

Developments

A Newsletter of the Developmental Psychology Area

Spring
2012

Message from the Chair

BY VONNIE C. MCLOYD

Dear Colleagues:

Brenda Volling, previous Chair of the Developmental Area, assumed the Directorship of the University's Center for Human Growth and Development in July 2011. To ease my transition, Brenda graciously maintained a high level of involvement in the leadership of the Area throughout the summer. I am enormously grateful for her support and charitable spirit. As her successor, I have renewed appreciation for numerous assets that the Developmental Area enjoys—among them, effective faculty-student committees, a venerable and recently-renewed NICH D training grant, and an excellent interdisciplinary training environment.

There are many developments to report. Several students defended their dissertations this past year and have accepted fellowships or academic positions: Ashley Evans (post-doctoral fellowship, Washington University), Daniel Choe (post-doctoral fellowship, University of Pittsburgh), Jonathan Lane (NRSA post-doctoral fellowship, Harvard Graduate School of Education), Rika Meyer (research coordinator, UCLA), and Kristin Wong (faculty, California State University-Northridge). Some are nearing graduation and have already landed positions: Lindsay Bowman (post-doctoral fellowship, University of Maryland), Julie Maslowsky (post-doctoral internship, University of Wisconsin). Both of our post-doctoral fellows supported by the Developmental training grant recently accepted tenure-track academic positions: Adriana Manago (Western Washington University), Heather Priess (Simpson College). We congratulate their accomplishments and wish them the best in these new endeavors.

We are delighted to welcome our newest addition to the Developmental area faculty, Dr. Rona Carter, who studies adolescent girls' pubertal development and patterns of adjustment.



It is with considerable pride that we inaugurated the Hagen-Stevenson Dissertation Award, established to facilitate excellent research in basic processes of development, especially research that has real-world implications. Our first awardee is Jillian Wiggins, whose dissertation investigates the brain and genetic mechanisms that underlie socioemotional impairments in autism spectrum disorders.

We eagerly await the retirement festivities honoring Arnold Sameroff, our esteemed colleague who retired in June 2011. The May festivities, which include a celebratory dinner and a symposium that highlights Arnold's seminal work, promise to be stimulating, memorable, and fun—punctuated by Arnold's famous wit!

The cohort of students entering the Developmental program in September is outstanding! It consists of four exceptionally accomplished students—Soraya Giaccardi (University of Texas-Austin), Hannah Giasson (Bates College), Maria Rosanne Jocson (University of the Philippines), and Steven Roberts (New York University).

Finally, we acknowledge with much appreciation the cheerful efficiency and dedication of our administrative assistants, Dianne Shute and Linda Anderson.

As Winter Semester comes to an end, we look forward to the beauty and warmth of spring and the slower pace of summer in Ann Arbor. I hope that the Newsletter piques your interest and strengthens your connection with Michigan and the Developmental Area. Until next time...

Wishing you the best,

Inside This Issue

- Get to know our new students, postdocs, and faculty
- Professional and personal milestones
- Learn about the Hagen-Stevenson Dissertation Award
- Read about Arnold Sameroff's life and career
- Research focus on fNIRS

Newsletter Committee

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Welcome New Students!

COLLECTED BY JILLIAN WIGGINS



Maria Arredondo

Prior Institution: University of Houston

What were you doing before coming to Michigan? I was a research assistant at the Cognitive Development Lab at the University of Houston and at the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center

Current Advisors: Ioulia Kovelman

Research Interests: Social-cognitive and neuroscience approaches to reading, literacy development, and academic achievement

Favorite thing about Michigan so far? The small town feel of Ann Arbor

If you weren't in developmental psychology, what would you be doing instead? I would probably be a grade school teacher, open a pastry shop, or go to grad school for History or Sociology

What are some of your hobbies or recreational interests? Painting, baking, watching comedies and documentaries, traveling, studying history

If you could go anywhere in the world, where would you go? Back home to Argentina or Texas



Tissyana Camacho

Prior Institution: California State University, Northridge

What were you doing before coming to Michigan? Undergraduate Studies

Current Advisors: Rosie Ceballo

Research Interests: The development of ethnic identity and its role in psychological and academic well-being in Latino adolescents and young adults.

