Careers in Psychology
Thursday 23 April 2009

Jointly hosted by the Careers Centre and Psyche and supported by the School of Psychology

www.careers.usyd.edu.au

Program
- Welcome by David Burrows, Psyche
- The registration process as a Psychologist in NSW & Australia
- Surviving Honours
- Counselling in a university setting Roles in Psychology and the benefits of APS membership
- Working in a mental health environment
- Applied Behaviour Analysis (ABA) with Autism
- Clinical Service Delivery models
- Vocational rehabilitation, brain injury management and mental health
- Forensic Psychology and research-based roles
- Question & Answer session with panel of speakers

www.careers.usyd.edu.au

The Registration Process as a Psychologist in NSW & Australia

Simon Milton
NSW Psychologists Registration Board

www.careers.usyd.edu.au

Becoming a Psychologist: The Registration Process

Simon Milton – Professional Officer
NSW Psychologist Registration Board

www.careers.usyd.edu.au
Today

- The Board and its functions
- The registration process
  - Basic requirements
  - Higher degree pathway
  - Supervision pathway
  - Future: national registration
- Ethical responsibilities

PSychologists Act

- NSW state government regulated psychologists in 1989 in response to concerns about the health and safety of the public receiving psychological treatment (e.g. Chelmsford Royal Commission)
- High profile cases of misconduct by other health professionals and the availability of Medicare rebates for psychological treatment have further raised government and public expectations of the profession
- Current legislation is Psychologists Act (2001) and Psychologists Regulations (2008)
- Enacted under the auspices of NSW Health

The Role of the Board

- Board’s primary role is “to protect the health and safety of members of the public by providing mechanisms to ensure that psychologists are fit to practise” (s3)

The Board and the APS

- The Board and the Australian Psychological Society are two separate organisations
- The Board does not represent the profession - its concern is public safety and it is legislatively empowered to regulate psychological practice
- APS, whilst also acting in the public interest, has an obligation to provide services to its members and to promote the profession of psychology. It has no legislative power.
Functions of Board

- Determine and monitor qualifications and training requirements for registration
- Establish Code of Professional Conduct setting out the required practice parameters
- Provide an avenue for complaints against registered psychologists and for disciplinary action where appropriate
- Process to manage impaired practitioners
- Prevent unregistered persons from using the title “psychologist” (NB: Health Care Complaints Commission can now act against counsellors)

Registration as a Psychologist

- "personal characteristics"
- Educational qualifications (4 years), then:
  - Practical experience (2 years: higher degree or supervision pathway)

“Personal characteristics"

- Character
  - Psychologist registration history in other states / countries
  - Complaints and malpractice history as a health professional
  - Academic misconduct
  - Adverse court findings as a health care professional
- Legal history
  - Convictions for offences
- Communication skills
  - An adequate command of English language is required
- Unimpaired
  - Sufficient physical capacity to practice
  - Sufficient mental capacity to practice
  - No habitual alcohol abuse or drug addiction

Qualifications

- Successful completion of a four-year full-time degree specialising in psychology accredited by APAC
- Link to APAC list on Board’s website
Practical experience

- Two years of practical experience where the core competencies in psychology can be developed and demonstrated:
  - Legal, ethical and professional conduct
  - Assessment and measurement
  - Service delivery
  - Communication
  - Professional development

Practical experience: Higher degree pathway

- A postgraduate course recognised by the Board as providing the equivalent of two years practical experience in psychology.
- Link to APAC list on Board’s website – Professional training degrees – clinical / forensic / health / sports / ed & dev / counselling masters and doctorates
- No research degrees are recognised by the Board in this pathway

Practical experience: Supervision pathway

- Two years practical experience in psychology to the satisfaction of the Board
- Placement
  - At least 20 hours per week of psychological work
  - Placements must give the opportunity to develop core competencies
  - At least 12 months in a placement where assessment and ongoing interventions provided, typically a health setting
  - Typically, placement cannot be in private practice

Supervision pathway (cont)

- Supervision
  - At least 100 hours supervision
  - At least 30 hours workshops
  - 160 hours of supervision and workshops across 2 years
- Supervisor
  - Must be authorised by the Board
  - Submits six monthly progress reports to the Board
Higher degree v Supervision

- Higher degree
  - specialist
  - university usually provides training, placement, supervision
  - status
  - competitive entry
  - cost / not earning

- Supervision
  - generalist
  - earn money
  - can be difficult to organise

Proposed changes

- July 2010 National registration – currently Mutual Recognition Act between each state and New Zealand

- Council of Psychologists Registration Board propose that the minimum requirement for registration should be an accredited professional degree in psychology with a minimum of 2 years full-time postgraduate training (e.g. current higher degree pathway only)

- This position has powerful supporters and powerful opponents. It is unclear how this issue will resolve, but expect some sort of transition arrangements.

