

CONNECTIONS

THE COLLEGE OF
FAMILY, HOME &
SOCIAL SCIENCES

SUMMER 2010



Role of a Father

Babies Understand Dogs

The Trap of Addiction



IN MEMORIAM
GARY BRYNER
1952-2010



David Magleby

DEAN, COLLEGE OF FAMILY, HOME & SOCIAL SCIENCES

Faculty are an integral part of a university and BYU is no exception to this generalization. I have been thinking a lot lately about the contributions of faculty because of the recent death of my friend and colleague, Gary Bryner. Professor Bryner passed away on March 10, 2010 at age 58. Gary and his wife Jane courageously faced the challenge of pancreatic cancer.

Professor Bryner was a dedicated teacher. He cared about students and wanted them to develop critical thinking, writing and analytic skills. My office was next to his for several years and I frequently observed him meeting one-on-one with a student. Whether the classroom was on campus, in Washington D.C. on the Washington Seminar or in a village in Northern Mexico on an international development project, the students benefitted from Professor Bryner's concern for them and desire to see them grow.

Professor Bryner was also a committed scholar. He remained current in his specializations and pushed himself

to acquire new knowledge. A Ph.D. was not enough for him. While teaching a full-load he completed a law degree at the BYU Law School. He then used this additional advanced training in his teaching and research. He authored or edited fifteen books, scores of articles and book chapters, and many academic papers. Often, his co-authors were BYU students.

As a professor of public policy, Professor Bryner emphasized the reality that individuals can make a difference. He practiced what he preached on a range of issues and in his service on the boards of the Inter-American Foundation and the Mali Rising Foundation. He was always the one to volunteer to help a colleague by substituting in a class when needed, or to edit a draft chapter or manuscript. His example of kindness and gentleness left a positive impression with many outside BYU. He will be greatly missed.

CONNECTIONS

THE COLLEGE OF FAMILY, HOME & SOCIAL SCIENCES

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TWIN SISTERS NAMED CO- VALEDICTORIANS

Alexa and Danielle Edgar were born the same day as twins. Both play the guitar and piano. Both have a passion for history. And both were recognized in April at graduation as History co-valedictorians.

Besides getting fantastic grades, the two sisters were involved in different campus activities and clubs such as Phi Kappa Phi, intramurals, Dance Sport and the sailing club. It is amazing they had time for so many activities and still achieved this recognition, but these activities afforded them important learning experiences.

"For me, learning has always been about more than a classroom," Alexa said. "During my time at BYU, I have sought to make learning a part of every aspect of my life."

The sisters will continue experiencing life together as they serve the people of Thailand this summer with the International Student Volunteers. After their travels and service, they plan to co-author a book together about WWII.



The strokes of Jesse Ellis' social brush are painting a future for many lives around the world. He traveled to Ukraine in 2009 to attend an international social work conference themed on surviving trauma. He was able to work in orphanages and also present some of his knowledge on trauma with a people who are pioneering the field of social work in their countries.

Through the help of student Choose to Give donations, Ellis was previously involved in Project Voice in Utah County, a program designed to help struggling teens find an adequate artistic medium to express their broken lives. His influence will continue to better the world as he and his wife begin to work on their own project in setting up a clinic to help women suffering from postpartum conflicts to better the resources available to women in Utah County.

The following is his experience at the Interventions with Special Needs Population International Conference in Uzhgorod, Ukraine.

Traveling to the Ukraine could not have come at a more inopportune time. When my wife and I originally made the arrangements for me to go, she was three months pregnant with our first. Needless to say we were a bit naïve about bringing life into this world. Regardless, two weeks after my wife delivered our son I boarded a Delta Boeing 777 to Budapest, Hungary with knots in my stomach.

It's difficult to say whether or not I was a more skilled social work student following my son's birth. I like to think that becoming a father adds depth and wisdom to a young idealistic mind but the only thing this experience added to mine was hypersensitivity. In the Ukraine, I suddenly wanted in a very unrealistic way all of the abandoned children to have parents. I wanted all the Roma kids to have opportunity and I wanted all the sick babies to have access to medical care. And if this could not be done then in my heart I was planning to send all of them home with me to live in the United States...somehow

diary of a social work student: **jesse ellis**

I would provide. In other words: urgency, intense urgency was what I was feeling in Uzhgorod. Urgency to do something! How could I as a person, as a human being, turn and look away from these children (as if doing so meant that I was somehow, in one way or another looking past my own child)?

Attending the international social work conference at the University of Uzhgorod was beneficial to my development as a young social worker and hopeful Ph.D. candidate. As a result, I learned personally that not all social work programs are created equal. In the Ukraine the field of social work study is only seven years old. A student should not expect to have employment in this field upon

graduation because this is not yet a recognized profession. It was good for me to witness this first hand because before this I had not realized exactly how far-reaching my influence could be as a social worker. For example, by simply making a presentation on Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) I contributed significantly to the general knowledge of social work students in the Ukraine. Furthermore this experience broadened my knowledge of foreign social service interventions. I learned more about the process of working internationally with domestic non-profit organizations, and how to address social conflict with foreign governments – all of which broaden my skill base as an aspiring social worker.





THE *TRAP* OF ADDICTION

Many would be surprised to know that there is ongoing research using animals at BYU, and that there is an animal research lab right here in our college – but there is.

On the 12th floor of the Spencer W. Kimball Tower, research associates, professors, neuroscience and psychology students perform various experiments on rats and mice. The experiments are important in helping discover how the human brain works, especially with regard to addictions.

This year, an interesting discovery with important implications was made in the lab. A group of researchers, including a team from BYU and the University of Toronto, confirmed a connection between a change in a brain protein and a dependency on opiates. Further research could influence the development of new medications needed to reverse the process, thus helping addicts recover.

