Psychology News -- Week of November 16, 2008

FACULTY NEWS

Shige Oishi has just started a 2-year associate editorship in Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin. As an Associate Editor, he will be handling 55-60 articles a year.

AWARD

Elise Clerkin has been selected as a recipient of a 2008 American Psychological Association Dissertation Research Award. This award includes $1,000 to support dissertation research costs.

PUBLICATION


MEDIA MENTION

Online Miller-McCune magazine has published a story on research conducted by Karen Siedlecki, Elliot Tucker-Drob, Shige Oishi, and Tim Salthouse. Karen Siedlecki got her Ph.D. from the Department and is currently a post-doc at University of Columbia. The research was published in an article titled "Life satisfaction across adulthood: different determinants at different ages?" last July in Journal of Positive Psychology.
http://www.miller-mccune.com/article/old-and-happy-it%E2%80%99s-a-matter-of-attitude

ANNALS of the DEPARTMENT

We retrieved the Department's old websites from Internet Archives.

- The first archived Department website is from February 6, 1997:
  - This first page is striking in its simplicity: It has a welcome note from Chair Richard McCarty, links to Netscape, Javasoft, and Webcrawler.com, and an e-mail option to the department. This simplicity is characteristic of the day, as evidenced by UVa’s webpage on February 6, 1997.
  - A counter on this page indicates that it has been accessed 16,761 times since 2/12/96, corresponding to about 46 visits per day. The current departmental
The next version of Department's website on record is from August 16, 2000:
  o By this time, the site is substantially developed with multiple pages. Under the People link, some old faculty pages can still be accessed.

In 2003, the website undergoes another major change and takes its current form. This is how the webpage looks on May 06, 2003:

INTERVIEW

We interviewed Libba Bowling, the Energy Programs Manager of the University. The Program is part of UVa's Energy & Utilities Department that has won the University various awards in recycling, storm water management, and reduction in energy use.

How much power is the University using and how much does that cost to the University?

Between July 1, 2007 and June 30, 2008, 32.6 million kWh (111,230MMBTU) electricity was distributed to the University at a cost of $16.2 million. About a quarter of this amount was used to generate chilled water that is used in air-conditioning. In addition, $12.5 million was spent on fuel to generate 850,000 MMBTU of steam that is used to heat buildings.

What percentage of the University budget is spent on generating power?

The University spends 0.74% ($16.2 million/$2.2 billion) of its budget on electricity, and 0.57% of its budget on fuel. In total, 1.3% of the University budget is spent on electricity and fuel.

How much money is spent on Gilmer Hall energy needs?

In the 2008 fiscal year Gilmer Hall used $1.4 million worth of energy for its electricity, steam and chilled water supplies. Those costs include energy and utility overhead, distribution (wires, pipes, transformers, pumps, etc.) and needed improvements to the system.
How does Gilmer Hall compare to other University buildings in terms of its energy use? Is it an energy efficient building?

*Gilmer Hall uses a significant amount of energy. The building is conditioned with a dual duct system, meaning that hot and cold air is mixed together to bring the room temperature to a comfortable level all year round. Although that was state of the art when the building was finished in 1963, the system is very inefficient by today's standards. Yet, changing the system would require tearing the building down. You can check on this graph how Gilmer compares to some other University research buildings in its energy use.*

How about 1023 Millmont that houses some of our department members?

*1023 Millmont is a leased space and is all electric with a direct drop from Dominion Virginia Power. It uses about 1/10th of the energy per square foot as Gilmer Hall because it's a new building with a better designed heating, ventilation and air conditioning system, and because it doesn't have research labs that use a lot of energy.*

What are the goals of the Energy & Water Conversation Program at the University?

*The Program considers all opportunities for achieving energy and water savings including the design and implementation of conservation measures, and a university-wide commitment to modifying local behavior to decrease consumption.*

How much room is there for energy savings in the University?

*The biggest opportunity for energy demand reduction, across the nation, is related to building efficiency improvements. The Energy Program is focusing on all aspects of building energy use. By Governor Kaine's April 2007 Executive Order 048, the University must implement programs to reduce energy costs, compared to a 2006 baseline, by at least 20% by 2010.*

How much has been saved since?

*The programs implemented by the Energy Program in the Energy & Utilities Department have saved the University over $3 million since 2007. Energy savings have also been realized by other programs.*

What are some of the things Psychology department members could do to reduce energy consumption?
• Turn off lights when not in an office, classroom, or lab. Lighting can account for up to 20 – 25% of the total electricity used in a building. If you notice lights left on in empty classrooms, turn them off. Consider taking advantage of our program to install occupancy sensors for free.
• Set up printers to print double sided as a default. Not only will you use half as much paper, but you will save the energy used to manufacture, package, and distribute it.
• Report exterior lights left on. If exterior lights are ON on bright, sunny days, the photocell needs to be replaced.
• Turn off computers at the end of the day. Set to "sleep" mode when not in use during the day. Don't use "screen saver" because it actually uses more energy.
• Say no to digital photo frames this holiday season! They each sap $9 worth of energy a year. The nonprofit Electric Power Research Institute estimates that if every household in America owned one, it would take five medium-sized power plants just to keep those photo slide shows rolling in the nation's living rooms.
• Turn up thermostats in the summer; turn them down in the winter.
• Also check these tips from the energy program site: http://utilities.fm.virginia.edu/energy/factsheets/ThingsYouCanDO.aspx

Anything else you would like to tell our Department members?

If you have any questions, suggestions or comments regarding energy use, feel free to contact me by writing to lb5f@virginia.edu or calling 982-5419 / 5880.

EVENTS of the WEEK

Monday, November 17, 2008

• Developmental Lunch, 12:00pm-1:15pm, GIL 225
  Elliot Tucker-Drob
• Dissertation Proposal Defense, 2pm, Bio/Psych Library Sunroom
  Sarah Galloway, Cultural Differences in Parenting and Child and Adolescent Externalizing Behaviors
• Professional Issues Panel, Negotiating the Perfect Faculty Position, 3:30-4:30pm, GIL 141
  Panelists: Denny Proffit, Rachel Keen, Vikram Jaswal, and Dorothe Bach (from Teaching Resource Center)

Tuesday, November 18, 2008

• Community Lunch, 12:30-1:45, GIL 225
  Dr. Michele Lewis, Winston-Salem State University Department of Psychology, Out Like Us in Winston-Salem: PFLAG’s Effort to Reach an African-American LGBT Community
• Social Lunch: 12:30pm-1:45pm, GIL B001
  Janetta Lun

Wednesday, November 12, 2008

• No Sensory and Systems Neuroscience Lunch. The SSN area is at the annual meeting of the Society for Neuroscience.

Thursday, November 20, 2008

• Quantitative Area Lunch (DADA): 12:30pm-1:45pm, GIL 225
  Mike Hunter, *Math and How to Use It: A Friendly Introduction for Psychologists*

Friday, November 21, 2008

• Clinical Lunch: 12pm-1pm, GIL 225
  Dr. Bryce D. McLeod
• Cognitive Lunch: 12:30pm-1:45pm, GIL B001
  Veronica Ramenzoni, *Interpersonal and intrapersonal coordination for joint suprapostural task performance*