Congratulations to our Graduates!

Congratulations to this year’s graduates! We had a great time celebrating everyone at the program graduation reception on May 17th, and thank you to everyone who joined us. We know there are great things ahead for all of you. We’ll miss you all and we look forward to hearing about your future successes!

We'd also like to congratulate Mary Mcketta and Sarah Queller, the recipients of the Academic Excellence in Forensic Psychology Award. The award recognizes students with outstanding academic achievement in their degree coursework and on the comprehensive exam.

Get to Know Professor Matt Bruce!

As the new academic year starts, we thought we’d help everyone get to know each other! Below is an interview with Dr. Matt Bruce, who has been a full-time professor with our program since 2016. Dr. Bruce will be teaching Consultation and Testimony, Research and Statistics, and Forensic Psychological Assessment this fall semester.

What was your first job?
My first job was at an ice cream factory and I specialized in ice cream sundaes. I rose to the top of the conveyor belt and was in charge of making sure all ingredients were present and placed in the correct order.

Why did you decide to enter your field?
When I was doing my doctoral training, I had to do rotations in different clinical specialties. When I got to the forensic specialty, I found it by far the most fascinating and exciting. I have always found the dark side of human nature infinitely interesting and rewarding to work with.

What's something that has surprised you about your chosen career path?
I guess what surprised me was learning that the most violent members of our society are actually the most vulnerable and fearful. That discovery really helped my ability to work and engage with violent offenders in a far more meaningful and rewarding way.

What job would you be terrible at?
Probably accounting or bookkeeping because I wouldn’t be able to concentrate on abstract numbers for any long period of time. Even that answer is boring, isn’t it? To be honest, I was also terrible at working in the ice cream factory. I would be removed from the conveyor belt to ice cream lids (a notorious demotion in the factory) because I was too interested in the lives of the other people working the conveyor belt.