"Every day, someone dies of drug abuse in Utah Valley," said Scott Steffensen, Associate Professor of Psychology and co-author of the research recently published in *Science*. "What in the brain is changing and can we reverse it? I believe yes, we can."

Dr. Steffensen is confident that there will be a cure for addiction in the next five to ten years. People will still abuse drugs and other forms of pleasure, but there will be a treatment that will reverse the changes in the brain that occur with drug dependence.

Prior research showed that brain-derived neurotrophic factor or BDNF, a protein in the brain that controls certain neurons of the central nervous and peripheral nervous systems, increases during chronic drug use. So the researchers decided to inject BDNF directly into

the pleasure system of the rat's brain to observe the effects. They found it made the rats act as if they were dependent on opiates they had never come in contact with.

Usually rats prefer certain lighting, smells and textures over others. But the false addiction made the rats leave their comfort zones to search for real opiates, like natural light, in order to satisfy their cravings. This addiction was caused by chemicals in the brain exciting neurons rather than controlling them, a switch that also occurs in humans and is associated with drug dependency.


"While we know BDNF appears to be involved in the switch to drug dependence, we don't know what's changing the neurons in addicts to make them dependent –that's the next step," said Scott Steffensen. "If researchers can do that, then they can target drugs or treatments needed to reverse the addictive state."

The brain has a natural "reward system" that drives the body to do everyday things like taking a walk in the sun or meeting a new friend. Addiction to drugs like heroin mimics these rewards, eventually creating a dependency on the drug for a person to feel normal.

Steffensen explained how this change in the chemical balance in the brain feels to an addict.

"Imagine that those addicted don't get the same pleasure out of life that we do," said Steffensen. "They can't eat, or even breathe normally and get the same satisfaction as non-addicts because of their addiction. Often, people can be innocent, misguided, and perhaps ignorant bystanders, but still get caught in the trap of addiction, which hijacks the human will and perhaps free agency. We want to help reverse that."





BABIES UNDERSTAND DOGS

Have you ever had trouble telling if a dog is growling playfully or is legitimately upset?

A recent BYU study shows that babies as young as six to 24 months can detect a dog's mood simply by the bark. In the study, babies were able to match friendly or aggressive dog barks to the correct body language of the corresponding dog, despite little or no previous experience with dogs.

"The purpose of the current experiment was to examine whether human infants perform cross-species intercessory matching of faces and vocalizations," said Ross Flom, Associate Professor of Psychology and Neuroscience and lead author of the study.

In the experiment, 125 babies were shown two pictures of the same dog. One picture showed a dog displaying angry and aggressive body language. In the other, the dog was happy. Then, in random order, two-second sound clips of friendly or aggressive dog barks were played. Researchers recorded babies eye-movements between the different pictures. Babies as young as six-months-old spent most of the time staring at the correct picture when the clip was played.

According to Flom, as infants come into the world, they are learning and able to distinguish their mother's voice from other females' voices. They also have the ability to detect different vocal tones before they can even speak. Flom said that this attentiveness to emotional tone across species shows how quickly babies learn about their world by interpreting emotional expressions.

"Emotion is one of the first things babies pick up on in their social world," Flom said. "We chose dogs [for this study] because they are highly communicative creatures both in their posture and the nature of their bark."

These findings came right after BYU's other recent discovery that babies as young as five months can detect mood swings in Beethoven's music. Flom, along with BYU undergrads and co-authors Dan Hyde and Heather Whipple Stephenson, conducted the experiment and reported their findings in the journal *Developmental Psychology*.

"With this study, my favorite part was watching a somewhat zany idea grow into a legitimate research project," Stephenson said.

Role of a father



MEN define their role as fathers based on past experiences with their own fathers, according to a recent study of low-income, single fathers. The study was published in a recent issue of the journal *Fathering* by BYU Sociology Professor and Department Chair Renata Forste.

Forste said she wanted to investigate this forgotten group because there is already a large amount of research and community outreach available for married and divorced fathers, but very little for low-income, single men.

"These are often the men that we write-off as deadbeat dads," Forste said. "I wanted to look more closely at their relationship with their own father, and the role models they drew from as they developed their identity as a father."

After interviewing 36 single dads, it was clear that the relationship between the men and their own fathers predetermined how they gauged their own parental goals and plans for success.

Men with close ties with their own fathers tended to focus on being a loving parent who balanced their time between family and work. On the other hand, men who felt distant from their fathers tended to focus on what

their fathers didn't do. This was an overall negative message when compared to the can-do attitudes of the other men.

Forste said that based on the poor examples of their own fathers, the young men in the study know what not to do as a father, but they don't always know how to be a good father.

"I wish I had someone like a grandpa to go to," one man in the study said. "I wish I had a father figure that I could get guidance from."

From several similar responses of these dads, it became clear that these men need someone to help guide them. Forste said she hopes this study will increase awareness of the need for correct role models for these young fathers. She wants community organizations and churches to reach out to these young men and give them the support they need.

According to the U.S. Census Bureau there are 13.7 million single parents in America as of 2008. About one quarter of those parents have incomes below the poverty level, which is twice as high as the national level.





BANKRUPTCY

Reportedly high bankruptcy rates do not necessarily mean the bulk of the population has poor money management skills, according to a study by BYU economics associate professor Lars Lefgren and assistant professor Frank McIntyre. They found that media reported bankruptcy rates misrepresent a state's actual affairs.

"The press focuses on one statistic, like the bankruptcy rate, and makes an inference about peoples' behavior when the statistic reflects state laws and policies as well," Lefgren said.

