As 2019 draws to a close, we have a great opportunity to reflect not only on the year, but the decade that has passed for Kent Psychology. We have grown in size and space, and have established new research centres and laboratories.

Nothing would be possible without our amazing students. Since 2010, we have taught over 2700 undergraduate students; over 880 postgraduate (taught) students, and over 160 PhD or Master’s by Research students from a staggering 90 countries! We are very lucky to have a diverse group of students come to Kent each year. We have celebrated 20 graduation ceremonies for undergraduate, postgraduate and PhD students since 2010. We have also enjoyed a number of professorial inaugurations since then too. Professors Karen Douglas, Heather Ferguson, Theresa Gannon, Roger Giner-Sorolla, Georgina Randsley de Moura, Joachim Stoeber, Robbie Sutton, Ayse Uskul, David Williams, David Wilkinson, Jane Wood have all celebrated professorial inaugurations this decade.

Continued on page 5.

My Adventure in Tokyo
Contributed by Théoni Fernando

Théoni is a Stage 3 BSc Psychology student who spent 2 months over the summer as an intern in Japan.

Interning in Tokyo, Japan for 2 months was an incredible experience; spending my summer there was definitely a great decision! I met some amazing, like-minded people from across the globe and made unforgettable friendships on this adventure. I worked at a Marketing firm based in Shibuya, which focused on providing a platform to learn new languages, with the implication of incorporating psychological aspects into an app, such as using contextual learning.

During my time working at this firm, I was able to get involved in several projects such as creating a persona matrix to understand the users, research social media and create a short advertisement clip for the new app launch. My co-workers and boss were truly supportive throughout my internship, and they made sure I felt comfortable with the new working environment in Japan. In comparison to Western culture, workers tended to work far beyond the original request and therefore work extra hours voluntarily. Whereas, in Western cultures, workers seem to stick to their schedules quite tightly.

Continued on page 6.
Congratulations to PhD student Akul Satish who has been awarded a study visit grant from the Experimental Psychology Society to visit the University of Cambridge next year.

Congratulations to Professor Theresa Gannon who, with her colleagues Andy Danton and Dr Lona Lockerbie, was shortlisted for the Collaboration of the Year Award at the Excellence in Fire and Emergency Awards (EFE) 2019. The achievements of shortlisted candidates was celebrated at the annual EFE Awards on Friday 6 December at One Great George Street, London. This exclusive gathering unites emergency service chiefs, their teams and services, suppliers and industry supporters.

Congratulations to Professor Heather Ferguson (pictured above), who was presented with one of the 2019 Early Career Awards from the Psychonomic Society. This award recognises Heather’s significant scientific contributions early in her career and aims to raise the visibility of those contributions.

Heather presented a talk at the conference on how visual perspective-taking abilities change across the lifespan, using data from the CogSoCoAGE project. Dr Lizzie Bradford also presented a poster on the role of executive functions in perspective-taking using the CogSoCoAGE data which tests participants from 10 to 80 years old.

Congratulations to Dr Lindsey Cameron and her Co-investigator (East Kent NHS Trust) on being awarded £30,000 from the British Orthodontic Society (BOS) to conduct a study on the effects of orthodontic treatment on
I believe that a number of factors played a role in me securing this award, such as my achievement of a First at Bachelor’s degree level and my participation in extra-curricular activities such as ballet, which I have been dedicated to for almost 15 years. I also volunteered in two programmes and assisted a postdoctoral researcher with her study as part of the Research Experience Scheme in Stage 2 of my BSc Psychology.

The Santander Scholarship allowed me to pursue my goal in undertaking a Master’s degree and researching interpersonal relationships in the context of honour. I am happy to say that I am enjoying my course so far; I have been advancing my knowledge and applying it to my research study.

I believe higher education is a key driver of progress, and so I would encourage anyone thinking of postgraduate study to apply for scholarships and awards that can help them focus on their education, without the pressure of paying off fees.