Favorite thing about Michigan so far? The walking distance of everything in Downtown Ann Arbor

If you weren't in developmental psychology, what would you be doing instead? I would probably be continuing my work at a drug rehabilitation center in Malibu, CA, and volunteering for local nonprofits in Los Angeles

What are some of your hobbies or recreational interests? Playing volleyball, training in capoeira, and watching movies

If you could go anywhere in the world, where would you go? Bora Bora!



Elise Hernandez

Prior Institution: University of Central Florida

What were you doing before coming to Michigan? Finishing up my undergraduate degree in Psychology and Aging Studies

Current Advisors: Jacqui Smith and Toni Antonucci

Research Interests: Social support, caregiving, and well-being among older adults, particularly in ethnic/racial minorities and LGBT groups.

Favorite thing about Michigan so far? Midwestern hospitality

If you weren't in developmental psychology, what would you be doing instead? I would probably be working in an older folks nursing home, senior center, assisted living facility, or other such establishment in California or Chicago.

What are some of your hobbies or recreational interests? I enjoy playing basketball, watching sports, and reading poetry

If you could go anywhere in the world, where would you go? Ziplining in Costa Rica



Patty Kuo

Prior Institution: University of North Carolina- Chapel Hill

What were you doing before coming to Michigan? I was a full time undergraduate student. I completed an honors thesis on the neural and hormonal correlates of paternal behavior in fathers with young infants.

Current Advisors: Brenda Volling

Research Interests: I am interested in how the relationship between parents affects parent-child dyad; hormones, fMRI, and parenting.

Favorite thing about Michigan so far? Ann Arbor's food. Ann Arbor has a lot of great "fancy foodie" food and ethnic food!

If you weren't in developmental psychology, what would you be doing instead? Hard to say since most of my alternative "careers" are totally outlandish (i.e. indie rock singer, actress), but prior to switching my major to psychology, I was an advertising/journalism major, so perhaps a journalist?

What are some of your hobbies or recreational interests? Ashtanga yoga, playing guitar, karaoke

If you could go anywhere in the world, where would you go? Dubai



Meghan Martz

Prior Institution: Undergraduate: Indiana University; Masters: University of Chicago

What were you doing before coming to Michigan? Working as a Project Director for an ADHD study and an fMRI study of children with conduct problems at University of Chicago's Department of Health Studies

Current Advisors: John Schulenberg

Research Interests: Adolescent health risk behavior and health promotion; Neurodevelopment; Transition to adulthood

Favorite thing about Michigan so far? Fall colors and football

If you weren't in developmental psychology, what would you be doing instead? I would have probably been a veterinarian

What are some of your hobbies or recreational interests? Playing and watching sports; horseback riding; playing with my 2 cats, Nuzzie and Fuzzie; cooking and food; drawing and painting; spending time with my husband and friends; traveling

If you could go anywhere in the world, where would you go? Australia, Italy, or Spain

April 2012 Trivia Night!



Above: Matt Kim, Pam Davis Kean, Tissyana Camacho, Jillian Wiggins, and Andrew Wiggins

Below: Sarah Trinh, Dan Keating, Meghan Martz, Johnna Swartz, Fred Morrison



Left: Eva Diniz, Monica Foust, Toni Antonucci, Chris Monk, Daniel Choe, Adrian Gale, Francisco Velasquez, and John Hagen

Welcome New Students...Continued



Sojung Park

Prior Institution: Sociology department at University of Michigan. Before that, I did my undergraduate studies at Hanguk University of Foreign Studies in Korea, and Graduate studies in the U.S. at University of Chicago

What were you doing before coming to Michigan? Working for the Korean Government

Current Advisors: Jacqui Smith and Toni Antonucci

Research Interests: Well-being of older adults

Favorite thing about Michigan so far? I think I love everything here including the heavy snow

If you weren't in developmental psychology, what would you be doing instead? Trying to think psychologically and imagining what it would be like if I got the right training.

