During his term of office, the Dean had asked Professor D’Amato to work to bring the Department up to international standards. This included spearheading an update of the undergraduate BSS Psychology programme, development of a MSS programme in Clinical Psychology, and establishing a PhD programme in psychology. Although the faculty had been working on the development of the master’s programme for almost three years prior to his arrival, Professor D’Amato brought the process to conclusion and the MSS in Clinical Psychology programme had its first intake of students in the 2010-2011 academic year.

In 2009, the newly appointed Vice Rector for Academic Affairs initiated the development of General Education (GE) to be included in all undergraduate programmes at UM. Faculty members from the Department of Psychology, in particular Professor Rik Carl D’Amato, were actively involved in this development. Whereas past programmes allowed for optional electives outside of the major, the GE programme formalises this and indicates a significant growth in the offerings at UM. The Department of Psychology was subsequently selected to offer a course in the GE programme, and in years to come this will mean a significant growth for our course in health psychology. Other academic units, such as the Faculty of Business Administration, elected to substitute GE courses requiring their students to take Introduction to Psychology.

4th Student Research Symposium on 19 May 2010

The quality of the 2009/2010 first-year students seems comparable to those of previous years. Many report that psychology is one of the most popular majors, especially for students from Macao, and our students are normally some of the strongest students at the university as well as in FSH. The first-year class, at 49, is larger than the previous year’s 31. One of the greatest strengths of our BSS Psychology program is that each student completes a Senior Thesis. This is becoming increasingly difficult with our small number of faculty members to supervise the Senior Thesis. But we value research and believe each psychology student should be a scientist-practitioner. Thus, we have worked diligently to retain this practice, and hired a number of adjunct faculty members to assist with the teaching of other courses. Some students have gone on to publish their work with faculty in SSCI journals and others have submitted posters or papers to national or international conferences.
Supervisor: Professor Robert J. Taormina
Ivy, HO Kit Man, People’s Intimate Relationship Quality in Macao
Cathy, CHEANG Weng Kei, Attitude towards Marriage and Preference for Delaying Marriage in Macao
Claire, LEI Sin Man, Determinants of Body Dissatisfaction and Dieting in Macao
Sandra, U Weng San, Determinants of People’s Self-Confidence and Happiness in Macau
Kumiko, Fong Sut Cheng, Relation between Maslow’s Hierarchy of Needs and Satisfaction of Macau People’s Self-Actualization
Fanny, TOU Weng Ian, Attitude towards Retirement among Adults in Macao
Bonnie, CHONG Ka Ying, The Attitude of Interpersonal Trust towards Chinese People
Summer, AO Ieong Si Man, Superstitious Behavior
Carmen, NG Hau Man, Determinants of Political Behavior and Machiavellianism Among Employees in Macao
Jack, GAO Wei Jie, The Predictor of Work Engagement and Work Satisfaction
Kenny, CHAN Man Kan, Organizational Socialization: a function on employees’ personality, needs and leadership’s style
Duncan, TAM Sio Kin, Conflict and Conflict Handling Styles in Macao

Supervisor: Dr. Gertina J. van Schalkwyk
Henry, LAO Chan Fong, Remote Control: Utility of Blogging among Young Males in Macao
Neo, Tong Tat Seng, Experiences of Friendships among Middle-adulthood Men in Macao
Peter, CHIO Pit Hoi, Life Satisfaction of Middle-aged Men in Macao
Turner, LE Yin, Self-defining Memories and Meaning Making of Substance Abusers in a Rehabilitation Centre in Macao
Ricky, CHEONG Pui Leong, Perceptions and Experiences of Self among adolescents in Single-Parent Families in Macao
Jojo, LAM Weng Ian, An exploration of the Perceptions of Children in Single-parent Families in Macao
Nicola, WONG Pek Ieng, Experience and Relationship of Single Child

Supervisor: Dr. Cheong Shu Fai
Carrie, CHAN Ka Lei, Determinants of Job Search Self-Efficacy among Undergraduates in Macau
Claudia, NGAN Wan Lei, Sustaining attention in lectures
Eve, HO In Wan, Expanding the Theory of Planned Behavior to Predict the Intention to Quit Smoking of Macau Smokers
Grace, MAK Hio Wa, The Effect of Initial Coping on Subsequent Coping, and the Role of Neuroticism
Ivy, LEI Tip In, Intention To Drink Alcohol For Undergraduates In Macau
Lawrence, CHIM Hou Kit, *Psychological Effect of Facebook: Does Facebook Use Make Lonely People Lonelier?*