According to Lefgren, differences in bankruptcy rates are mostly explained by the law governing bankruptcy, differences in the legal institutions, and demographic factors. Bankruptcy rates have been used to oversimplify the state of affairs in different states by the press.

"Initially, we didn't know why bankruptcies varied so much across states," said Lefgren. "We didn't initially know that state policies were going to explain so much of the variation."

Lefgren and McIntyre found that about 70 percent of bankruptcy differences between the states can be explained by demographics, the percentage of bankruptcies filed under Chapter 13, and wage garnishment laws.

When people file for Chapter 13, they are put on a payment schedule that allows them to pay off a portion of

their debts slowly while Chapter 7 simply wipes out the total debt. Often, Chapter 13 filers cannot keep up with their payment schedule and end up filing for bankruptcy again. This makes the rate of bankruptcy an inflated indicator of a state's default debt.

After talking with bankruptcy lawyers and reading qualitative literature on why people file

for bankruptcy, both economists decided that they should look at the wage garnishing of debtors as a possible indicator of an unstable state. After analyzing bankruptcies in all of the states from 1999 to 2000, the economists found that the best predictor of a state's filing rate is the state's wage garnishment law.

"We suspected that wage garnishment might be an important determinant of the bankruptcy level" said Lefgren. "We were very surprised, however, that its role was so large."

Lefgren and McIntyre found that certain demographics, like the younger middle class, tend to have higher bankruptcy rates. For example, filing rates are higher for those who are 25 to 29 years old with household incomes between \$30,000 and \$60,000.

"Ideally, the press and public would be more wary about making sweeping conclusions from a single statistic," said Lefgren. "In the context of bankruptcy, awareness of the policies which affect the rate at which households file for bankruptcy would be helpful."

Ideally, the press and public would be more wary about making sweeping conclusions from a single statistic.



political *blogs*

According to people who read both, political blogs are trusted more than or equal to traditional journalism.

According to a recent survey, political blogs are trusted more than or equal to traditional news sources.

Professor of Political Science Richard Davis surveyed 600 people around the nation. The survey showed that 30 percent of respondents believe blogs are more accurate, 40 percent said they're about equal, while 8 percent said traditional media is more accurate, and 21 percent were not sure.

Davis explained why people feel blogs may be more accurate and turn to them for additional information. "Blog readers still get most of their news from regular news sources, but they are concerned that they are not getting the whole story there," Davis said. "They suspect habitual bias in the traditional news content."

Despite some predictions that blogging would overtake traditional media, Davis found that only three percent of daily blog readers got the majority of their news from blogs.

Davis said that instead of blogs replacing traditional media, they have become a place to carry on conversations about news stories.

He also asked 200 journalists how they use blog content to shape their coverage of political news. Most said that they were fully aware of popular blogs on both sides of the political spectrum. However, Davis found that journalists tended to spend more time reading liberal blogs rather than conservative ones.

Davis reports on this new data in his newest book *Typing Points: The Role of Blogs in American Politics* (Oxford University Press, 2009). He also said that the political blog audience is a "niche" and that political blogs are only read by a small majority of the population of America.

Davis is the author of many books on American politics, including *Electing Justice: Fixing the Supreme Court Nomination Process* (Oxford University Press, 2005) and *Campaigning Online* (Oxford University Press, 2003).

TOP TEN MOST REFERENCED POLITICAL BLOGS:

1. The Huffington Post
2. The Corner
3. Hot Air
4. Think Progress
5. Horserace
6. Political Punch
7. Michelle Malkin
8. Gateway Pundit
9. NewsBusters
10. Instapundit

Source: www.wikio.com/blogs/politics
06.28.10



FACULTY PUBLICATIONS OF NOTE

HISTORY Associate Professor **Mark Choate's** book *Emigrant Nation: The Making of Italy Abroad* (Harvard University Press, 2008) was awarded the Council for European Studies Book Award for 2009-2010 in April 2010. He was also awarded the Howard R. Marraro Prize "for the most distinguished book in Italian history or Italian-American relations" from the American Catholic History Society in May 2010.

If We Could Change the World: Young People and America's Long Struggle for Racial Equality (University of North Carolina Press, 2009) by Assistant Professor **Rebecca De Schweinitz**

Henry Hulton and the American Revolution: An Outsider's Inside View (University of Virginia Press, 2010) by Professor **Neil York**

GEOGRAPHY *Geography, History, and the American Political Economy* (Lexington Books, 2009) by John Heppen and Associate Professor **Samuel M. Otterstrom**

POLITICAL SCIENCE *Typing Politics: The Role of Blogs in American Politics* (Oxford University Press, 2009) by Professor **Richard Davis**

SOCIOLOGY *Toward More Family-Centered Family Sciences: Love, Sacrifice, Transcendence* (Lexington Books, 2009) by Professor **Howard M. Bahr** and Kathleen S. Bahr





MARJORIE PAY HINCKLEY
LECTURE

THE HEALTHY LIFE: Exercise, Eat Right & *Get Married?*

Dr. Linda J. Waite, Lucy Flower Professor in Urban Sociology at the University of Chicago, spoke about the real health benefits of being married in her speech given at the Marjorie Pay Hinckley Lecture last February.

With several LDS Church general authorities, the Hinckley family, and hundreds of BYU students and faculty in attendance, Waite began her lecture by explaining, "Marriage as a social institution is unique because it is a public promise between two people to stay together for life. We know in modern society that doesn't always happen, but that's the expectation and that's the promise." Marriage creates changes in people's choices, which changes their behaviors, which changes people's outcomes – particularly health outcomes.