What are some of your hobbies or recreational interests? Sleeping

If you could go anywhere in the world, where would you go? Hawaii



Preeti Samudra

Prior Institution: University of Michigan Ann Arbor

What were you doing before coming to Michigan? Working as a research technician in the Department of Psychiatry Substance Abuse Section at the University of Michigan on a longitudinal fMRI study of children at risk for alcoholism

Current Advisors: Kevin Miller

Research Interests: The intersection of developmental and educational perspectives on language and literacy

Favorite thing about Michigan so far? It's been a surprisingly mild winter this year

If you weren't in developmental psychology, what would you be doing instead? I would be studying Communication Studies or English

What are some of your hobbies or recreational interests? Reading, Writing, Hiking, Sleeping, Occasionally rock-climbing or ice-skating

If you could go anywhere in the world, where would you go? New Zealand or Greece



Francisco Velasquez

Prior Institution: San Diego State University

What were you doing before coming to Michigan? Undergraduate studies in Psychology

Current Advisors: Christopher Monk

Research Interests: Brain Development and Developmental Disorders using imaging

Favorite thing about Michigan so far? The people here are great.

If you weren't in developmental psychology, what would you be doing instead? Maybe graphic design, but although it interests me, I've focused on Psychology for too long to be any good at it now

What are some of your hobbies or recreational interests? Listening to music, Watching movies, Watching and playing sports (if possible), eating good food

If you could go anywhere in the world, where would you go? Greece, Fiji, Brazil, France



Abigail Williams

Prior Institution: University of Illinois – Urbana Champaign

What were you doing before coming to Michigan? I worked as a research assistant at the University of Illinois in the Models for Change project focusing on juvenile justice system reform

Current Advisors: Pamela Davis-Kean (Psychology), Joseph P. Ryan (Social Work)

Research Interests: Adolescence and the transition to adulthood, System reform for the child welfare, juvenile justice, and mental health systems

Favorite thing about Michigan so far? All the trees, lakes, and rivers. Makes me feel like camping every time I go outside

If you weren't in developmental psychology, what would you be doing instead? I would be an interior designer because I love accessorizing new spaces.

What are some of your hobbies or recreational interests? Reading, watching movies, traveling to far and exotic lands

If you could go anywhere in the world, where would you go? Australia



Irene Wu

Prior Institution: New York University

What were you doing before coming to Michigan? Working at a child development lab (Center for Research on Culture, Development, and Education) at NYU. Getting my M.A. in Applied Psychology at NYU

Current Advisors: Pamela Davis-Kean

Research Interests: Broadly speaking, I'm interested in parenting and the home environment and how that affects child development

Favorite thing about Michigan so far? Fellow psychology students

If you weren't in developmental psychology, what would you be doing instead? Still working at the lab at NYU and applying for a doctoral program

What are some of your hobbies or recreational interests? Listening to music, watching movies

If you could go anywhere in the world, where would you go? The Maldives



Left: Stephanie Rowley, Monica Foust, and Tissyana Camacho



Above: Lauren Reed and Adrian Gale



Above: Amber Williams, Adrian Gale, Preeti Samudra, Patty Kuo, and Wylie Wan



Above: Amber Williams and Sarah Trinh

Welcome Postdocs!

COLLECTED BY JILLIAN WIGGINS



Adriana Manago, Ph.D.

Prior Institution: UCLA

What were you doing before starting your post-doc position at Michigan?

I was finishing my PhD in Developmental Psychology with a certificate in Culture, Brain, and Development at UCLA

What are your research interests, and what current projects are you working on?

I am a PI with Monique Ward on a survey research project about the influence of Facebook use on college students' self-sexualization. My research interest lies at the intersection of culture and adolescent development. I'm interested in understanding how social changes shift cultural values and norms for peer interactions, which then influence identity, sex, and gender development during the transition to adulthood.

What are some of your hobbies?

Capoeira, contact improvisational dance, yoga

What are your thoughts on living in Michigan so far?

I'm really enjoying living in Ann Arbor- it has a cozy small town feel

combined with lots of interesting cultural events and world class resources of a big research university.

If you weren't in developmental psychology, what would you be doing?

Getting my PhD in dance!

If you could go anywhere in the world, where would you go?