Natalie, CHAN Hio Teng, *The relationship between Social Support, Stress, Locus of Control and Gambling Behavior among Macao resident*

Ryan, CHAN Chio Weng, *Determinants of Social Justice Beliefs Among University Students in Macao*

**Supervisor: Dr. Anise Wu**

Cynthia, BUTT Si Meng, *Exploring Cross-Culture Interaction among Macao students and Mainland China Students in the Universities in Macao*

Eva, IAN I Man, *Superstitious behaviors of Chinese people*

Kito, WAN Sou Fan, *Factors Influence Chinese People to Delay Seeking Medical Check for Influenza-Like Symptoms*

Lamis, LEI Lou Man, *The determinants of electronic game addiction*

Sofina, LEI Ka Mei, *Suicidal Ideation and Attempt Among People in Macau*

Sophie, TAM Sio Wa, *Theory of Planned Behavior on Explaining Repeated Donors*

Tembe, CHONG Hiu Nam, *Adolescents and online game addiction symptoms*

Wendy, NG Un I, *Compulsive Buying in Macau: Personal Factors and Some Insights for Prevention*

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**Poster presentations**

**Supervisor: Professor Rik Carl D’Amato**

Bianca, LEI Nga Tak, *Factors Affecting Resilience in University Student in Macao*

Kenny SIO, Ka U, *Comparing the Cognitive Correlates of Gambling Involvement between Casino Workers and Non-Casino Workers*

Ricky, CHAN Lap Kei, *Factors Affecting Problematic Internet Use among the University Students in Macao*
Sandy, CHEANG Sut Ieng, Is academic motivation, academic self-efficacy, and peer support related to academic engagement with students at the University of Macau?

TANG Pak Hou, Evaluating Young Adult’s Alcohol use in Macao

SAM Ieng Kit, Investigating the morning-evening orientation in Macao and Mainland Chinese university students

Ada, CHAN Iok Teng, Gambling, Alcohol Consumption, Impulsivity and Negative Emotion among College Students in Macao

CHE Man, The Influence of Personality and Materialism on Compulsive Buying and Impulsive Buying

The undergraduate Psychology Programme has a very high retention rate. Students regularly report that Department of Psychology courses are some of the most difficult at the university. Nonetheless, all of the final year students achieved timely graduation including public presentation of a scientific poster or paper during our annual Student Symposium research day. In May 2010, the Vice Rector for Research announced an award for the three best Senior Theses and presentations at this annual event.

Although there is no external examination for graduates, the fact that a very large number of our students are accepted into extremely competitive graduate programs locally and internationally shows the quality of the students. Some have been accepted with full (up to five year) scholarships, which lead to the Ph.D. in psychology. Many of our students applied to our new M.S.S. clinical psychology program. A number of the Department’s graduates have been accepted into Master’s programmes in Hong Kong, Great Britain, Australia, and the United States.

Students believe and report that we have some of the best faculty on campus. They find most faculty members to be knowledgeable, available, caring, talented, and cooperative. Data supports this with our faculty winning teaching and research awards this past year. So too, faculty serve on the Senate and other important committees like the FSH Promotion Review Committee, the Rector’s Promotion Review Committee, and the FSH Assessment Guidelines Committee as well as on others. Faculty are also called on to help counsel students by the Office of the Rector and to help train new faculty and direct the Center for Teaching and Learning Enhancement. It is clear the Department is critical to the success of the university. DPSY faculty publish with their students and this is greatly appreciated by the students and certainly helps them get into graduate school. We are offering a General Education course next semester on a trial basis by a full-time faculty member.

We will begin our new MSS Clinical Psychology programme in September 2010. We have selected 17 students for the new programme. We also have hired a part-time Psychological Services Clinic Coordinator and appointed Dr. J. Mark Davis as our MSS Program Coordinator. Once licensed, our clinic will offer services to the community, but it will require
significant resources. This will be an important service activity for the university. This exciting program is ready to go and will help Macao and Asia meet their shortage of trained psychologists.

On the graduate studies front, we have made offers to three students who enrolled in our PhD programme also beginning in 2010. This is the first time we will have any doctoral students and this represents significant growth for the Department.

**DPSY Publications 2009-2010¹**

Full-time faculty are prolific authors, researchers, international fellows, and they achieve outstanding teaching evaluations from students.


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¹ Faculty member in bold and student name underlined


Two colleagues also received awards for their outstanding contributions to the university and the students. Dr. Shu Fai Cheung was awarded the Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities Faculty Research Award 2007-2009, while Dr. Gertina J. van Schalkwyk received the Faculty Teaching Award 2007-2009.