# DEVELOPMENTS

A Newsletter of the Developmental Psychology area



Developmental area, Fall 2016

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# Message from the Chair



Welcome to the Developmental Area Newsletter. Last September, five excellent graduate students joined the program - Valerie Freund, Leigh Goetschius, Change Kwesele (joint with Social Work), Lolita Moss (joint with Social Work), and Nicholas Waters. In addition, we are very fortunate to have three new postdoctoral fellows, Lauren Bader, Melissa Peckins, and Sarah Trinh. These two fellowships were made possible by the NIH Developmental Psychology Training Grant. Last but certainly not least I am very pleased to welcome Adriene Beltz to the Area as a new assistant professor. Each of these individuals is featured in the newsletter.

The Developmental Area had many excellent accomplishments this past year. First and foremost, eight (!) students from the area completed their PhDs – Maria Arredondo, Tissyana Camacho, Adrian Gale, Steven Roberts, Meghan Martz, Jennifer Sun, Francisco Velasquez and Abbey Williams-Butler. Best of luck as you transition into the next stage of your careers. We will miss seeing you around East Hall. Please keep in touch! For faculty, I am very pleased to report that Ioulia Kovelman was promoted to Associate Professor with tenure. Congratulations, Ioulia!

Students from the area also received many prestigious awards. Both **Kimberly Brink** and **Tyler Hein** were awarded Rackham Predoctoral Fellowships and **Tyler** also won the Doris Duke Fellowship. **Amira Halawah** received the Institute for Research on Women & Gender/Rackham Research Grant. **Change Kwesele** was awarded the Global Social Work Learning Community International Research Grant, **Jasmine Manalel** received the Robert Kahn Fellowship through the Institute for Social Research, and **Lauren Tighe** received the W.K. Kellogg Family Endowed Fellowship. For faculty, **Toni Antonucci** is a Russell Sage Foundation Fellow this year and she received an honorary doctorate from the University of Zurich. **Henry Wellman** received the APA Division 7 Mentoring Award and his book, *Making Minds*, won the Eleanor Maccoby Book from the APA.

I would like to take this opportunity to highlight to books that were published by area faculty this past year. **Daniel Keating** wrote *Born Anxious: The Lifelong Impact of Early Life Adversity – and How to Break the Cycle*. In addition, **Pamela Davis-Kean** published

Socializing Children through Language. These are both very impressive undertakings. Also, there are many outstanding publications from our graduate students, postdoctoral fellows and faculty, which are detailed in the Newsletter.

Thank you to the students, staff and faculty for working with me over the past two years while I served as area chair. The best part about the job has been getting to know everyone better and seeing how everyone consistently steps up to support the area. I feel very fortunate to be part of this community.

Chin Monk

#### **Newsletter Committee**

Editor Lolita Moss

Contributors Berenice Castillo Change Kwesele

Faculty Advisors Margaret Evans Ioulia Kovelman

# Welcome, New Students!

**Prior Institutions:** Middle Tennessee State University (M.A. Quantitative Psychology), St. Mary's College of MD (B.A. Psychology)

What were you doing before coming to the University of Michigan? I spent some time interning at NIH in the population dynamics branch. Other than that I was working various jobs to save up money. Current Advisor: John Schulenberg

**Research Interests:** Adolescent development and well-being outcomes.

A teacher that changed the way you felt about learning? I don't really have an answer to this; I think I have always recognized the value of learning which is why research is so appealing to me.



### Valerie Freund

If you were not in developmental psychology what endeavors would you be pursuing instead? It's hard to imagine feeling fulfilled by anything not related to academia but I suppose I could see myself working in abused dog rehabilitation.

**One thing you are looking forward to doing this summer?** Spending time outside with my dog without the risk of getting frostbite. And watching Orioles games.

Favorite thing about Michigan so far? The parks.

What are some of your hobbies or recreational interests? Dogs, hiking, kickboxing, baseball, soccer.

If you could have any superhuman ability, what would it be? Invisibility.

**Words you live by (Favorite quote/mantra)?** "This too shall pass." – E. Fitzgerald "Whenever you find yourself on the side of the majority, it is time to pause and reflect." – Mark Twain



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**Prior Institution:** College of William and Mary What were you doing before coming to the University of Michigan? Completing a MA in Experimental Psychology at William and Mary.