I would go to Patagonia and Tierra del Fuego. Or Paris.

What else would you like to tell us about yourself?

In 2009, spent 7 months living in the Maya community of Zinacantan in southern Mexico collecting my dissertation data on how a new high school in the community is shifting norms for adolescent peer relations, and in the process, shifting values for gender roles and relations.

Getting my PhD.

Current Advisors: Jacqui Eccles

What are your research interests, and what current projects are you working on?

Adolescent development, particularly gender development, development of depression, and behavioral genetics

What are some of your hobbies or recreational interests?

Spending time outdoors, running, cooking, music (listening, playing the clarinet and piano, singing), reading, writing/journaling

What are your thoughts on living in Michigan so far?

Michigan is a beautiful state. I am particularly fond of the UP and northern LP, as well as Lake St. Clair...only a block from where I now live! I also enjoy exploring Detroit and never tire of seeking out its hidden treasures.

If you weren't in developmental psychology, what would you be doing?

I truly love psychology, but I would also enjoy being a nature writer, preferably living in and writing about northern Minnesota

If you could go anywhere in the world, where would you go?

To live: off the Gunflint Train in northern Minnesota; To visit: South Korea or India



Heather A. Priess, Ph.D.

Prior Institution: University of Wisconsin, Madison

What were you doing before starting your post-doc position at Michigan?

Meet New Faculty

Dr. Rona Carter

COLLECTED BY JILLIAN WIGGINS & SARAH TRINH



What are your current research interests?

I study associations between pubertal development and patterns of adjustment (psychological, behavioral, and health), with particular attention to how pubertal processes, social-cultural contextual factors (family, peers, teachers, romantic partners), and wider social systems (culture, ethnicity) interact to contribute to girls' adjustment problems from late childhood to young adulthood. Within the above context, my work focuses on three interrelated lines of research: (1) racial and cultural contextual factors that influence pubertal processes; (2) social-cultural contextual factors and wider social systems that promote or hinder adjustment; and (3) measurement development and evaluation as it relates to race, ethnicity, and gender. I draw upon both secondary data analysis and original data collection.

Where do you see your research program headed?

The trajectory of my future research focuses on understanding developmental processes or mechanisms through which variations in pubertal timing contribute to psychological and health outcomes in culturally diverse youth. Three foci guide the trajectory of my future research. First, I plan to examine the extent to which early and late developing girls associate with other early

and late developing girls and whether this association either exacerbates or ameliorates the risks associated with pubertal timing. A second emphasis concerns the influence of other socializing agents such as teachers on variations in pubertal timing. Lastly, I will continue to develop and test explanatory models that identify developmental pathways to adolescent couple sexual behavior. How these pathways vary by pubertal timing, biological sex, and interpersonal relationships is of high interest because adolescent involvement with the opposite sex appears to be influenced by these factors. Overall, my program of research seeks to move beyond demonstrating pubertal effects on adolescent girls' psychosocial adjustment to identifying pathways.

How did you get interested in your research area?

It is my good fortune that time and chance put me on a path towards a research career in developmental psychology, because my presence in this field was pretty unlikely. My parents received their high school diplomas and worked in blue-collar jobs. They had larger dreams for their four children, however. They imagined their children going to college. As an undergrad, I volunteered in an after school program that analyzed social power relations in the United States. That experience demonstrated how power differences (e.g., access to resources) af-

fect adolescent girls, create conditions conducive to violence, and how adolescent girls can establish "alliances" to become empowered. It was exciting, challenging, and rewarding work. I also worked on a project that trained youth of color to engage in community struggles for social, economic, and environmental justice. Through that experience, I wondered why some adolescents, who were at high risk for health-compromising behaviors, successfully avoided behaviors that predisposed them to negative health outcomes, whereas others did not. I wondered what needed to be done and what needed to be known to reduce negative outcomes in African American youth.

So, the diversity of my experiences in college led to my research interests. As an African American woman and an ethnic minority researcher, I believe that to increase understanding of risk and protective factors related to African American girls' mental health, the network of relationships that create girls' social worlds need to be considered within the communities and contexts in which they live. My presence in this field was pretty unlikely, but the experiences and opportunities that led me here were based on my – and the people in my social network's -- faith in simple dreams and an insistence on small miracles.