Waite then went on to explain what, in particular, were the health perks of marriage for men and women. Men get a confidante in their wife and a purpose in life beyond themselves. Men become more financially stable, work harder at their jobs and earn more money. They form better health habits and less "bad" behavior; they eat better, exercise more, drink and smoke less. They also get more social and family connections.

For women, on the other hand, there is a much shorter list of health benefits. "I don't think that means that marriage is less important to women, it just means that maybe men needed more help," Waite said with a chuckle. The reason for the difference in the number



PHOTOS BY JAREN WILKEY / BYU PHOTO



of benefits is that there are some things that men get from marriage that women already have.

Marriage gives women financial support and the things that money can buy for themselves and their children; money buys women's time and attention to their children. On top of that, marriage gives women extra support in raising their children. It also gives women a social connection with more family from their husband's side.

Waite then connects both men and women in their health benefits by explaining the number one health benefit: "I would say one of the biggest ways to be healthy is to not die."

Through studies, Waite and her colleagues have proven that men and women who are married live longer than those who have never been married and those who have suffered a marital loss, either through divorce or widowhood. Being married ties people to a network of family and friends, gives spouses a helpmeet – someone to support them through difficulties – and provides social connections through various institutions like church. Even those that have suffered marital loss and then remarry are proven to be healthier and live longer than those who never marry or who never remarry after a marital loss.

Waite stated that marriage is the healthiest way of living, but explained that our modern society has difficulty seeing that. She concludes, "I think if, to the extent that people know that marriage is an institution which benefits them, then in the long-run... attitudes towards marriage in the general society will change to be more supportive [and] more protective [of the institution of marriage]. I would hope that people would become more aware of this valuable institution both for themselves and society as a whole."

The College of Family, Home and Social Sciences is honored to have the Marjorie Pay Hinckley Chair in Social Work and the Social Sciences. Through lectures, mentored student learning projects, and faculty research, the Chair enriches the educational and professional lives of students and faculty. A focal point of the Hinckley Chair is an annual Marjorie Pay Hinckley Lecture delivered on BYU campus by a prominent expert in the social sciences. We express appreciation to the Hinckley family and generous donors who made this chair possible.

MARY LOU FULTON MENTORED RESEARCH CONFERENCE



This year's Mary Lou Fulton Mentored Student Research Conference in April was a success with more than 490 students and 75 faculty mentors working on over 200 different posters. Filling the entire Wilkinson Center Ballroom, each poster showcased student mentored research projects from every department in the college—Psychology to History; Public Policy to Economics. Dean Magleby presented awards to both graduate and undergraduate students at a special luncheon for students and faculty mentors. President Cecil O. Samuelson and John Bell, Dean of Undergraduate Education, were also in attendance.

"Most universities wouldn't believe what is happening here," said Samuelson in response to the poster conference. "[Mentoring] is some of the most effective and wonderful teaching there is."





EEG Responses of 5-Month-Old Infants to Static and Dynamic Face-Voice Synchrony

Blake L. Jones, Sarah A. Ahlander, Joanie M. Leishman, M. Ross Mangum, Susan Folsom, Stephanie Hansen, Holly Montgomery, Jay R. Johnson, & JilliAnne Jensen, with BYU faculty mentors Chris L. Porter & Ross Flom
Brigham Young University



Study One-Static Faces



Intro

Previous behavioral research with faces and voices demonstrates that at an early age infants notice, and prefer, synchrony between faces and voices^{1,2}. However, little is known about how infants process information regarding face-voice synchrony neurophysiologically. Therefore, Study 1 examined infants' electrophysiological responses during brief presentation of synchronous, as well as asynchronous, face/voice stimuli.

Methods

- 16 5-month-old infants
- EEG recorded using 64 channel EGI system
- 30 Synch & 30 Asynch static trials

Results

Early Auditory Response

- Auditory P2 over left lateral sites
- Greater response for Synchronous
- $[t(15)=2.32, p<.05]$

Late Visual Response

- Visual P2 over occipital sites
- Greater response for Asynchronous
- $[t(15)=2.94, p<.01]$

Late Attentional Response

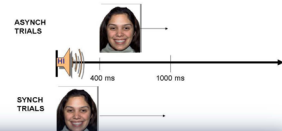
- No over fronto-central sites
- Greater for Asynchronous
- $[t(15)=2.94, p<.01]$

Discussion

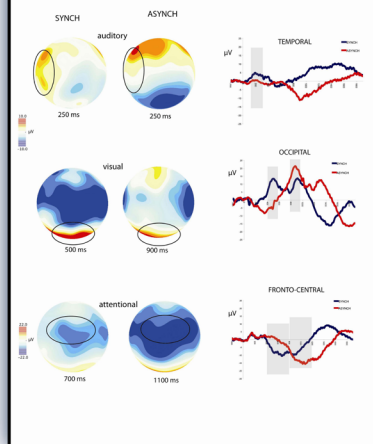
Early sensory processing may be enhanced with synchronous presentation of faces and voices.

The attentional response for asynchronous presentation may reflect a greater level of "surprise" to asynchrony.

These results parallel behavioral research demonstrating infants' are perceptually sensitive to temporal synchrony.



EXP 1: STATIC FACE/VOICE PAIRINGS



References

1. Bahrick, L. E., Lickliter, R., & Flom, R. (2004). Inter sensory redundancy guides the development of selective attention, perception and cognition in infancy. *Current Directions in Psychological Science*, 13, 99-103.
2. Schiff, W., Bressan, A. A., & Bornstein, M. H. (2008). Infant sensitivity to audiovisually coherent events. *Psychological Research*, 21, 102-106.

