

the $f(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \exp[-(x-\mu)'\Sigma^{-1}(x-\mu)/2]$ EQUATION

THE WRIGHT STATE UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS NEWSLETTER

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WINTER 2005

EXCELLENCE
FROM
WITHIN



You do not really understand something unless you can explain it to your grandmother.

—Albert Einstein

Tamera Schneider, Assistant Professor in the Department of Psychology, grew up in Englewood, Ohio, and started her college career at Sinclair Community College, where her interest in psychology began. After a year at Sinclair, Tamera transferred to Wright State University, where she earned a bachelor's degree in psychology and a master's degree in applied behavioral science.

Tamera's experience in Wright State's graduate program convinced her to pursue a career in experimental psychology. Toward that end, she left Ohio to earn a doctorate in social and health psychology from the State University of New York at Stony Brook. A postdoctoral fellowship at Yale University followed completion of Tamera's Ph.D. program. But the call of home was strong. In September 2000, Tamera and her family returned to Dayton and Tamera accepted a position as Assistant Professor in the WSU College of Science and Mathematics.

At WSU, Tamera has taught courses in abnormal psychology, social psychology research methods, and health psychology. Other teaching interests include persuasion and emotions, positive psychology, and statistics. Her students think very highly of Tamera, as evidenced by her selection to receive the 2001-2002 CoSM Outstanding Teaching Award, an honor generated by student nominations.

Tamera is much more than a fine teacher. Her research interests include understanding the process of stress and the mechanisms of persuasion. She has examined the moderating effects of stress evaluations on psychological and

physiological mechanisms that link stress and health. She also studies the best ways to persuade individuals to engage in healthy behaviors, and the psychological and physiological mechanisms that foster persuasive health appeals.

WSU's President Kim Goldenberg took notice of Tamera's promise as a young faculty member, and awarded her the prestigious President's Award for Excellence in Early Career Achievement. Michele Wheatly, Dean of the College of Science and Mathematics, said, "She has played a major role in resurrecting the Psychology Club and Psi Chi, the national psychology honors program. Connectedness to the discipline is a major factor in student success, and I believe that Tamera has had a major impact in the psychology undergraduate program."

Tamera Schneider has come full circle, growing from a promising young undergraduate student to a mature and productive scientist and teacher, and the College of Science and Mathematics has contributed to and benefited from her journey. We trust Tamera's career will continue on a stellar path, bringing success and satisfaction to her, and far-reaching recognition to the university.

Steve Berberich, Associate Professor in the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, is another local success story. He earned degrees at WSU and has become a very successful researcher and educator for his alma mater. Steve attended Carroll High School and came to Wright State University, where he earned a B.S. in Biology and a Ph.D. in Biomedical Sciences. Steve credits a



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