Senior Student Profile - Hansong Zhang

Hansong Zhang grew up in China. Five years ago, he came to America to study psychology. When Hansong was in middle school in China, he was “filled with the puzzles of life.” He met with a counselor who helped him fill out pieces of those life puzzles, and this is what led to his interest in psychology. Hansong believes America is more developed in psychology than China. However, psychology in America is much more complex than he expected. It is a strict science with rigorous methodology. Hansong feels he acquired sufficient training at IU South Bend. The best part of taking psychology classes here are the professors. “They are very helpful, and they are great scientists themselves. The classes aren’t just about taking exams, but learning techniques and skills that I will be using in the future.”

Hansong has two favorite classes. The first one is P211 “Methods of Experimental Psychology,” which he found particularly helpful in developing his own research interests. In addition, he liked the P495 “Professional Practice Program Internship,” which he spent at the Boys and Girls Club, teaching youth about the risks of drugs and alcohol. Hansong is very active in the life of the department. He has been a P103 course assistant for two semesters, and is active in Psi Chi and the Psychology Club.

Hansong’s advice to students: “How you study determines your academic success. Always focus on working smart. Plan your work and work your plan. Write down the actions you will take, one by one, and set these in order of priority. Always do the most important first, without regard for which is the easiest or most preferred.” He starts each semester by putting every assignment due date for all his courses on one calendar, then works through them one by one, step by step.

After graduating this year with his BA in Psychology, Hansong will be joining the Master of Social Work program at the University of Chicago in the fall, after which he plans to pursue a Ph.D. in psychology.
Wanakee Brown received her Associates of Arts from IUSB in General Studies in 2007. She completed her Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology in 2010. She currently resides in Batavia, Ohio, which is east of Cincinnati.

Wanakee’s psychology degree has allowed her to secure a position at Sedgwick, as a Utilization Manager Claims Examiner (UMCE), in the Disability Management Department, handling psychological claims. She manages Worker’s Compensation claims that have allowed psychological diagnosis. She works with Ohio Bureau of Worker Compensation (OBWC) to medically manage, research, and document claim activity.

As a UMCE, she is a neutral participant in the claim; she works closely with all parties involved, including the employers, providers, vocational rehab sites, and the injured workers to progress toward the specific goals of the claim. She has recently been accepted to the Sedwick LEAD program, where she will be taking classes, to be trained as a leader for the company, and train new employees.

In the next five years, Wanakee plans to earn her Masters degree and work in a private practice, as a Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor (LPCC). After that, she wants to enter a doctoral program to pursue her Ph.D. in psychology. She wants to settle in Ohio, Indiana, or California and start a family. She will also be teaching and performing Modern and African style dance.

Wanakee’s success comes from hard work and setting goals. “What drives me every day is the pursuit of my goals. I am a goal oriented person and everything I do is to pursue the goals I have set for myself. I know that no one can achieve my goals for me, so, I do everything in my power to fulfill my goals. If I cannot do it on my own, I seek information, advice and expertise from others to help me achieve my goals. Once I have achieved a goal, then I set more goals. I wake up every day with the intent to do all that I can do to fulfill my goals, because I believe, that along the way, I will be able to help other people achieve their goals.”

Everyone needs a mental health break. Wanakee recharges by dancing, listening to music, and exercising. She dances with an African dance troop in Cincinnati called the Afrikan- American Drum & Dance Ensemble. She also trains at the Contemporary Dance Theater where they focus on Modern, Hip Hop, Middle Eastern, and African style dance. She loves listening to motivational music, such as Christian Rap, Gospel music and Rhythm and Blues (R&B). She exercises regularly by dancing, lifting weights and walking on the elliptical and treadmill. “Exercising releases the tension and stress that builds during the day to helps to prepare me for the days to come.”

Wanakee’s advice to current students: “I would advise people who are completing their undergraduate degree to never give up on themselves. Believe and be true to yourself, at all times, no matter the situation. If they do not believe in themselves, no one will do it for them. I advise them to not let anyone make their decisions for them. They have to endure the consequences of their own decisions, so be sure that the decisions made, represent and support them as an individual. At the end of the day, when it is all said and done, they will have to live with the decisions they made. I advise them to always be aware of what is needed to maintain their individuality and do it.”

ADVANCED LAB FOR FALL 2013

We are offering one lab in the fall, a combined section of P420 Advanced Lab in Community Psychology and P471 Lab in Developmental and Social Psychology. If you plan on taking the lab in the fall, you need to fill out the authorization form (available in the psychology office, DW 2119) and meet with Dr. Dé Bryant (dbryant@iusb.edu) to be authorized into the class. She will let you know how to best prepare for the class so you are ready to go on the first day. Pre-requisites: P211, P354, P403, and one of the following: P216 Lifespan Development, P316 Psychology of Childhood and Adolescence, P331 Psychology of Aging, P320 Social Psychology, or P434 Community Psychology.
In the spring 2013 semester, IU South Bend joined 13 other universities across the nation focused on preparing the next generation of informed, engaged citizens for our democracy. Dr. Dé Bryant attended the Global Challenges Institute in Washington DC, a session designed to develop a framework and a variety of resources to examine critical global issues that will shape the world in 2050.