Study Two-Dynamic Faces



Intro

Study 2 was designed to examine infants' electrophysiological responses during brief presentations of dynamic face and voice stimuli.

Methods

- 21 5-month-old infants
- EEG recorded using 64 channel EGI system
- 30 Synch & 30 Asynch dynamic trials
- Synch trials showed women speaking to infants for 1000ms
- Asynch trials used the same vocal track, but dynamic image showed the same women saying different words

Results

Visual Response

- Early P1 over occipital sites
- Greater response for synchronous
- $[t(20)=2.65, p<.05]$
- Later P2 over occipital sites
- No significant differences $[p=.83]$

Early Auditory Response

- Auditory P2 over lateral scalp sites
- Greater response for Synchronous
- $[t(1,20)=5.12, p<.01]$

Attentional Response

- No over fronto-central sites
- Greater response for Asynchronous
- $F(1,20)=5.12, p<.05$

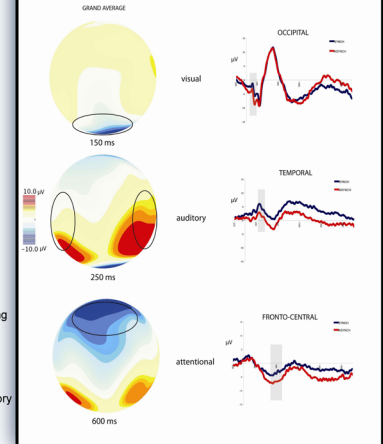
Discussion

Replicates observed patterns in Study 1 by showing early auditory processing differences favor synchrony and later attentional processing differences favor asynchrony

Extends Study 1 by controlling of audio/visual input and timing across conditions

Provides another dependent measure of sensory integration in young infants beyond behavioral measures.

EXP 2: DYNAMIC FACE/VOICE PAIRINGS



Poster presented at Mary Lou Fulton Conference, BYU, Provo, UT (April, 2010). Research supported by the Family Studies Center at BYU, the Mary Lou Fulton Chair, and the Camilla Eyring Kimball Endowment housed in the College of Family, Home, and Social Sciences. *Please address all correspondence to: chris_porter@byu.edu

Child Marriage

Can access to media discourage the practice in South Asia?

Angela O'Neil, David Wilson | Department of Public Policy, Brigham Young University

Abstract

Introduction and Background

Theory of Social Diffusion

Notes and Methodology

Results

Conclusions

Table 1: Descriptive Characteristics of Study Sample

Figure 1: Descriptive Characteristics of Study Sample

We are Widows, We are Women: the oral histories of low caste Indian widows and how they maintain a sense of self in the face of social role change

Separate Shores

Intergenerational Learning

From strength to a weaker position

SAMPLE POSTERS

To view more archived posters from this year's conference, visit:

<http://lib.byu.edu/sites/scholarsarchive/>

FHSS LECTURES

CONSTITUTION DAY

American Heritage

A constitution is an official document, but only has as much weight as its country gives it by living by it, said Ken Kersch in BYU's annual Constitution Day Lecture.

Kersch, Founding Director of the Clough Center for the Study of Constitutional Democracy and Associate Professor of Political Science, History, and Law at Boston College, spoke to students about building a vibrant and constitutional culture. He said that the United States Constitution is more than just bylaws and showed why it is living and growing as opposed to other countries' constitutions.

Kersch discussed how to live according to the soul of the Constitution, and not just the text. He cited examples from our country's success in maintaining our constitution and concluded that a constitution achieves legitimacy when the citizens themselves accept it as legitimate.

He said Thomas Jefferson and Alexander Hamilton understood how important it was for the Constitution to have flexibility, but still be a stable foundation. In their day, as well as ours, there were different opinions on how to achieve flexibility. There are the textualists who want to change the text as society changes, and there are those who want to interpret the text differently depending on the public's views. Either way, Hamilton and Jefferson both agreed that in order for the Constitution to survive it has to accommodate change.

Kersch quoted Hamilton as saying that the general spirit of the people was all that was needed to ratify the Constitution. He said that if the citizens will rise to the challenge and continually ratify the Constitution, then they would succeed in maintaining the necessary flexibility.



He is concerned that the citizens of this country are failing to maintain the spirit of the Constitution and appealed to students. Calling upon the patriotism that was so strong after September 11, he asked for a revival of constitutional culture.

The 2010 Constitution Day Lecture will be held on Tuesday, September 14 at 7:00 p.m. in 250 of the Kimball Tower. Norman Ornstein of the American Enterprise Institute will address us.

DE LAMAR JENSEN LECTURE

History Department



Over time there has been a shift from a closeness to God and the eternal to a distance from heaven, said Carlos Eire to students and faculty in the Annual De Lamar Jensen lecture.

"As a whole, our society has lost eternity," he said.

"Therefore we have

an existential dread of death. We are told this is post modernity – art and poetry becomes only certain along with death. If there is no right way, what does 'right' matter?"

Eire, Riggs Professor of History and Religious Studies at Yale University, showed how the loss of the idea of eternity has happened through the events of the Reformation down to the present. He said that these historical events and

loss of the idea of an eternal heaven contributed most to current atheistic and agnostic views.

"It is why people are conditioned to think that we are closer to chimps in relation than to God," Eire said, "We too 'rage against the dying of the light' with the poets because of this loss."

Before the Reformation, the heavens were considered a literal place where God and his angels dwelled, he explained. People were constantly being reminded of this heavenly place as they attended churches erected over the bodies of the dead. Even Mass transcended time and space by allowing Christ's literal presence to be in the building every Sunday. These connections and concrete interactions with the dead reminded people of their belief in heaven and the eternal.

