PAGSIP NEWSLETTER

PAGSIPPERS GO TO INDUSTRY

Strange, isn't it, how many familiar faces are missing at the first regression session of each new year? Don't be alarmed - the possessors of said faces have not necessarily taken the pledge - they may be - ugh - working.

Al Fisher who received his PhD last June has accepted a position as Research Assistant for the Nationwide Insurance Co. in Columbus, Ohio. Al's duties are in the area of Advertising research and personnel psychology. The former concerns mainly assessing consumer awareness of insurance companies and the relationship of this to preference and ownership indexes. In the personnel line he is involved with some criterion work assessing the effects of variables such as tenure on sales. For pleasure, Al reports working with a well-constructed model in simulating the effects of different policies on the company. Unfortunately, he's a mathematical model.

(Editor's note: Al Fisher is still single). (Continued on page 2)

"WELCOME HOME"

Professor Joseph Tiffin returned to Purdue University to take up his duties in QFC on January 1, 1964. For the last six months he has been on leave of absence in Palo Alto. During this time he has worked on the revision of the text Industrial Psychology, published by Prentice-Hall, Inc., which he co-authored with Professor Ernest J. McCormick. We understand that Professor Tiffin also found time to visit Hawaii, Florida, and the Caribbean during his leave. All PAGSIP joins in heartily welcoming Professor Tiffin home.

KING NAMED ASSISTANT TO DEAN OF GRAD SCHOOL

Effective September 1, 1963, Professor Donald C. King was appointed to the position of Assistant to the Dean of the Graduate School. The appointment was for three years and will expire September 1, 1966. Among psychology faculty which have been chosen for this position in the past, Professor King follows Dean J. C. H. Lawshe who held the same position about ten years ago. Lawshe is currently Dean of Purdue University Extension.

The duties of the Assistant Dean of the Graduate School include, first, acting as chairman of the social science area committee of the Graduate Council. This committee is charged with advising the Graduate Council regarding new course proposals in the schools of Humanities, Social Science, and Education; Industrial Administration; and Home Economics.

Assistant Dean King will chair the committee which is responsible for administering National Science Foundation fellowships on the campus. Chairing a similar committee which has prepared recommended changes in university requirements for the PhD, will also be a part of his new responsibilities. However, Professor King will continue to be associated with QFC as well as with the Graduate School.
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Dr. William C. Byham is now with Kenyon and Eckhardt, Inc., in New York City. Bill is using his psychology background to good advantage in performing both administrative and personnel functions. Bill, by the way, also finds time to take an active part in the civic affairs of his adopted City, and of the nation. He’s currently acting as Associate Research Director of the National Society for the Prevention of Juvenile Delinquency.

Dick Holland, a recent prelim-pass, is doing human factors work for the Land Locomotion Laboratory of the U.S. Army Tank Automotive Center located in Warren, Michigan. Dick and his colleagues are using simulation techniques in attempting to scale the psychological roughness of different types of random vibrations. If they succeed, design engineers will be better able to predict the roughness of a vehicle ride before the vehicle leaves the drawing board stage.

Many PAGSIPPERS will be glad to know that Guy Frazier has finally submitted a draft of his thesis. After all these years, Guy!

Dan Glaser, a ’62 Alum, is employed by Eli Lilly in Indianapolis. Dan is working in the training section of the company, under the guidance of Dr. Ruben Shevitz.

Former PAGSIPPER, Dr. Gerald Rabideau, Chief, Human Factors Analysis, Apollo Life Systems, Space and Information Systems Division, North American Aviation, has been appointed Editor of the Human Factors Society Bulletin, effective January 1, 1964.

PAGSIP PICNIC

In spite of the drought, it was a “wet” day at the Hills on that “perfect day in October” when PAGSIP held another delightfully successful picnic. The major athletic-event of the afternoon was a sound stomping of the “old grads” by the “new grads” in the traditional football game. (Just wait till they’ve been here a few years!) After the game, the married couples gained their sustenance from hamburgers as single PAGSIPPERS and their dates devoured thick, succulent steaks. This practice also seems to be fast becoming a tradition at PAGSIP picnics.