Professional & Personal Milestones

COLLECTED BY SARAH TRINH

SPECIAL FEATURE: NEW AWARD

HAGEN-STEVENSON DISSERTATION AWARD

WITH CONTRIBUTIONS FROM VONNIE C. MCLOYD & SARAH TRINH

Robert V. Kail, Distinguished Professor of Psychology at Purdue University, and an alumnus of our graduate program, established the Hagen-Stevenson Award for doctoral students in developmental psychology at Michigan in 2011. The award is named for professor emeritus **John Hagen** and for our esteemed late colleague, **Harold Stevenson**.

Professor Kail was a student of both Hagen and Stevenson and continues to have close ties with our faculty and the Developmental Psychology program. The award was established to facilitate excellent research in basic processes of development, especially research that has implications for development within real-world and applied situations. It will be granted annually to a doctoral student pursuing a dissertation in developmental psychology within the Developmental Area. Our first awardee is developmental psychology doctoral student Jillian Wiggins, whose dissertation is designed to illuminate the brain and genetic mechanisms that underlie socioemotional impairments associated with autism spectrum disorders. We thank Professor Kail for his generous gift to the Department of Psychology that has made this award possible. We welcome other individuals and parties to make additional gifts to augment the Kail Fund.

FACULTY AWARDS

- **Jacque Eccles** received the Bronfenbrenner Award for Life Time Scholarship.
- **Susan Gelman** received the Mentor Award of APA Division 7.
- **L. Monique Ward** received the John Dewey Award for Excellence in Teaching.
- **Henry Wellman** received the G. Stanley Hall Award for Distinguished Contributions to Developmental Psychology.

STUDENT AWARDS

- **Adriana Aldana** received the Barbara A. Oleshansky Memorial Award, Shapiro/John Malik/Jean Forrest Award, and the Rackham Graduate Student Research Grant.
- **Maria Arredondo** and **Elise Hernandez** were awarded National Science Foundation Graduate Fellowships

- **Lindsay Bowman** received the Rackham Pre-doctoral Dissertation Fellowship.
- **Jerel Calzo** received the National Institute of Health Pediatric Loan Repayment Program Award.
- **Daniel Choe**, **Monica Foust**, and **Sarah Trinh** received the Society for Research on Adolescence Student Travel Grant.
- **Selin Gulgoz** received the Center for Education of Women Research Grant and the Rackham Graduate Student Research Grant.
- **Kristina Lopez** received the Rackham Debt Management Award, the International Meeting on Autism Research Diversity Travel Award, and the W. K. Kellogg Foundation Family Endowed Fellowship.
- **Jillian Lee Wiggins** received the Michigan Institute for Clinical Health Research Pre-doctoral Fellowship and the Hagen-Stevenson Dissertation Award.

PRESIDENCIES, APPOINTMENTS, & FELLOWSHIPS

- **Jacque Eccles** was made an Honorary Fellow at the Institute for Education at the University of London
- **Margaret Evans** was elected as fellow to the Association of Psychological Science
- **Susan Gelman** was elected as a fellow of the American Psychological Association and as a board member of the Association for Psychological Science.
- **John Schulenberg** was elected President of the Society for Research on Adolescence.
- **Brenda Volling** became Director of the Center for Human Growth and Development.
- **Henry Wellman** was elected as a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences

GRANTS

- **Jacque Eccles** received an NICHD grant to examine racial socialization and an NSF grant to examine gender and STEM professions

KEYNOTE ADDRESSES

- **Jacque Eccles** gave a keynote address at the European Research Society for Developmental Psychology in fall 2011. She will give a keynote address at the European Association for Research on Adolescence in Greece in September, as well as a keynote address at the International STEM Research Consortium in Amsterdam in September.