- Grandfather clause

Ethical responsibilities

- Code of Professional Conduct
  - Consent
    - Nothing of a psychological nature should be done with, for or to clients, students, supervisees or research participants without obtaining properly informed voluntary consent
  - Confidentiality
    - Unless required by law, or by duty of care to the clients or others, psychologists must not release information about clients unless the client specifically authorises the release in writing

Ethical responsibilities (cont)

- Code of Professional Conduct (cont)
  - Professional relationships
    - Psychologists should safeguard a relationship of trust with their clients, students or supervisees across all stages of their professional relationship
    - Psychologists should not engage in personal relationships under the principle of the primary welfare of the client
  - Personal and professional welfare
    - Psychologists are expected to maintain competence in their area of psychological practice through ongoing supervision and professional development
    - Psychologists should not claim competence in any area of psychological practice in which they have not established their competence
  - Guidelines
    - Psychologists are expected to comply with guidelines produced by Psychologists professional organisations (e.g. APS)
Board details

NSW Psychologists Registration Board
PO Box K599
Haymarket NSW 1238
www.psychreg.health.nsw.gov.au
Ph: 02 9219 0211
Fax: 02 9211 9318

Surviving Honours

Liam Byrne
B Psychology, currently in Honours year
Treasurer of Psyche
(University of Sydney Psychology Society)

www.careers.usyd.edu.au

Counselling in a university setting

Lidia Nemitschenko
Head, International Student Support Unit (ISSU)
University of Sydney

Roles in Psychology
The benefits of APS membership

Mark England
Australian Psychological Society

www.careers.usyd.edu.au
Recent news: Student Subscriber rate reduced

- The annual Student Subscriber rate is now $75, reduced from $116.25.
- The reduced rate took effect from 1 March 2009.
- By paying $75 now, you will retain APS membership through to 31 May 2010.
- In effect, you may receive up to 15 months membership for the price of 12.
APS Colleges
There are nine Colleges or specialist fields:

- Clinical Neuropsychologists
- Clinical Psychologists
- Community Psychologists
- Counseling Psychologists
- Biological Environmental Psychologists
- Forensic Psychologists
- Health Psychologists
- Organisational Psychologists
- Sport Psychologists

APS Interest Groups
Join any of the 31 Interest Groups at half price – here is the list:

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples and Psychology
- Neurofeedback and Psychology
- Buddhism and Psychology
- Personal Construct Psychology
- Child, Adolescent and Family Psychology
- Psychoanalytically Oriented Psychology
- Christianity and Psychology
- Psychologists for Peace
- Coaching Psychology
- Psychology and Complementary and Alternative Medicine
- Evolutionary Psychology
- Psychology and Cultures
- Family Law and Psychology
- Psychology and Substance Use
- Gay and Lesbian Issues and Psychology
- Psychology and the Environment
- Narrative Theory & Practice in Psychology
- Psychology from an Islamic Perspective
- Psychology of Men and Masculinities
- Sufism and Psychology
- Psychology of Relationships
- Teaching, Learning & Psychology
- Psychologists for the Promotion of Animal Welfare
- Telephone and Internet-based Counselling and Psychology
- Psychologists in Oncology
- Transpersonal Psychology
- Psychology and Ageing
- Trauma and Psychology
- Rehabilitation Psychology
- Women and Psychology
- Rural and Remote Psychology
Student Resources

- Receive the Australian Journal of Psychology or Australian Psychologist
- Receive APS Member kit every 2 months
- Receive APS Newsletters every 2 months
- Receive your State Newsletter every 2 months

