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**To:  Graduate School and Research Assistant Applicants for 2015/16**

**From: Dustin Thoman**

Dear Applicant:

Thank you for your interest in my lab. I hope that this document will answer many of your questions. After you read it, I’ll be happy to answer additional questions. You can email me at dustin.thoman@csulb.edu.

I am currently participating in the Master’s programs in psychological research at California State University, Long Beach. However, I recently decided to join the Department of Psychology at San Diego State University, starting in January 2016. This document provides information about programs at both universities, as I assume that some of you may have contacted me because they’re interested in CSULB in general, others because they’re interested specifically in my lab. If you want to work with me starting spring 2016, the place to do so is SDSU.

**California State University, Long Beach**

The [Master’s in Psychological Research (MAPR) program](http://www.cla.csulb.edu/departments/psychology/ma-research/) at CSULB is a fantastic master’s program with a long history of successfully training students to enter doctoral programs or pursue careers in psychological research. Current graduate mentors with social psychology expertise or overlapping research interests with mine include Dr. Bill Pederson, Dr. Gino Galvez, and Dr. May Ling Halim. If you have questions that the web site does not answer, please contact the graduate coordinaor, Diane Roe(diane.roe@csulb.edu). She will be happy to answer your questions.

**San Diego State University**

The [MA Program in Psychology at SDSU](http://www.psychology.sdsu.edu/graduate/current-ma-students/ma-program-info/) is a research-oriented graduate program with a highly successful tradition of preparing students for doctoral programs. Within the MA program, SDSU provides an opportunity to focus on Social/Personality psychology by working within a thriving social area community of faculty scholars and students. I will also be affiliated with the SDSU [Center for Research in Mathematics and Science Education](https://newscenter.sdsu.edu/education/crmse/) and will mentor doctoral students through the joint [Mathematics and Science Education (MSED) program](https://newscenter.sdsu.edu/education/crmse/msed_intro.aspx).

**Motivation and Social Identity Lab**

The focus and work of the Motivation and Social identity lab will remain constant during my transition to SDSU. All of the information provided on my [lab website](http://www.motivationandsocialidentity.com) regarding our work, funding, and interests has been recently updated. New collaborations with faculty in the social area of the psychology department and with CRMSE will expand the opportunities for our work and capacity for training.

I’m looking forward to new and exciting developments and hope you will consider joining us in this endeavor.