JOBS/PROMOTIONS/TENURE

- **Lindsay Bowman** accepted a two-year post-doctoral fellowship with Nathan Fox at the University of Maryland.
- **Daniel Choe** will work as a post-doctoral associate in the Department of Psychology at the University of Pittsburgh with Daniel Shaw's Pittsburgh Parents and Children Laboratory.
- **Jonathan Lane** was awarded an NRSA postdoctoral fellowship to work with Paul Harris at Harvard Graduate School of Education.
- **Adriana Manago** accepted a tenure-track professorship at Western Washington University.
- **Julie Maslowsky** will begin a two-year post doctoral internship as a Robert Wood Johnson Health and Society Scholar at the University of Wisconsin in September 2012.
- **Heather Priess** accepted a tenure-track professorship at Simpson College in Indianola, Iowa.

COMPLETED DISSERTATIONS

- **Daniel Choe**: "Transactions between Family Psychosocial Stressors and Externalizing Symptoms from Infancy to Adolescence: Interactions with Gender and Self-regulation" (February 15, 2012)
- **Jonathan Lane**: "Children's Developing Concepts of Ordinary and Extraordinary Minds: The Roles of Intuitive Theories and Cultural Input" (August 8, 2011)
- **Rika Meyer**: "The role of friendship for adolescent development in African American youth" (April 21, 2011)
- **Kristin Wong**: "The Social Relationships of Asian Americans through a Cultural Lens: Relationships as Outcomes and Contexts" (August 16, 2011)

COMPLETED 619s

- **Selin Gulgoz**: "The Effect of Generic Noun Phrases on Children's Memory for Category Labels" with Susan Gelman (September 2011)
- **Lauren Reed**: "Sexting, Stalking, and Snooping: Dating Violence in a Digital Media Context" with L. Monique Ward (January, 2012)
- **Ju-Hyun Song**: "Helping Mommy with the New Baby: Coparenting and Children's Temperament Predict Firstborn's Compliance" with Brenda Volling (September, 2011)
- **Sarah Trinh**: "Associations between Parental and Peer Discourses on American Youth's Sexual Behaviors" with L. Monique Ward (October 2011)

SIGNIFICANT PUBLICATIONS

- **Bowman, L.C., Liu, D., Meltzoff, A. N., & Wellman, H. M.** (in press). Neural correlates of belief- and desire-reasoning in 7- and 8-year-old children: An event-related potential study. *Developmental Science*.
- **Choe, D. E., Olson, S. L., & Sameroff, A. J.** (in press). Effects of maternal distress and parenting on the development of children's self-regulation and externalizing behavior. *Development and Psychopathology*.
- **Choe, D. E., Zimmerman, M. A., & Devnarain, B.** (2012). Youth violence in South Africa: Exposure, attitudes, and resilience in Zulu adolescents. *Violence and Victims*, 27(2).

PERSONAL

- **Elizabeth Buvinger** and her husband Brian Hambrick welcomed daughter Norah Elizabeth Hambrick on July 20, 2011. (*pictured below*)



- **Kristina Lopez** is engaged to Carlos Ortiz.
- **Ioulia Kovelman** and mark Shalinsky welcomed a new son Raphael Noah Shalinsky on March 14, 2012. (*pictured below*)



Arnold Sameroff Retires

WITH CONTRIBUTIONS FROM
HENRY WELLMAN &
MARGARET EVANS



LIFE AND TIMES OF ARNOLD SAMEROFF

Arnold Sameroff grew up in Detroit and got a B.S. from the University of Michigan in 1961. He received his Ph.D. from Yale in 1965, had a postdoc in Czechoslovakia, then appointments at Rochester, Illinois, and Brown Universities before coming to Michigan in 1992, as Professor of Psychology and Research Professor at the Center for Human Growth & Development.

Arnold is well-known for his theoretical contributions to our understanding of human development and as a founder of an important new field, developmental psychopathology.

Early on, Arnold pioneered a new model for conceptualizing how biological and environmental risk fac-

tors operate together as causes of development—a transactional theory of development. His transactional theory has enjoyed mainstream popularity for over 30 years and continues to inspire empirical and theoretical research.

His 1975 article, "Reproductive Risk and the Continuum of Caretaking Casualty," introducing his model, was listed by the SRCD as one of the most influential contributions to developmental science in the 20th century. On his CV that article is joined by over 150 others as well as several books.