Calvin, Copernicus, Kepler and others distanced the heavens by scientifically disproving long-held beliefs about the way the universe physically worked. The earth was no longer the center of the

universe. The stars didn't move around the earth. God's throne was searched for in the heavens and found nowhere.

In the 17th and 18th centuries, in a desperate attempt to reclaim their lost heaven, Catholics painted celestial murals on their ceilings with angels beckoning to the people from above billowing clouds. These pieces of art were meant to show that God really was in the heavens and that angels really did interact with human life – in essence trying to silently resist the flood of scientific evidence to the contrary. But this effort proved vain. The separation from heaven and loss of eternity was perpetuated through time, until the present time.

"Today, we have the Hubble telescope to examine the sky," he said. "We can look up and do not see God's throne."

Join us for this year's De Lamar Jensen Lecture on Thursday, October 21 at 11:00 a.m. in the Harold B. Lee Library Auditorium. The speaker will be Geoffrey Parker, Distinguished University Professor and Andreas Dorpalen Professor of History from Ohio State University.

HONORED ALUMNI LECTURE

Blessings of attending BYU and lessons learned was the theme of the Honored Alumni Lecture given by Utah Senator Orrin Hatch.

"Almost everything that I have or that I've learned, or I've gained, or I've progressed with has come from the underpinnings that I've received here," Senator Hatch said.

Hatch said that initially he wanted to talk about the Constitution, but couldn't help reminiscing about how his time at BYU affected his future success in politics and life.

One of Hatch's first interactions with politics was at BYU. During a summer term, Jeremiah Sanders, a former missionary from Hatch's mission, put "Elder Hatch" up for nomination for student body president. When Hatch heard his name put forth for nomination, he tried to resist, but Sanders said "Oh, just be a good sport." Hatch agreed to run only after Sanders agreed to be his campaign manager. As part of the campaign, Hatch rode a donkey around

campus. Needless to say, he became summer student body president.

One of the biggest things that Hatch has learned about life through being in politics is about understanding others' viewpoints and the way they think.

"If you want to be great in any way ... you had better understand the way people think and different arguments they use.... Be prepared to take some of these things on. Had I not had these experiences at BYU, I wouldn't have been that good of a missionary, happy in life, and wouldn't have gotten into law."

Hatch said that even students can make a difference in the politics around them. He said that when he first ran for governor, he did not have any recognition. He had a law degree, and a 17-year-old to be his campaign manager. He said he ended up getting a lot of young people to help him in the race.

"They made the difference. That young person made a difference ... you can get involved in your state, here in



Utah, and in the university – it's a very good experience," he said.

Hatch mentioned the religion department on campus several times. He is deeply grateful for the religion classes that he took while an undergraduate at BYU.

"I couldn't have been anywhere near the missionary I was had I not gone to the religion classes here at BYU," he said. "You're going to the greatest university in the world today and if you know that, you can do anything in the world. If you live what you have been taught by professors and people in this place, you are going to be successful."

Our honored alumnus for this year is Ambassador Robert R. King, United States Special Envoy for North Korean Human Rights Issues. His speech will take place on October 7 at 11:00 a.m. in room 250 of the Kimball Tower.

VISITOR FROM NASA

Geography Department

Dr. Kamlesh Lulla, one of the chief geoscientists at NASA and a geospatial technology expert, was one of several visiting lecturers in the college this past year. New technology utilizing geography has proven to be very useful, said Lulla to geography students.

One of the most exciting new uses is the way that soldiers are able to use multiple geospatial maps to help them get a current eye on the enemy and plan their next strategic move.

"The military uses this technology in planning operational and technical tasks at every stage of modern warfare," Lulla said. "Soldiers use satellite maps, local maps, and primitive ground maps to plan their tactical missions."

Lulla explained how NASA uses geography to develop geospatial technologies such as GPS (Global Positioning System), GIS (Geographical Information System), geo-imaging, as well as mobile locational and navigation tools.

He gave several examples where the geospatial tools he and fellow geographers created have helped solve crises. In the aftermath of September 11, rescue teams utilized these tools to find wind directions, locate debris, and identify clear paths to get help to victims in need.

He also explained how geospatial tools helped government and rescue people in the space shuttle Columbia's crash, the 2004 tsunami, and recent California fires through real time information and heat mapping.



VIRGINIA F. CUTLER LECTURE

Dr. Vaughn Call spoke about the "forgotten families" of rural America and the implications of redefining this part of our country's people as the Virginia F. Cutler lecturer.

Call defined forgotten families as those who are rural, especially rural veterans or rural elderly families. He said many rural families are falling through the cracks.

"Seventeen to 20 percent of Americans live in rural lands," Call explained. "That's equivalent to the entire country of France."

Call pointed out that such a large portion of the American population cannot go unrecognized or misunderstood if we are to have a successful society. He cited

neglect of these communities in Russia and how it has affected the country.

Neglect of these populations has created black holes in the social fabric of Russia, he said. Entire towns of people have to travel for miles to even use a telephone. They continually are becoming more isolated from the country they live in to the point of almost the entire country being unaware of the towns' existence. Call said that if we are not careful, America may become as far removed from its rural families as Russia is currently from theirs.

"We need more research on these areas. There has been vast change in what has been happening to rural families."

Call explained the internal threats faced by rural families, what he calls "a triple jeopardy." They are 1) depopulation, as the families tend to age and young

couples move out of town; 2) a lack of social services; and 3) a reduced economic viability in the marginalized economy.

Call asked some questions to investigate these threats. The first was "Are rural families 'aging in place' by choice or 'stuck in place' by their circumstances?" According to his research, most elderly people planned on staying in the communities they had started due to the attachment to their community.