Current Advisors: Chris Monk & Luke Hyde

**Research Interests:** My research interests center around the impact of early life adversity on brain development in adolescents. I'm particularly interested in how stressors, such as poverty, maltreatment, neglect contribute to the development of internalizing disorders, such as anxiety and depression.

A teacher that changed the way you felt about learning? My undergraduate and master's research advisor, Paul Kieffaber.

If you were not in developmental psychology what endeavors would you be pursuing instead? I think that in a second life, I would want to be an interior decorator.

### **Leigh Goetschius**

**One thing you are looking forward to doing this summer?** Going on a vacation to New England.

Favorite thing about Michigan so far? Warm weather activities, like kayaking.

What are some of your hobbies or recreational interests? I spend my time outside of East Hall with my husband, John, and dog, Ranger.

If you could have any superhuman ability, what would it be? Teleportation.

Words you live by (Favorite quote/mantra)? "I have chosen to be happy because it is good for my health" -Voltaire



## **Change Kwesele**

Joint with Social Work

Prior Institution: Emory University

What were you doing before coming to the University of Michigan? Working on the Joint Base Lewis-McChord army base in Washington State as an Evaluation Coordinator for a wellness research project.

Current Advisor: Dr. Rona Carter

**Research Interests:** Holistic wellness, identity development, emerging adulthood, and youth centered programs. My research examines how well-being practices and services influence outcomes of youth and their communities, in America and sub-Saharan Africa.

A teacher that changed the way you felt about learning? Dr. Gina Wingood, one of my professors at Emory University encouraged me to always remember my goals and intentions in my education and life choices.

If you were not in developmental psychology what endeavors would you be pursuing instead? Pursuing a Ph.D in Public Health.

**One thing you are looking forward to doing this summer?** Travelling to Zambia to work on a photovoice project with University of Zambia students.

**Favorite thing about Michigan so far?** The resources and events at the University of Michigan, there is always something going on! This is my first time at a big state school.

What are some of your hobbies or recreational interests? Dancing, travelling, playing soccer with the intramural psychology team.

If you could have any superhuman ability, what would it be? Place travel- Fly anywhere in the world in seconds.

Words you live by (Favorite quote/mantra)? Live. Love. Laugh! "Be the change that you wish to see in the world"- Mahatma Gandhi

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**Prior Institution:** University of Michigan (BA, Psychology and Creative Writing)

What were you doing before coming to the University of Michigan? I worked in the nonprofit sector for several years, primarily in youth development and education.

Current Advisors: L. Monique Ward and Rona Carter

**Research Interests:** Black adolescent development, intimate partner violence, media socialization, program evaluation.

A teacher that changed the way you felt about learning? Mrs. Bowser; she had an exacting teaching style but she forced me to think more deeply about how we arrive at "common sense" conclusions.

If you were not in developmental psychology what endeavors would you be pursuing instead? I would love to be a true crime writer.

**One thing you are looking forward to doing this summer?** Going to Los Angeles, where I'm lucky to have several friends to visit.

**Favorite thing about Michigan so far?** A few new restaurants have popped up since I completed my undergraduate degree, like Isalita and Aventura.

What are some of your hobbies or recreational interests? Crafts, reading true crime, swimming, travel.

If you could have any superhuman ability, what would it be? Invisibility. Words you live by (Favorite quote/mantra)? "The universe is the best matchmaker." - Unknown



Lolita Moss Joint with Social Work



#### Prior Institution: University of Michigan

What were you doing before coming to the University of Michigan? I spent the two years between completion of my undergraduate studies and prior to entering graduate school as a research assistant and subsequently, project manager for Dr. Fred Morrison's NSF study.

**Current Advisors:** Dr. Pam Davis-Kean and Dr. Fred Morrison **Research Interests:** I am broadly interested in studying the development of children's cognitive and academic skills and the biological and contextual factors that contribute to different trajectories from early childhood into adolescence and beyond.

A teacher that changed the way you felt about learning? My first teacher, Ms. Williams, who stayed with our class from 1<sup>st</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> grade. She taught me to pursue education for the sake of personal knowledge

### **Nick Waters**

and growth. She was also a big proponent of social justice and gave us rich experiences that I will always appreciate.

If you were not in developmental psychology what endeavors would you **be pursuing instead?** I'd likely be pursing higher education in either public policy or public health. Or, something related to the culinary arts.

**One thing you are looking forward to doing this summer?** I'm really looking forward to spending time outdoors, traveling with friends, and putting in some serious work on my 619!

