**Dr. Ty Tashiro**

*“The Science of Happily Ever After”*

Wednesday, Feb 26, 2014
2:30 - 4:00pm
175 Willey Hall

**Abstract**

Dr. Ty Tashiro’s talk will focus on his book, *The Science of Happily Ever After: What Really Matters in the Quest for Enduring Love*. He will explore the science behind choosing a great mate and how three wishes can increase your chances for living happily ever after. He will explain a) why we only get three wishes, b) why most people squander their wishes and end up in unfulfilling relationships, and c) how wishing for three traits that really matter can help you find satisfying and stable relationships.

**Dr. Kory Floyd**

Colloquia in Interpersonal Relationships Research (IREL)
Arizona State University

*“The Importance of Being Prosocial: Communication, Health, and Well-Being”*

Monday, March 24, 2014
1:00 – 2:00pm
N639 Elliott Hall

**Abstract**

This presentation explains the connection between interpersonal communication and the health of individuals and relationships. Dr. Kory Floyd of Arizona State University has spent several years exploring how prosocial communication, such as the expression of affection, benefits physical and mental health and the stability of close relationships. He will describe how positive, intimate communication leads to personal and interpersonal wellness and how individuals can use this information to maximize well-being in their own lives and relationships.

**Dr. Patricia Frazier**

University of Minnesota

*“Control Your Stress!”*

Thursday, March 27, 2014
4:00 – 5:00pm
402 Walter Library

**Abstract**

This talk will provide an overview of Dr. Frazier’s translational program of research on the role of perceived control in coping with stressful life events from initial theoretical work to the recent development of an online intervention to increase perceived control. Much of the talk will focus on the online intervention, which has now been tested with more than 1,000 students and found to be effective in reducing perceived stress and symptoms of depression and anxiety.

**Dr. Eli Finkel**

Colloquia in Interpersonal Relationships Research (IREL)
Northwestern University

*“The Suffocation of Marriage”*

Thursday, April 3, 2014
4:00 – 5:00pm
N639 Elliott Hall

**Abstract**

This presentation distills insights from historical, sociological, and psychological analyses of marriage to develop the *suffocation model of marriage in America*. According to this model, contemporary Americans ask their marriage to help them fulfill their physiological and safety needs much less than in the past, but they ask it to help them fulfill their esteem and self-actualization needs much more than in the past. These changes require increased investment of time and psychological resources to foster the relational bond, but most Americans are investing less in their marriages, not more. As a result, mean levels of marital quality and personal well-being are declining.
Kenneth S. Kendler, MD

“Psychiatric Genetics: A Current Perspective”
Friday, April 25, 2014
9:00 – 10:15am
402 Walter Library

Dr. David Lubinski

Vanderbilt University
“Forty Years Later: What Happens to Mathematically Precocious Youth Identified at Age 12?”
Wednesday, April 30, 2014
3:00- 4:00pm
N119 Elliott Hall

Dr. Greg Miller

Colloquia in Interpersonal Relationships Research (IREL)
Northwestern University
“The Biological Residue of Early Life Adversity”
Thursday, May 1, 2014
12:00 – 1:00pm
N119 Elliott Hall

Dr. Oliver P. John

PIB Colloquium Speaker
University of California, Berkeley
“Personality, The Number Five, and Everyday Life”
Friday, May 9, 2014
1:00 – 2:30pm
N639 Elliott Hall

Abstract
Findings from the first midlife follow-up of 1,650 participants from the Study of Mathematically Precocious Youth’s (SMPY’s) two oldest cohorts will be presented. During 1972-1974 and 1976-1978, participants were identified at age 12 as in the top 1% in mathematical reasoning ability. They were surveyed from January 2012 to February 2013 on their accomplishments, families, and personal well-being. Particular attention will be devoted to their occupational attainments, creative accomplishments, and mate preferences, as well as how they invest their time currently and plan into the future. Sex differences in occupational preferences, personal views, and life values will be reviewed and placed in a broader theoretical context. The presentation will conclude with a discussion of participants’ satisfaction with their careers, personal relationships, and lives in general.

Abstract
Children who are exposed to social and economic adversity in the early years of life show increased susceptibility to chronic diseases of aging, like heart disease, when they reach their 50's and 60's. These findings raise a difficult mechanistic question: How does early adversity "get under the skin" in a manner that is sufficiently persistent to affect vulnerability to diseases that arise many decades later? In this lecture I will discuss findings from our ongoing research, which suggest that early adversity gets embedded in cells of the immune system at the level of the genome, resulting in a pro-inflammatory tendency that probably contributes to the chronic diseases of aging.

Abstract
Personality matters! Over the past twenty years, we have learned that our personality traits influence our lives: whether we get good grades in school, what kind of work we choose and how successful we are at it, whether we are happy and satisfied with our lives, and whether we remain healthy in old age. At the core of this exciting research is the emergence of the Big Five as a consensual taxonomy for personality traits, and the field of personality research has changed remarkably. I will review research findings that have challenged and changed my views on five fundamental issues: (1) the origin of personality traits in nurture and nature, (2) the continuity between human and animal personality, (3) the development of personality in terms of stability and change, (4) the consequences of personality traits for adaptation and life outcomes, and (5) the importance of the socio-cultural context in which personality traits are expressed.