Resources & Benefits

- Find out about job opportunities – go to www.psychexchange.com.au
- Range of tip sheets on relevant topics
- Ultimately obtain professional recognition “MAPS”, “Associate MAPS”
Working in a mental health environment
Penelope Mayson
Operations Manager, Suicide Prevention Services at Wesley Mission

Applied Behaviour Analysis (ABA) with Autism
Nicole Rogerson
Director of the Lizard Children’s Centre

Topic’s today
About the Lizard Children’s Centre
About ABA Programs for young children
Lizard Staff
Employment opportunities
The role of an ABA therapist
Where to find out more
Building a career with Behaviour Analytics
Lizard Centre

Australia’s largest private early intervention centre
Paediatric clinic specialising in autism
Programs based on the principles of Applied Behaviour Analysis

Autism Spectrum Disorder

- Autistic Disorder
- Asperger’s Syndrome
- Pervasive Development Disorder Not Otherwise Specified (PDDNOS)
- Childhood Disintegrative Disorder
- Rett’s Syndrome

Autism is a pervasive developmental disorder characterised by behavioural excesses and deficits affecting:

- Communication
- Routines
- Social interaction

What can we do?
We can teach a child with autism

- Self help skills
- Play skills
- Attending skills
- Language
- Social skills

Autism

Increase
- Skills
- Choices

Decrease
- Challenging behaviours
- Tantrums
- Frustration

Only ABA gets the green light

An ABA Program – what we teach
ABA Programs
Breakdown all target behaviours into small tasks:

- Each task taught in structured, hierarchical manner
- Each step taught via a specific cue or instruction
- Appropriate responses followed by consequences
- Responses recorded & evaluated to determine progression
- Emerging skills practised & reinforced in less structured situations
A child with ASD gets a therapy team

- Supervisor
- Senior Therapist
- Junior Therapist
- Junior Therapist
- Junior Therapist

Becoming a junior therapist

1. Introduction to Autism and ABA at the Lizard Centre
2. Attend ABA Training Workshop
3. Placement onto a child’s program
4. Overlap session with child and Lizard staff
5. Work as an independent junior therapist

Working as a Junior Therapist

- Starting wage of $35/hr
- Wage increases with experience
- Perfect for university students
- Trained by Lizard
- Tutor child in the home
- Advancement in the field

Working as a Junior Therapist

- Commitment of at least one semester
- Make your own hours
- Positions available across Sydney
- Minimum of 2 sessions per week
- Work available on multiple teams
- Must attend monthly clinic meeting / case conference
Finding work as an ABA Junior Therapist

Effective Early Intervention Programs

Find out more:

Introduction to Autism and Applied Behaviour Analysis

2 hours
Free
At Lizard Centre every week

www.lizardcentre.com

ABA Therapist Training

April/May
• Intensive Saturday Course
• Saturday 25th April and 2nd May
• 9am-5pm

June
• Intensive Saturday Course
• Saturday 6th and 13th March
• 9am-5pm

July
• Weekday Course
• 6th, 8th & 10th July
• 10am-4pm

Behavior Analyst Certification Board
www.bacb.com
Where can ABA take you?

Alanna has her Masters in Special Education from Macquarie University and a Post Grad Certificate in ABA from Penn State University.

Alanna has traveled the world as an ABA therapist - training in the USA and working in Hungary and Scotland.

Alanna is a Program Supervisor at the Lizard Centre.

Where can ABA take you?

Gail was a junior therapist for 3 years at Lizard and has since relocated to the USA and is now a therapist at the Lovaas Institute www.lovaas.com.

Where can ABA take you?

Mathew obtained his ABA at Swinburne in Melbourne and after 10 years in the field undertook additional studies through University of Northern Texas in Australia to become a Certified Associate Behaviour Analyst.

Mathew is a Program Supervisor at the Lizard Centre.

Mathew will present his study on Individual Learning Programs at the International ABA Conference in Phoenix next month.

Where can ABA take you?

Autism Expo
Saturday 9th May 2008
University of NSW

Let us help you pursue your happy life.

FREE EVENT

Information for parents, carers, education professionals, service providers, government, disability service providers, therapists, autism therapists, community groups, funding agencies, businesses, and others.