Many thanks from all of us go to the co-chairmen: Mike Rosenfeld and Paul Leitch, and to the committee: Bob Means, Food, and Joe Zuro, beverages.

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

Professor Karl Weick will work with Professor Donald King this year in teaching a course in organizational behavior. This course, listed as psychology 651-652, has become a requirement for the Master of Science degree in Industrial Management.

Mrs. Evelyn Perloff, Ph.D., began teaching a course in industrial training, psychology 574, as of September 1963. Her new duties will include teaching one half time. The remainder of her time will be spent as advisor to the undergraduate psychology majors. For the enlightenment of new PAGSIPPERS, Mrs. Evelyn Perloff is Professor Robert Perloff’s wife.

Professor Robert Perloff’s current “extra-curricular endeavors” include editorship of “Industrial Psychologist,” the newsletter for Division 14 of the A.P.A. He has recently accepted the post of field reader and evaluator of contract proposals for the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, under the small contracts program.

Professor E. J. Asher reported the following new additions to the psychology staff for the fall of 1963: Professor Howard Ranken, Ph.D., in experimental, Professor Robert Toal, Ph.D., in clinical, and Professor Floyd Irvin, Ph.D., in counseling. Visiting Professor George Karas, Ph.D., in experimental, has been taking the place of Professor Victor Denenberg while he has been on leave of absence at the University of Cambridge, London. Also, Professor Charles Smock is at Piaget Institute in Geneva, Switzerland.

With the retirement of Professor H. H. Rammer in July of 1963, the Division of Educational Reference was abolished. The counseling and testing functions of this Division were transferred to the Psychology Clinic in the Education Building. The testing, institutional research, and opinion polling are conducted at the Measurement and Research Center, located in Agricultural Hall Annex, under Dr. J. A. Weibrodt, Director, and Dr. A. R. Starry, Assistant-Director.
Research Definitions

In order to facilitate professional communication among those of us PAGSIPPERS who can read, the Editors of the PAGSIP Newsletter are propounding the following research definitions with the hope that the research presented in the next edition will be understandable to at least the esoteric few who read this newsletter regularly:

IT HAS LONG BEEN KNOWN - I haven't bothered to look up the original reference.
OF GREAT THEORETICAL AND PRACTICAL IMPORTANCE - Interesting to me.
WHILE IT HAS NOT BEEN POSSIBLE TO PROVIDE DEFINITE ANSWERS TO THESE QUESTIONS - The experiments didn't work out, but I figured I could get publicity out of it.
THREE OF THE SAMPLES WERE CHOSEN FOR DETAILED STUDY - The results of the others didn't make sense and were ignored.
TYPICAL RESULTS ARE SHOWN - The best results are shown.
PREASSUMEDLY AT LONGER TIMES - I didn't take the time to find out.

THESE RESULTS WILL BE REPORTED AT A LATER DATE - I might get around to this sometime.

THE MOST RELIABLE VALUES ARE THOSE OF JONES - He was a student of mine.

IT IS BELIEVED THAT - I think.

IT IS GENERALLY BELIEVED THAT - A couple of other guys think so too.

IT MIGHT BE ARGUED THAT - I have such a good answer for this objection that I shall now raise it.

IT IS CLEAR THAT MUCH ADDITIONAL WORK WILL BE REQUIRED BEFORE A COMPLETE UNDERSTANDING - I don't understand it.

CORRECT WITHIN AN ORDER OF MAGNITUDE - Wrong.

IT IS TO BE HOPEFUL THAT THIS WORK WILL STIMULATE FURTHER WORK IN THE FIELD - This paper is not very good, but neither are any of the others on this miserable subject.

THANKS ARE DUE TO WILLIAM OWENS FOR ASSISTANCE WITH THE EXPERIMENT AND TO B. J. WINER FOR VALUABLE DISCUSSIONS - Owens did the work and Winer explained to me what it meant!

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