

MSCA members of the Student Evaluation Task Force

Dr. Laura Ramsey, Psychology, Bridgewater State University:

From Bridgewater State University website: Dr. Ramsey teaches a variety of courses, including Introductory Psychology, Orientation to the Psychology Major, Research Methods, Social Psychology, and the Psychology of Women and Gender. Her research has focused on three primary areas: 1) stereotyping & prejudice, 2) objectification, and 3) the underrepresentation of women in math & science fields. For example, she has published papers examining implicit (unconscious) versus explicit (conscious) stereotypes, the consequences of objectification for romantic relationships, and how women who increasingly endorse the women-are-bad-at-math stereotype over the course of a semester perform worse in their math class. She particularly enjoys collaborating with students on research projects.

Dr. Amy Wehe, Mathematics, Fitchburg State University:

Amy Wehe is a mathematics professor at Fitchburg State University. She regularly teaches Informal Geometry, a course focused on patterns and symmetry designed for future elementary teachers, Probability and Statistics I and II, a sequence of upper level courses on probability and probability distributions, and History of Mathematics, a course with a calculus prerequisite that takes students through the story of the development of mathematics in the world throughout the ages. She has done research in combinatorial matrix theory and spectral graph theory. In recent years, she has collaborated with a biologist working on computing the distance between gene strings using a modified version of the Levenshtein distance.

Dr. Sharon Claffey, Psychology, Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts:

From MCLA website: Dr. Claffey's research focuses on social support among couples. Specifically, she examines the division of household labor, perceived fairness, and distress. Dr. Claffey's work has been published in *Sex Roles*, a peer-reviewed journal. Her work has also been published as a chapter in two books: *Gender Identity, Psychology, and Lifestyle* and *Focus on Lifestyle and Health Research*.

Dr. Claffey has also conducted research in academic settings. She examined a team based learning approach (similar to a flipped classroom) in her classes to determine how it compares to traditional classroom experiences for students' grades and classroom satisfaction. Current research is focusing on academic motivation and achievement for different kinds of students.

Dr. Emily Soltano, Psychology, Worcester State University:

From Worcester State University website: Dr. Soltano's research examines the influence of linguistic information (e.g., sound, spelling) on spoken word comprehension. Specifically, she examines whether response times to auditorily presented words in isolation are facilitated or inhibited depending on whether an immediately preceding word contains similar (black-blast) or different (black-nurse) sounds. She is also interested in examining the influence of similar linguistic information when words are embedded in a sentence. More recent research projects examined the above topics to more applied situations, for example how we understand sarcastic comments and how we process online communications.