The study of global issues is more critical than ever now that we have truly become a global village. The decisions that we make in the next few years, whether those decisions are made in Beijing, Brussels, Brazil or Buffalo, will determine the collective future of this village. Together we are confronted with many pressing and often competing global challenges that demand thoughtful responses and solutions.

The two courses, B399: Spirituality and Social Justice and P434: Community Psychology, explore seven key issue areas: population, resources, technology, information, economic integration, security, and governance. The courses unpack each of these areas of revolutionary change and ask students to consider the peril and promise inherent in each.

Students will gain the knowledge, skills and attitudes to be engaged, responsible and effective members of a globally interdependent society. Most importantly, students will think deeply about their world and its future.

As the chart below shows, faculty using the Global Challenges curriculum come from different disciplines and teach in universities across the country. This makes the initiative exciting and full of possibilities for podcasts, webinars, and joint class sessions using video technology such as Skype.

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<td>Indiana University South Bend, IN California State University-Fresno, CA</td>
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<td>Political Science</td>
<td>Fort Hays State University, KS Georgia College, Milledgeville, GA</td>
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<td>Fine Arts</td>
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<td>University of Minnesota -Duluth</td>
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<td>Business &amp; Economics</td>
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<td>Southeast Missouri State University, Cape Girardeau, MO</td>
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<td>Communication</td>
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<td>International Relations</td>
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<td>Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff, AZ</td>
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<td>Social Work</td>
<td>University of Minnesota -Duluth</td>
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<td>Interdisciplinary Studies</td>
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Erin Ward-Ciesielski (Psychology BA, 2006) had a paper accepted for publication in the professional journal *Suicide and Life-Threatening Behavior*, the leading journal in the field. The article is:


Erin is a graduate student currently in the doctoral program at the University of Washington in Seattle in the laboratory of Dr. Marsha Linehan. Erin also has a chapter based on her honor’s thesis at IU South Bend in press as well. She also won the student research award from the American Association of Suicidology in 2012.

Mitch Kajzer (Psychology BA, 2012) is currently a student in the Psychology Ph.D. program at the University of Notre Dame. He, along with collaborators Chuck Crowell and the St. Joseph County Police Department, were recently announced as winners of a highly competitive Rodney F. Ganey Collaborative Community-Based Research Grant. He will be presenting his research on models to identify sex offenders from chat room transcripts at the Association for Psychological Science conference in May and the American Psychological Association conference in July.

Ashley Hilliker (Psychology BA, 2012), Michelle Anastasio (Psychology BA, 2012), Andrea Jones (Psychology BA, 2011) along with current student Sarah Ratkiewicz and professors Matthew Costello and Daniel DeBrule presented “Narrating wisdom: Exploring the link between generalized slowing and wisdom in aging” at the Gerontological Society of America conference in November.

Ashley Hilliker (Psychology BA, 2012) was accepted into the Psy.D. program at the California School of Forensic Studies.

Thinking about Graduate School?

Many graduate programs in psychology and related fields require applicants to take the GRE (Graduate Record Exam) as part of the admissions process. The exam is similar to the SAT, and consists of verbal, math, and analytical writing tests. Your score on this exam is one of the first pieces of information schools will look at in your application, so it is important to prepare for the exam well in advance. Here are some resources to help you prepare:

- [www.psychgrad.org](http://www.psychgrad.org) Lots of helpful advice about applying to graduate school, including links to help you with the GRE
- [www.number2.com](http://www.number2.com) FREE GRE test preparation program
- [https://www.iusb.edu/math-sci/tutoring.php](http://https://www.iusb.edu/math-sci/tutoring.php) FREE math tutoring available on campus
- [www.freerice.com](http://www.freerice.com) Build your vocabulary and feed hungry children at the same time

**Thanks for the Donations!**

Thanks to all the alumni and friends of the Psychology Department who contributed to our IU Foundation account in the past year. Your contributions benefit our department by allowing us to offer prizes for our student awards like the James R. Haines Research Award, the award for Excellence in Psychology, and our Outstanding Service Award. The foundation account also provides funding for guest speakers and support for students traveling to conferences. If you would like to contribute to the Psychology Department IU Foundation account, just go to [https://www.iusb.edu/psych/index.php](https://www.iusb.edu/psych/index.php) and click on the GIVE NOW button. Thank you for your support!
Faculty News and Notes

Catherine Borshuk presented a paper at the Lilly Conference on College & University Teaching in Pomona, CA in March “Creating the Feminist Classroom in the 21st Century: Why it Still Matters.”