Please note that this scholarship is not available for 2020/21.

If you are considering a postgraduate programme at Kent, why not apply for our School of Psychology research scholarships (see page 5)? Also, the Graduate School Scholarship, exclusively for Kent graduates, offers a £1,000 reduction in tuition fees automatically (there is no need to make an application). The Scholarship is awarded to 2020 University of Kent Graduates who earn a Bachelor’s degree with honours and register for a postgraduate degree at Kent by 1 October 2020.
Recent Publications


News

Events and News

The End of a Decade... (Continued from Page 1)

Social Media

We opened our Facebook and Twitter accounts on 4 and 5 May, respectively, in 2010. Instagram came a bit later for us, in 2016. Flash forward to now and we are definitely feeling the love on social media.

Check out our first post and our most liked post on Instagram below. The first is celebrating our graduate reception in 2016, and the second is a photo of campus looking frosty.

Research Scholarships

Psychology at Kent is currently inviting applications for a number of research scholarships to commence in September 2020. Some scholarships will take the form of School of Psychology or Vice Chancellor’s Research Scholarships administered under the Graduate Teaching Assistant Scheme. We will also be bidding for ESRC-funded studentships as part of the South East Network for Social Sciences (SeNSS) Doctoral Training Partnership (DTP).

Criteria

To be considered for the scholarships, candidates must hold a good Honours degree (First or 2:1), or a Master’s degree (merit or distinction) from recognised institutions. Candidates for 1+3 (via ESRC) must show equivalent marks in their undergraduate transcript. All candidates must have at least two supportive academic references, and a background in psychology or a methodologically relevant discipline.

Eligibility

The GTA competition is open to applicants from any country. Please note that overseas students must have the appropriate documentation to evidence eligibility to work in the UK. Since the award covers tuition fees at the Home/EU rate, Overseas fee paying students would have to make up the difference in tuition fees themselves; the maintenance grant must not be used for this purpose.

How to Apply

All completed applications must be received by 23:59 (UK time) on Sunday 19 January 2020. Completed applications must comprise all of the following:

- An expression of interest to psypgadmissions@kent.ac.uk as early as possible.
- Submission of a KentVision application, made via the online prospectus, for a PhD place (and a taught Master’s place if applying for a 1+3 award) in the School of Psychology at the University of Kent including:
  - Name of the proposed supervisor (agreed with the staff member prior to submission)
  - A transcript of degree

undergraduate and postgraduate marks to date and certificate, if completed, in pdf format.

- The name and email address of one academic referee.

We also require a second academic reference by email to psypgadmissions@kent.ac.uk via their professional email account. References must also be received by 23:59 (UK time) on Sunday 19 January 2020.

- A current CV in pdf format

For more information, see the full advertisement via https://bit.ly/2LRcdWy.

Recent publications continued


News

My Adventure in Tokyo (continued from page 1)

I had the chance to explore the many different regions of Tokyo and try out traditional activities such as taking part in festive Japanese flower festivals, dressing up in a Kimono, visiting historical shrines and trying Japanese food. One experience that I will never forget was having the chance and courage to climb to the top of Mount Fuji (pictured on page 1), which is one of the highest active volcanos in the world. This experience was truly emotional for me as hiking is not something I’m great at and usually avoid doing, but being able to climb to the top summit of Mount Fuji was definitely an accomplishing feeling.

Overall, experiencing and learning about a new culture and work environment has been valuable yet challenging, and has provided me with knowledge and confidence for the next stepping stone of my career.

As I am currently a third-year student studying psychology, this experience has allowed me to expand my knowledge on psychological research outside of the western culture and has also helped me with approaching my final year dissertation. Therefore, I truly encourage anyone to get involved in interning abroad when you get the chance to, as when applying for future prospects it will definitely make you stand out from other applicants!