**Favorite thing about Michigan so far?** While I've been here for nearly seven years, I really enjoy the community aspect of the developmental area, as well as the social scene that lies beyond South U.

What are some of your hobbies or recreational interests? Both of my labs are very close, so I enjoy hanging out with my fellow lab-mates outside of East Hall. I also enjoy spending time with my ever-growing family (recent additions: niece and nephew) and staying active.

If you could have any superhuman ability, what would it be? I'd like to be able to fly. That way, there would be no excuse to not travel more!

Words you live by (Favorite quote/mantra)? A short and sweet reminder: "what do you stand for?

First year students, left to right: Nick Waters, Change Kwesele, Lolita Moss, Leigh Goetschius. Not pictured: Valerie Freund



# **Welcome Postdocs!**



### Lauren Bader

#### **Prior Institution:**

University of Tennessee What were you doing before starting your post-doc position at the University of Michigan? Graduate student and research assistant in the Department of Child and Family Studies at the University of Tennessee Faculty Advisor: Brenda Volling

What are your research interests and what current projects are you

**working on?** Maternal stress and infant social emotional development; I am currently analyzing data on Ethiopian mothers-infant interactions and will begin work on a project that looks at the

Prior Institution: Pennsylvania State University What were you doing before starting your postdoc position at the



### Melissa Peckins interests and what

University of Michigan? Before joining the University of Michigan, I was working on a longitudinal, multigenerational study of the consequences of child sexual abuse on the health and well-being of women and their families. Faculty Advisors: Dr. Luke Hyde and Dr. Vonnie

McLoyd

What are your research interests and what current projects are you working on? I study how

contextual factors such as child maltreatment and exposure to violence impact functioning of the stress response system, health, and behavior across development. Currently, I am working on a project that change in mother-infant interactions and infant neuroendocrine functioning over time among mothers at risk for depression.

Favorite thing about Michigan so far? The beautiful weather

What are some of your hobbies or recreational interests? Traveling and hiking

What is one thing you are looking forward to doing this summer? Publishing my dissertation and visiting Michigan's west coast

**Fun fact about yourself:** I traveled to Ethiopia in 2015 and 2016 to conduct research and collect data among families for my dissertation

Best advice you can give to graduate students currently pursuing a PhD? Seek multiple mentors throughout your graduate studies to help you achieve success

Words you live by (Favorite quote/mantra)? "Do one thing every day that scares you" -Eleanor Roosevelt

tests the interrelationships between violence exposure in the home, pro-violence attitudes, antisocial behavior, and functioning of the stress response system across adolescence in a sample of boys.

**Favorite thing about Michigan so far?** I love that there is always something to do in Michigan. When I first moved here, I went to a different festival every weekend and got to meet some truly wonderful people.

What are some of your hobbies or recreational interests? In my free time I enjoy running and reading.

What is one thing you are looking forward to doing this summer? I am most looking forward to spending time outside in the sun!

**Fun fact about yourself:** I have two pet rabbits, Sorbet and Toby.

Best advice you can give to graduate students currently pursuing a PhD? Remember to take care of yourself as you pursue your PhD. Setting time aside for yourself every day, even if just a few minutes, has benefits not just for your wellbeing but your productivity as well.

Words you live by (Favorite quote/mantra)? If it was easy, everyone would do it.



### Sarah Trinh

Prior Institution: University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill What were you doing before starting your postdoc position at the University of Michigan? I was a post doc at UNC. Faculty Advisor: Stephanie Rowley

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

I am primarily interested in understanding what we can discern

about people from the company they keep. This interest has led me to look at peer communications and relationships during adolescence and emerging adulthood.

If you were not in developmental psychology, what would you be doing instead? I don't have any expertise (only curiosity), but I think it would be fun to have a podcast. I think Terry Gross has an awesome job! I also think it would be fun to work as a writer for sitcoms, a restaurant critic, or a travel blogger. **Favorite thing about Michigan so far?** I love the people. And I also love autumn; I enjoy seeing the leaves change colors, and the apple cinnamon donuts at Wizards are delicious.

What are some of your hobbies or recreational interests? I like to travel, read, and hike. I like to pretend I'm a tourist in any place I live; I have an ongoing list called "Extreme Ann Arbor fun," where I compile all the fun things I have done and want to do here. What is one thing you are looking forward to doing this summer? I look forward to achieving my New Year's resolution, which was to visit 3 cities in Michigan that I have not been to yet. I haven't picked which 3 places, but I've received some recommendations.