Sat, 9 May 2008 10.30am - 5pm
John Ward Gaventa Building
University of NSW

Autism Expo 2008: HELP for those living and working with Autistic Children.
Clinical Service Delivery models

Dr Phil Renner
Senior Clinical Psychologist, Counselling Service
University of Sydney

2 broad Service Delivery Models

Psychologists providing “clinics” for direct client contact for all dedicated time

Tiered models of care: client meets the right level of psychological competence according to need

Developing & Monitoring Service Delivery

• Gaps in service: most services have developed on an ‘ad hoc’ basis with little evidence for need assessment:
• Inequitable distribution of services in primary, secondary and tertiary care
• Success of Psychology: imbalance between high demand for services and low clinician availability
• Waiting times
• Effectiveness and quality of Psychology Services in Health care settings
Future

- Labor market changes
- Political, Technological and Social Changes
- Impact on and from other Services
- Psychology Managers will continue to be challenged to ensure that Psychology Services are relevant, cost-effective and high quality
- May be tension between being both a good psychologist and a good organisational steward
- Training and practice model impact - scientist practitioner, clinical scientist, scholar practitioner, will reflect these changes

Continuing Professional Education

- Activities that are relevant to psychology practice, education and science
- Enable psychologists to keep pace with emerging issues and technologies
- Allow psychologists to maintain, develop, and increase competencies in order to improve service to the public and enhance contributions to the profession

Vocational rehabilitation, brain injury management and mental health

Rebecca Mallia-Blanco
Acting Regional Manager & Psychologist/Rehabilitation Consultant
Specialist Services Unit (SSU) Parramatta
Commonwealth Rehabilitation Service (CRS) Australia

Forensic Psychology and research-based roles

Dr Helen Paterson
Lecturer in Forensic Psychology
University of Sydney

[please note that the slides uploaded vary from the ones shown at the presentation due to copyright restrictions]
Forensic Psychology and Research-Based Roles

Dr. Helen Paterson
Phone: 9036 9403
Email: helenp@psych.usyd.edu.au

What is Forensic Psychology???

- The application of psychological knowledge and theories to all aspects of the criminal and civil justice systems, including the processes and the people

Topics Studied in Forensic Psychology

The Process
- Criminal investigation
- Pre-trial
- Trial
- Post trial

The People
- Victims of crime
- Offenders of crime
- Police

Topics Studied in Forensic Psychology

The Process
- Criminal investigation
  - Profiling
  - Lie detection
  - Identification parades
  - Eyewitness testimony
  - Repressed/recovered memories
  - Interrogations and confession evidence
- Pre-trial
- Trial
- Post trial
Topics studied in Forensic Psychology

*The Process*
- Criminal investigation
- Pre-trial
  - Pre-trial publicity
  - Jury selection
- Trial
- Post trial

Topics Studied in Forensic Psychology

*The Process*
- Criminal investigation
- Pre-trial
- Trial
  - Insanity plea
  - Expert evidence/judge warnings
  - Jury deliberation/sentencing
- Post trial

Topics Studied in Forensic Psychology

*The Process*
- Criminal investigation
- Pre-trial
- Trial
  - Post trial
  - The prison experience
  - Treatment of offenders and risk assessment

Topics Studied in Forensic Psychology

*The People*
- Victims of Crime
- Offenders of Crime
- Police
Topics Studied in Forensic Psychology

The People
- Victims of Crime
- Offenders of Crime
- Police
  - Training
  - Culture
  - Ethics
  - Stress
  - Selection

And what do we do with this knowledge?
- Use this knowledge to help
  - Reduce crime
  - Detect crime
  - Reduce recidivism
  - Build better prisons
  - Refine sentencing policy
  - Help courts reach good decisions
  - Understand civil disputes
  - Help families caught up within the legal system
  - Protect children
  - Build better society!

Getting Involved in Forensic Psychology at USyd
- Study Applied Psychology (Psyc3020)
- Volunteer for psychology experiments!!!
- Talk to students in years above you
- Volunteer to work for psychology labs
- Become involved in Psyche
- Further your education: Honours, Masters, PhD

What work do forensic psychologists do?
- Work in policy units
- Work in government research units
- Work as academic researchers
- Work in prisons designing and administering treatment programs
- Help the police with investigations / advise on procedures/ employment matters
- Evaluate mental health related claims for damages
- Provide expert advice
- Lots of other things!