Dr. Boris Gorzalka, Emeritus Professor

Lucille Hoover, Research Technician

Rosemarie Pagé, Operations Assistant

George Wang, Research Technician





Media Coverage

2016-2017 Highlights

Our research received over **255** media mentions in local, national and international media including CBC News, The Globe and Mail, Global News, The Guardian, Time Magazine, The New York Times, New York Magazine, NPR, and The Washington Post.

Popular Stories in the News

Research by **Dr. Frances Chen** and former PhD student **Ashley Whillans** found that new university students believe their peers have more friends than they do— and this impacts their happiness.

Research by PhD student **Alessandra DiGiacomo**, and co-authors **Dr. Alan Kingstone** and **Dr. Jiaying Zhao** shows making bins more convenient boosts recycling and composting rates.

Research by postdoctoral research fellow **Dr. Eve Limbrick-Oldfield** and **Dr. Luke Clark** found that after looking at images of slot machines, problem gamblers experience increased activity in the same part of the brain that drug addicts have for cravings. A study by MA student **Anthea Pun** and co-authors **Dr. Andrew Baron** and **Dr. Kiley Hamlin** shows that by the age of one, infants already prefer speakers of their native tongue, but do not necessarily view speakers of an unfamiliar language negatively.

In her book *Take Pride*, **Dr. Jessica Tracy** reveals how pride has shaped our minds and our culture.





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Issue date: July 2018

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