New Book from Dr Kristof Dhont

Dr Kristof Dhont (pictured above, middle), with Professor Gordon Hodson, has released a unique new textbook which explores the research and theory behind human-animal relations, animal advocacy, and the factors underlying exploitative attitudes and behaviours towards animals.

The book addresses the timely question: Why do we both love and exploit animals? We claim to love animals and find it morally disturbing to do them harm. Yet paradoxically, we simultaneously exploit animals given entrenched societal practices and cultural traditions such as meat production and consumption. What can explain this great disconnect, arguably one of the most pressing contradictions in human behaviour?

Assembling some of the world’s leading academics and with insights and experiences gleaned from those on the front lines of animal advocacy, this pioneering collection breaks new ground, synthesizing scientific perspectives and empirical findings.

The authors show the complexities and paradoxes in human-animal relations and reveal the factors shaping compassionate versus exploitative attitudes and behaviours towards animals.

Exploring topical issues such as meat consumption, intensive farming, speciesism, and effective animal advocacy, this book demonstrates how we both value and devalue animals, how we can address animal suffering, and how our thinking about animals is connected to our thinking about human intergroup relations and the dehumanization of human groups.

We look forward to seeing how this new book helps students and academics explore this timely issue! There is currently a discount of 20% via the Routledge website when using the code FLR40 at checkout.

Student Support in the School of Psychology

Sometimes you might experience problems that can impact on your ability to study. Problems may be academic, personal or health-related. The role of the Student Support Team is to provide advice and assistance to undergraduate and taught postgraduate students to help you overcome such problems so that you are able to achieve to your full potential. The Student Support Office is located in Keynes L1.14 and is open from 9:30-12:30 and 13:30-16:00, Tel: 01227 827061.

Appointments are for 20 minutes and are available on the hour and on the half hour weekdays from 10:00 until 12:00 and 14:00 until 16:00. If you wish to book an appointment then please email psychadvisorappointments@kent.ac.uk from your Kent account with two or three suitable times/days. They will book you in for the earliest available opportunity.

There are a range of services available to all Kent students including the following:

- Careers and Employability Service
- Disability and Dyslexia Support Service
- International Students
- Counselling
- Chaplaincy
- Medical

Plus many more. You can find more out about Student Services from the following webpage: www.kent.ac.uk/guidance/

Any Suggestions?

If you have any comments or suggestions for the staff in the School of Psychology, then you can feed these back to us by using our suggestions box located outside the Psychology Student Office (Keynes M1.13)

Follow us on Facebook and Twitter to keep up to date with the latest events and news!
News and events

ReproducibiliTea Journal Club
Provided by Bethan Iley, MSc student

Autumn 2019 marked the founding of the Kent ReproducibiliTea Journal Club, jointly run by members of the School of Psychology and the Psychology Society. ReproducibiliTea is an international grassroots initiative which aims to raise awareness of and develop the conversations about the replication crisis, methodological issues, and the Open Science movement.

We have some really exciting plans for Spring term, including a pre-registration workshop, a debate about personal vs. collective responsibility in science, and a session about making neuroimaging reproducible.

In the spring term, we will meet every Wednesday at 13:30-14:30, in KS7. The journal club is open to all staff and students, but postgraduates and early career researchers may particularly benefit! Please email Bethan Iley (MSc student; bji5@kent.ac.uk) or Flick Gallagher (PhD student; fsg3@kent.ac.uk) if you have any questions. The papers discussed and presentations used can all be found at the Journal Club’s OSF repository: https://bit.ly/2LPh3nb.

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Graduation in pictures

Congratulations to all the students who graduated on Friday 22 November. Below are some pictures of the reception held in KLT4.

Congratulations especially to those who received prizes for their high marks and contributions. We wish you all well in your future!
DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Spring term

- 13 January 2020 - 3 April 2020

Distinguished Speaker series: Professor Heidi Johansen-Berg

- 29 January 2020
- KLT4, 14.00-15.00