Cerritos College Psychology Professor's Article Accepted for Publication

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NORWALK, Calif. -- March 13, 2013 -- Dr. Kimberley Duff, professor of psychology, had her article "The effects of stereotype threat, perceived discrimination, and examiner race on neuropsychological performance: Simple as black and white?" accepted for publication.

The article will appear in the summer issue of Journal of International Neuroscience. The article looks at the impact of participant ethnicity and examiner ethnicity and how that impacted performance on neuropsychological tests.

Former Cerritos College student Dr. April Thames, who is now on faculty at UCLA conducted the study with Dr. Duff in 2011. Dr. Thames is a neuropsychologist and assistant professor in the Department of Psychiatry at UCLA. She studies issues related to assessment among culturally diverse groups.

Findings from this study shed light on some of the non-cognitive factors that can influence cognitive performance, according to Dr. Thames. "This has important implications for clinical care as neuropsychologist rely heavily on assessments to diagnose cognitive disorders," she said.

The concept of stereotype threat has many practical applications; however, it had not been explored in a clinical or neuropsychological setting. "This was a perfect example of the collaboration of two researchers with expertise in different but convergent areas," said Dr. Duff.

About Cerritos College: Cerritos College serves as a comprehensive community college for southeastern Los Angeles County. Communities within the college’s district include Artesia, Bellflower, Cerritos, Downey, Hawaiian Gardens, La Mirada, Norwalk, and portions of Bell Gardens, Lakewood, Long Beach, Santa Fe Springs and South Gate. Cerritos College offers degrees and certificates in more than 180 areas of study in nine divisions. Annually, more than 1,200 students successfully complete their course of studies, and enrollment currently averages 23,000 students. Visit Cerritos College online at http://www.cerritos.edu/.

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