**Fun fact about yourself:** My spirit animal is the squirrel.

Best advice you can give to graduate students currently pursuing a PhD? Develop a support network and write consistently. Words you live by (Favorite quote/mantra)? Inch by inch, it's a cinch.

-COLLECTED BY CHANGE KWESELE

# **Milestones**

Maria Arredondo accepted a post-doc position at the Infant Studies Centre in the University of British Columbia with Dr.

Janet Werker.

**Kimberly Brink** was awarded the NICHD Training Grant Fellowship (2017) and Rackham Predoctoral Fellowship (2017-2018).

**Berenice Castillo** received the University of Michigan President's Advisory Committee on Labor Standards and Human Rights summer award, Rackham Travel Grant, Award from Dean Lynn Videka at the School of Social Work to attend the Society of Social Work and Research (SSWR) Conference, Underrepresented Students Award from the School of Social Work, and received Alternate and Honorable Mention for the Ford Predoctoral Fellowship. Berenice also presented a paper at SSWR.

Kevin Constante Toala received a departmental training grant.

**Petal Grower** received a departmental training grant.

Amira Halawah received the Institute for Research on Women & Gender/Rackham research grant.

**Tyler Hein** received the Doris Duke Fellowship for the

#### **Student Achievements & Awards**

Promotion of Child Well-being, Rackham Predoctoral Fellowship, Rackham Graduate Student Research Grant, as well as the Wisconsin Symposium on Emotion Travel Award.

**Ka I Ip** received the International Society for Research in Child & Adolescent Psychopathology (ISRCAP) Travel Scholarship and the Rackham Conference Travel Grant Award. Ka also published three journal articles and three book chapters, made three symposium presentations, and seven poster presentations.

**Change Kwesele** was the recipient of the Global Social Work Learning Community International Research Grant, for Summer 2017. Change also competed in the 2017 Public Health, Innovation and Action competition, and her interdisciplinary team's innovation 'INK'd' won second place.

**Joyce Lee** received four grants and awards: 1) Rackham Travel Grant to attend the Society for Research in Child Development (SRCD) Biennial Meeting, 2) Award from Dean Lynn Videka at the School of Social Work to attend the Society of Social Work and Research Conference, 3) Bobbe and Jon Bridge for Engaged Scholarship, and 4) the Rackham Predoctoral Graduate Student Research Grant. Joyce also published two articles and presented a paper at SRCD.

**Jasmine Manalel** was awarded the Robert Kahn Fellowship for the Scientific Study of Social Issues for 2017-2018.

Jaime Munoz Velazquez received a departmental training grant. **Steven Roberts** was the recipient of the 2016 Pat Gurin Award. He also published 9 articles and has accepted a tenure-track position as Assistant Professor of Psychology at Stanford University.

Lauren Tighe was awarded the W. K. Kellogg Family Endowed Fellowship from the Doctoral Program in Social Work and Social Science

**Neelima Wagley** received the departmental training grant.

#### Faculty Achievements & Honors

Toni Antonucci is on leave this year as a Russell Sage Foundation Fellow and in residence at the Foundation. Dr. Antonucci was also an invited speaker at the UN's Commission on Economic and Social Development entitled: Equal Access to Mental Health Resources for People of All Ages with Special Attention to Aging and Lifespan Issues. Dr. Antonucci will also be awarded an honorary doctorate degree by the University of Zurich on April 29th.

Pamela Davis-Kean has published a book, *Socializing Children through Language*, as well as an article in Child Developmental Perspectives, as well a chapter for an SRCD Monograph, with a former student, Justin Jagger, now an assistant professor at Arizona State University. Dr. Davis-Kean now serves as Chair of International Panel to review the Economic and Social Research Council longitudinal data investments for the United Kingdom. She was also a keynote speaker at the Developmental Methods Conference in Montana.

**Susan Gelman** published an article in the journal *Science*.

**Daniel Keating** wrote a book, Born Anxious: The Lifelong Impact of Early Life Adversity and How to Break the Cycle, for general audience from St. Martin's Press, will be launched April 11, 2017.

**Ioulia Kovelman** was promoted to Associate Professor. Dr. Kovelman also published a paper in Developmental Science.

**Christopher Monk,** and his colleagues, Dr. Kate Fitzgerald and Dr. K. Luan Phan, received an R01 from the National Institute of Mental Health to examine brain function in children and adolescents with impairing anxiety, and to identify how cognitive behavioral therapy changes brain function and reduces symptoms.