Problems are complicated as most Western rural families don't get polled like people living on the East Coast. There is also confusion over what is considered the boundary of rural communities.

"There are 50 different definitions across federal agencies of 'rural,'" Call said. "That's a huge diversity in how we look at rural communities."

This year's Virginia Cutler Lecture will be held on October 21 at 7:00 p.m. in room 250 of the Kimball Tower. Craig Hart, Professor in the School of Family Life and Associate Vice President will be our speaker.



ALICE LOUISE REYNOLDS LECTURE

Harold B. Lee Library

It has been found that patients released from a hospital's ICU have a lower IQ and lifestyle satisfaction than prior to their admittance. The possible reasons for these effects were discussed by Ramona Hopkins, Professor and Chair of the Psychology Department, as part of the Alice Louise Reynolds Lecture last fall.

New research has shown the brain isn't as protected while the body is deteriorating as most people used to think, she said. Hopkins cited several of her research patients who, after going through physical trauma of different kinds, actually had decreased brain activity.

Most of the brain activity was never fully regained, even after several years.

She compared her findings to 11 other studies and discovered a consistent finding: most patients who leave the ICU later have problems with cognitive processes. Some of the most common impaired functions she found in the studies were memory, executive functions, attention and mental processing speed.

The risk factors for these deteriorations are not related to length of ICU stay, Apache II scores, or days on medical ventilation, Hopkins said. She cited possible risks relating to lack of oxygen flow while in ICU, the overuse of sedative drugs, and the possible cognitive and psychiatric effects of fluid doses.

As part of the research she conducted, Hopkins analyzed her patients' lifestyles after they left the ICU healthy (or what the

hospital viewed as healthy). She said she is concerned over the decreased quality of life patients have after being in the ICU.

In her research, she found their quality of life is lower than normal people their age. Even six months after their release from the hospital, 20 percent of the patients had to quit working, 29 percent lost a major source of income by quitting their jobs and 31 percent had a major loss of family savings.

The average age of the people tested was 45 — an age that should be the prime of one's career, Hopkins said. She said that this proved that the negative health effects of these people who had severe health issues were long lasting. This was even after the hospital doctors were satisfied that the person had made a successful recovery.

Hopkins hopes her findings will encourage doctors to look at the quality of life of their patients after they leave the ICU.

Kenneth Young, Professor of Geography from the University of Colorado at Boulder, reported on his recent research trip to South America to students last fall. Wanting to understand the effects climate change has had on the local people through the past several decades, Young met several local residents and spoke with them about the water and ice patterns over the years.

"You can get more information about climate change and see its effects by talking to the people who it affects," said Young.

Young met one man whose house is in the foothills of the Andes. That man said he has seen the ice move up and over the mountains dramatically in the last 15 years.

"The people that live there make decisions everyday about how high up they will take their animals to graze — they know a lot about [the effects of climate change]," he said. "People have been able to create a wetland by rerouting streams — they act and adapt. They don't just wait around."

One man Young met explained how the movement of the ice negatively affects him. Because there is a national park on part of the mountain, he is unable to move his herd and crops to the appropriate temperature as the snow and ice melts. Young found this information to be disturbing because traditional farming systems that have functioned for hundreds of years are now being limited by the climate changes and the government.

In his hunt to discover the pattern of possible past climate change, Young dated a plant that the ice revealed after an ice thaw. Young discovered that the plant was preserved in that ice for 5,200 years. This knowledge allows scientists like Young to mark where the ice levels were 5,200 years ago,



CHAUNCY HARRIS LECTURE

Geography Department

thereby marking global temperature patterns.

Young's research method is unique. Since

he wants others to use his research to manage natural resources better, he makes his research tools and data available to other scientists. He leaves water and ice level markers in the wild for other researchers to use his data in analyzing the changing world.

His discoveries and research have led him to analyze in more detail the consequences of a warmer planet and the patterns of global warming over the last several millennia.

This year's Chauncy Harris Lecture will tentatively be held on Thursday, November 18 at 11:00 a.m. More information can be found in the coming weeks at fhss.byu.edu.

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHTS

Some psychology graduates go on to pursue careers that directly correlate with their major, such as clinical psychology or counseling. For alumnus Terry Seamons, however, a degree in psychology helped launch him into the fields of management consulting and HR.



Terry Seamons graduated from BYU in 1972 with a Ph.D. in school psychology while working as coordinator of counselors and school psychologists for the Provo School District. He continued to work for Provo School District until a friend offered him the opportunity to come work for a consulting firm of management psychologists, RHR International.

TERRY R. SEAMONS

During his 33 years with RHR International, Seamons worked with senior executives of companies all over the world, he explained, “to develop their own skills and attributes as leaders, assist their corporations as they select capable candidates for their senior level positions, and help senior teams work more effectively together.”

Now what does management consulting have to do with psychology? Terry Seamons explains as he works with another side of his chosen discipline.

“My view of psychology has always been to look at how can I help people – healthy and highly motivated people –

to become more effective leaders rather than just working with those who are sick and helping them to recover from their ‘illness.’ This approach of applying psychological principles to the development of successful leaders of corporations is simply helping them to become more effective and more fulfilled at what they do.”

Because of this approach to the use of psychology, Seamons has focused his expertise on “how people grow and develop and what helps them to become more productively motivated.” This view has directed his career path and led him to other opportunities.

In 2007, while working for RHR International, Entergy offered him a position to come work in-house as Senior VP of Human Resources and Administration. He is now responsible for “all HR policies and their implementation, compensation and benefits, staffing and recruiting, leadership development and succession planning, corporate aviation, facilities, real estate and labor relations.” As a member of the Office of the Chief Executive, he has the opportunity to work regularly with the senior executives of the corporation and is involved in virtually all of the decisions the corporation makes regarding HR.