Arnold's preferred methodology has been large-scale longitudinal studies of parents, children, and their social-developmental contexts. He has quipped that longitudinal re-

search meant his own obsolescence and continuous change: as soon as he got expert at infancy, his subjects were preschoolers (then school-age, adolescent, and so on). This wry self-observation, of course, pinpoints a serious challenge for all longitudinal research.

Arnold has also provided distinguished service to national and international research associations. Based on his research and service, he has received many awards. To highlight just one: in 2005 he won SRCD's Distinguished Scientist Award.

Arnold Sameroff is one of the most influential developmental scholars of our time, and among a small handful whose work has had long-standing influence and broad appeal.

HONORING ARNOLD SAMEROFF



Friday, May 18, 2012

A celebratory dinner in honor of Professor Arnold Sameroff.

Saturday, May 19, 2012

A symposium in Honor of Professor Arnold Sameroff

1324 East Hall, Department of Psychology

"Future Directions in Developmental Systems Research"

Speakers will include: Susan Dickstein, *Brown University*; Barbara Fiese, *University of Illinois*; Nathan Fox, *University of Maryland*; Ann Masten, *University of Minnesota*; Kate Rosenblum, *University of Michigan*; Ronald Seifer, *Brown University*; Alan Sroufe, *University of Minnesota*; Stephen Suomi, *National Institute of Child Health and Human Development*

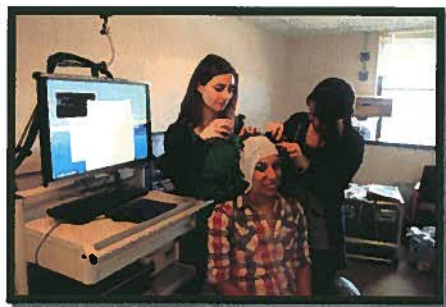
Research Focus: Functional Near Infrared Imaging (fNIRS) Arrives at CHGD

BY IOULIA KOVELMAN

This year the University of Michigan and the Centre for Human Growth and Development welcome a new brain imaging technology: functional Near Infrared Spectroscopy (fNIRS). fNIRS is similar to functional Magnetic Resonance (fMRI) and is a tool for observing how the brain works.

We are particularly excited about the purchase of this system because fNIRS is well suited for studies in developmental psychology and life-span development: fNIRS is silent, non-invasive, relatively motion-tolerant, and does not require confinement to a narrow tube.

The TechEN fNIRS system arrived on April 17, 2012. For more details about the system please visit <http://chgd.umich.edu/pediatric-multimodal-imaging/content/fnirs>.



Above: Lindsay Bowman and Lucy Hsu applying fNIRS nodes to the scalp cap on Maria Arredondo

Among the many units on campus, the department of Psychology and our colleagues in the developmental area have contributed much time and effort to the purchase of the system. Special thank you goes to our colleague, Twila Tardif, for spearheading this effort. We therefore welcome (rather we should say "strongly encourage"!!!) all members of the area to explore fNIRS imaging at CHGD. Please contact Ioulia Kovelman at Kovelman@umich.edu if you are interested!



Above: UM Students, TechEN Engineers, Ioulia Kovelman, and Paul Kileney with the new fNIRS system at CHGD

Please also join us for an fNIRS symposium at CHGD on May 4-5. For May 4th the symposium agenda includes talks by local as well as invited speakers, experts in developmental fNIRS brain imaging, including Charles Nelson, John Spencer, David

Boas, Heather Bortfeld, Theodore Huppert.

On the morning of May 5th we will hold a hands-on demo of our TechEN fNIRS system. Attendance is free. For agenda and reservation please contact Lisa Szuma at lszuma@umich.edu.

The purchase of the system was made possible by the Office of the Vice President for Research, Center for Human Growth and Development, College of Literature Science and the Arts, College of Engineering, Biomedical Engineering/Functional MRI Laboratory, the Departments of Linguistics, Otolaryngology/ Audiology, Pediatrics, Psychiatry, Psychology, and Radiology, and the Schools of Dentistry and Kinesiology.



Above: Ka Ip, Lucy Hsu, and Maria Arredondo with the fNIRS system.