Deborah Rivas-Drake was

awarded a Spencer Mid-career grant and a grant from the National Science Foundation. Dr. Rivas-Drake also began her term as Associate Editor of *Developmental Psychology* and published two papers in Child Development.

John Schulenberg had a good year for publications, including one with Meghan Martz who successfully defended her dissertation this past summer. John is also now Principal Investigator of the Monitoring the Future Panel study, which follows national samples of over 60,000 high school seniors into adulthood (the oldest approaching age 60). He and his colleagues (including Jacqui Smith) just received official word that this study will be funded for the next five years by the National Institute on Drug Abuse. Developmental students Berenice Castillo and Valerie Freund work with John on this study.

L. Monique Ward was commissioned to write a research brief or white paper for Commonsense Media summarizing current evidence of media effects on children's gender role development. The report is tentatively titled, "Princesses and Superheroes: How Gender Stereotypes in Children's Media Shape Their Development." Look for the press release this summer. Dr. Ward was also invited to write a comprehensive review for the Annual Review of Sex Research. It came out in 2016. **Henry Wellman** was the 2017 recipient of the Mentoring Award from APA Division 7 (Developmental Psychology) that "recognizes individuals who

have had a substantial impact on the field of Developmental Psychology by their mentoring of young scholars." Dr. Wellman's book *Making Minds* won the Eleanor Maccoby Book Award from APA, as well as the Cognitive Development Society Book Award.

#### **Completed Dissertations & 619s**

Maria Arredondo successfully defended her dissertation: *A bilingual advantage? The functional organization of linguistic competition and attentional networks in the bilingual developing brain.* Cochairs: loulia Kovelman and Susan Gelman (March 2017).

Josefina Banales completed her 619, "Talking About Race in the Home Matters for Our Community," last summer and was selected to present this work at the Pat Gurin Lecture Series during Recruitment Weekend.

#### Tissyana Camacho

successfully defended her dissertation, Ethnic Identity Among Latino College Students: Examining Developmental Trajectories and Relations to Social Experiences and Psychosocial Outcomes. Chair: Debbie Rivas-Drake (March 2017). Adrian Gale successfully defended his dissertation, *Examining Black adolescents' perceptions of in-school racial discrimination: The role of gender, socioeconomic status and perceptions of school climate on academic outcomes.* Co-chairs: Robert Ortega & Stephanie Rowley (April 2017).

**Ka I Ip** completed his 619, "Codevelopment of internalizing and externalizing problems from toddlerhood to preadolescence: The predictive role of early selfregulation."

**Meghan Martz** successfully defended her dissertation: *Predictors of off-diagonal binge drinking and marijuana use trajectory groups through the transition to adulthood.* Chair: John Schulenberg (May 2016).

**Steven Roberts** successfully defended his dissertation: So *it is, so it shall be: Group* 

*regularities and prescriptive judgments.* Co-chairs: Susan Gelman and Arnold Ho (March 2017).

Jennifer Sun successfully defended her dissertation, Self-Perceptions of Aging and Health: The Embodiment of Age Stereotypes. Chair: Jacqui Smith (March 2017).

**Francisco Velasquez** successfully defended his dissertation, *Amygdala – Ventral Prefrontal Network Influences on Emotion Regulation in Adolescence and Adulthood.* Chair: Chris Monk (July 2016).

Abbey Williams-Butler

successfully defended her dissertation, *The Role of Relational Permanence in Positive Outcomes among African American Adolescents in Foster Care*. Co-chairs: Joseph Ryan and Vonnie McLoyd (December 2016).

#### Significant Publications

Trentacosta, C. J., **Davis-Kean**, **P.**, Mitchell, C., Hyde, L., & Dolinoy, D. (2016). Environmental contaminants and child development. *Child Development Perspectives*, 10(4), 228-233. **Davis-Kean, P. E.** & *Jager, J.* (in press). From small to big: Using large-scale data sets in developmental psychology. *Monographs of the Society for Research on Child Development.* 

**Davis-Kean, P.E**. (2016, October). Scientific Integrity and Developmental Science: Increasing the Power of our Science.