He enjoys working in Entergy because he has the “opportunity to have a significant impact on leveraging people’s strengths and the thrill of assisting an organization to move forward.”

Terry Seamons is a member of several boards of directors, of the BYU Alumni Board and of the College of Family Home and Social Science National Advisory Council where he has been the chair since 2007. Seamons and his wife, Gloria, live in New Orleans. They have 5 married children and 17 grandchildren. He is currently serving as Bishop of the New Orleans 1st Ward.



The fibers of a tapestry are woven together to form the whole piece—full of detail and strength as each thread is added. Natalie Petersen's life has been like this tapestry like one of the many she has studied and worked with in the Springville Museum of Art. In her life she has added different threads to compose her education and career.

NATALIE PETERSEN

Petersen graduated in 1997 from the University of Arizona with a B.A. in art history and a minor in studio art. That completed, she traveled to Provo and eventually began work on her Master of Social Work (M.S.W.) degree, which she attained in 2002.

Using her experience in social work, Petersen took a job with Blomquist Hale Consulting as a therapist. Her role was to visit different businesses and organizations and give presentations to educate people about their services and how they could utilize them. For instance, people could come in and get counseling if they were having relationship problems, depression, or any kind of mild to moderate issues they were facing.

Petersen described the experience as a therapist as both challenging and fulfilling because she felt she was able to really help people in many ways. She said, "Watching the spark come alive within their souls as they realized they had the power to improve their lives was wonderful, the best part of the job."

She had worked for this company for a few years when a serendipitous opportunity arose for a change in careers. Petersen describes the experience:

"After a work presentation which was next to the museum, I had some extra time before picking up my children from school. So I decided to visit the museum, looked around and began visiting with the Director....the timing was right. Through our discussion, I learned that there was

a temporary position available for a few months. The Director encouraged me to apply. After a lot of thought and prayer, I decided to move forward.

I thought, I'm happy in my job and not searching for another, and it's completely different from what I'm currently doing, but I'll give it a try and see how it goes. So I did; I applied and interviewed, and was offered the temporary position. It was challenging in some ways as an abrupt career change can be, but much more rewarding. I have grown in many ways. I love the environment, the people; the job itself is very stimulating. In retrospect, it was a good decision."

After she had been there a few months they were able to create a position and Petersen was able to stay on permanently. She has now served as the Associate Director at the Springville Museum of Art for more than seven years. Her primary responsibilities include marketing and publicity, development fundraising, human resources, website director, special events, public programs, and the volunteer program. She has been able to feel of the promise given by David O. McKay in the museum's original dedicatory prayer, that it would be "a sanctuary of beauty and a temple of contemplation."

Even though her career path has taken a different direction from her master's degree focus, Petersen still values her BYU education.

"I loved attending BYU. It is an amazing school. I feel like I've gained so much from my education. It prepared me well for my career path, both as a therapist and actually as an arts administrator also. There are so many different threads of things that I learned in the MSW program, that are tremendously helpful for me in the work that I am doing now. I am grateful to have been able to attend BYU." Natalie Petersen now lives in Provo with her two daughters.

Natalie feels honored to serve on the college's National Advisory Council and has enjoyed learning, contributing, and getting to know other members. She is also serving on the board for the Utah Museum Association, BYU-Hawaii Alumni Central Utah Chapter, currently serving as the President of the Springville City Employee Association, and involved in the Women in Leadership Board as well.

"It is not the time to take the easy path or the time to just look for fun. It is really the time to roll up your sleeves and get to work and really build yourself a foundation." John Stone received this advice from his father as he graduated from the economics department at BYU in 1991. The advice helped him to make a series of decisions that shaped his life and gave him amazing opportunities.

When looking for work after BYU, John Stone had a choice. He could take the "easier" route and go to work in San Francisco or he could take the road less traveled and head off to New York City. His road less traveled took him to the pavement of New York City, where he "literally walked" into several interesting opportunities.

Stone, who ended up getting a position at Oppenheimer, was a pioneer as he "was the first college student hired west of the Mississippi" for the company. This opportunity opened the way for many BYU students who were able to get positions with Oppenheimer following Stone. After working a couple years with Oppenheimer in New York City's financial district, Stone entered graduate school at Harvard's Business School.

During this two-year MBA program he became interested in this up and coming program called "the Internet." He began to study how this new phenomenon would affect the business world, during which Stone met Greg Porter—who he was able to stay in contact with after graduation. Following graduation in 1996, he went to work in San Francisco for a few years with Bain and Company until he got back in contact with Porter to work on a new project—PowerSchool.

PowerSchool was a project designed to help schools organize and maintain their various applications through the Internet. PowerSchool incorporates programs such as

grading, health care, attendance, curriculums, etc. Stone and Porter built up their idea to a 200-employee company then sold it to Steven Jobs at Apple Inc.

JOHN D. STONE



Recently, he started an investment company where he selects companies to invest in that are interesting to him. He has recently invested in a small software company called Freepath. Freepath is a program much like iTunes, except it is to organize different medias for presentations. It allows the user to put PowerPoint, YouTube videos, and song clips, into a simple play list. This takes away from the cumbersome task of juggling several different applications and windows while presenting.

Even with the incredible places he has gone, Stone remembers his training in economics at BYU. He specifically wanted to "give credit to the economics department and the faculty [at BYU], many of whom are still there. I oftentimes draw from and reflect back on my time at BYU, which was really helpful in preparing me for both higher education and well as for corporate learning. It's a good program."



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~Dean David B. Magleby