Carolyn Schult will lead a roundtable on “Best Practices for Mentoring Teaching” at the Developmental Science Teaching Institute in Seattle in April.

Matthew Costello will present his research “Age-Related Differences in Distance Perception During Remote Tool-use” at the Vision Sciences Society Conference.


Daniel DeBrule will present a paper “Narrative Exposure Writing Curtailed to Target Grief, Anxiety, & Depression for Suicide” at the American Association for Suicidology meeting in April.

Student News

Cheryl Lee and Jordan Murphy will attend the Master of Social Work program at IU South Bend.

Amber Hilton will attend Valdosta State University in Georgia for the Master of Arts program in Marriage and Family Therapy.

Hansong Zhang will attend the Master of Social Work program at the University of Chicago. He was also selected to carry the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences’ banner at commencement — quite an honor!

Justin McCammon will present a paper based on his advanced lab project at the annual Association for Suicidology meeting in April. Rating Non-Verbal Behavior as an Indication of Emotional Distress and Suicidal Thinking. He is also co-author on another paper with Dr. Daniel DeBrule.

Gladine Simplice is studying abroad at the University of Bath, England, and Kristina Martinez is studying abroad in Toulon, France this semester. Ooh la la!

Fall 2012 Advanced Lab in Developmental and Social Psychology—Dr. Catherine Borshuk

Jessica LaFree, Maria Stuart, Patricia Schumacher, Zikeia, Vaenuku, Jesus Serrano, Rachel Robb, Celia Islas, Rachel Robb, Kristina Martinez, Patricia Chesher, Dr. Borshuk.
Graduates

May 2012
Michelle Anastasio
Erin Brumback
Joseph Ciuffetelli
Seth Curtis
Katherine Good
Katie Grenier
Angela Gutara
Grant Hageman
Emily Hall
Ashley Hilliker
Alicia Horvath
Mitchell Kajzer
Brooke Marshall
Valerie Ratner
Jelena Skaro
Misty Williams
Matthew Orta

August 2012
Lindsey Marie Bennett
Gabriela Coria
Ryan James Foster
Guadalupe Garcielazo
Donald Michael Jellison
Tamara Fay Payton

December 2012
Jason Fouts
Celia Islas
Jessica LaFree
Michelle Marosz
Sarah Mertes
Rachel Robb
Angie Schumacher
Maria Stuart
Zikeia Vaenuku

Academic Advising

The IU South Bend Psychology Department requires that all students (majors, minors, associate degree students) be advised at least once each year by a faculty advisor in psychology. If you don’t know who your advisor is, contact the Psychology Department Secretary either in person in room DW2119, by email calmague@iusb.edu, or by phone 574-520-4393.

Dean’s List

May 2012

Cassy Althaus
Michelle Anastasio
Patricia Anderson
Elaine Bader

Delainey Barkes
Lindsey Bennett
Austin Blue
Michelle Bonds

Laura Brown
Stephanie Burkus
Patricia Chesser
Amy Clark

Michelle Clark
Tina Cooley
Seth Curtis
Wendy Davis

James DeWitt
Bethany Dobson
Amanda Dorman
Aleisha duensing

Keilah Ehrman
Amber Eslinger
Alejandra Figueroa
Ana Frausto

Mildred Ftergiotis
Katherine Good
Sarah Graham
Juliana Gustafson

Grant Hageman
Ashley Heatherly
Norma Hernandez
Ashley Hilliker

Zachary Hoffer
Angel Howard
Michell Howell
Renee Janiak

Donald Jellison
Jean Johnson
Mitchell Kajzer
Coulter Kane

Erin Kelly
Karley LaDow
Jessica LaFree
Cheryl Lee

Elyse Lefebvre
Cristina Lynn
Geoff Marcum
Courtney Matheny

Justin McCammon
Rachel Mendez
Ashley Michalski
Amanda Miller

Jordan Milligan
Kaitlyn Moniot
Sarah Myers
Nancy Nuss

Klaudia Olszowka
Kristy Patterson
Susan Ponce
Sarah Ratkiewicz

Elizabeth Raub
Krista Ream
Daniel Reed
Jenna Schnell

Chris Seminario
Jesus Serrano
Naomi Shelby
Kristen Springer

Cheri Stalcup
Angela Stauffer
Kayla Straub
Sarah Suen

Stephanie Swartzendruber
Kayla Sweet
Christina Tapia
Michele Truyaert

Zikeia Vaenuku
Patti Vance
Jessica Van Dyke
Autumn Vann

Robert Wedel
Misty Williams
Sarah Woods
Lynsee Yacks

Ryan Peachey
Amber Hilton
### Dean’s List - December 2012

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<th>Name</th>
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<td>Cassy Althaus</td>
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<td>Sarah Woods</td>
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### 2012 Award Winners

**Award for Excellence in Psychology**
Ashley Hilliker, Mitchell Kajzer, & Melissa Lentine

**Award for Outstanding Service in Psychology**
Ashley Hilliker