Orvell, A., Kross, E., & **Gelman, S. A.** (2017). How "you" makes meaning. *Science*, 355(6331), 1299-1302. DOI: 10.1126/

science.aaj2014

Olson S. L. & **Ip, KI.** (In Press). Developmental Pathways to Aggression and Violence. In P. Sturmey (E.d), *Handbook of Violence and Aggression*. Hoboken, NJ: John Wiley and Sons, Inc.

**Ip, KI.** & Olson S. L. (In Press). Impulsivity. In M. H. Bornstein, M.E Arterberry, K.L. Fingerman, J.E. Lansford (E.d), *Encyclopedia of lifespan human development*. Thousand Oaks, CA: SAGE Publications.

Olson S. L. & **Ip, KI.** (In Press). Ethnotheories. In M. H. Bornstein, M.E Arterberry, K.L. Fingerman, J.E. Lansford (E.d), *Encyclopedia of lifespan human development*.Thousand Oaks, CA: SAGE Publications.

Lee, J. Y., & Lee, S. J. (2016). Caring is masculine: Stay-athome fathers and masculine identity. *Psychology of Men & Masculinity.* Advance online publication. Doi: 10.1037/men0000079

Klika, B., Lee, S. J., & **Lee, J. Y.** (in press). Prevention of child maltreatment. In B. Kilka & J. Conte (Eds.), *The American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children Handbook on Child Maltreatment.* 

Witherspoon, D., Seaton, E., & **Rivas-Drake, D.** (2016). Neighborhood characteristics and expectations of racially discriminatory experiences among African American adolescents. Child Development, 87(5), 1367-1378. **Rivas-Drake, D.**, Umaña-Taylor, A., Schaefer, D., & \*Medina, M. (2017). Ethnic-racial identity and friendships in early adolescence. Child Development. (early view online) doi: 10.1111/cdev.12790

**Roberts, S. O.**, & Gelman, S. A. (in press). Now you see race, now you don't: Verbal cues influence children's reasoning about the stability of emotion and race. *Cognitive Development*.

**Roberts, S. O.**, Guo, C., & Gelman, S. A. (in press). Children's descriptive-toprescriptive tendency replicates (and varies) cross culturally: Evidence from China. *Journal of Experimental Child Psychology.* 

**Roberts, S. O.**, Leonard, K., Ho, A. K., Gelman, S. A. (in press). Does this smile make me look White? Exploring the effects of emotional expressions on the categorizations of multiracial children. *Journal of Cognition and Culture.* 

Martz, M. E., **Schulenberg, J. E.**, Patrick, M. E., & Kloska, D. D. (2016). "I am so bored!": Prevalence rates and sociodemographic and contextual correlates of high boredom among American adolescents. *Youth and Society*.

McCabe, S.E., Veliz, P., Wilens, T., & **Schulenberg, J.E.** (in press). Adolescents' prescription stimulant use and adult functional outcomes: A national prospective study. *Journal of American Academy of Child Adolescent Psychiatry.* 

Schulenberg, J. E., Patrick, M. E., Kloska, D. D., Maslowsky, J., Maggs, J. L., & O'Malley, P. M. (2016). Substance use disorder in early midlife: A national prospective study on health and well-being correlates and longterm predictors. *Substance Abuse: Research and Treatment, 2015, 9*(Suppl 1), 41-57.

Ward, L. M. (2016). Media and sexualization: State of empirical research from 1995-2015. *Journal of Sex Research*, *53(4-5),* 560-577

#### **Personal Milestones**



Amira Halawah and her spouse, Brad Smith, welcomed their first child, Kierian, to the world on March 17th!



**Fredrick Morrison's** granddaughter, Simone Loretta Lord Hearne, was born on September 20th, 2016.

Jennifer Sun got engaged to Sam Neher on January 6th, 2017.

-COLLECTED BY BERENICE CASTILLO

**Developments Newsletter** 

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# Faculty Spotlight: Welcome, Dr. Adriene Beltz!



I was living in State College, Pennsylvania and working as a post-doc at Penn State in the Quantitative Development unit of the Department for Human Development and Family Studies. Peter Molenaar was my mentor, and he funded me on a National Science Foundation project on novel connectivity approaches for brain and behavioral networks.

# What are your current research interests?

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My research interests are both methodological and substantive. Methodologically, I am interested in time-indexed analyses. Most of my work concerns network models of time series data (e.g., functional neuroimages, daily diaries, coded observations), but I also employ other models that capture the nature and mechanisms of change (e.g., growth curves, bootstrapped mediations). Substantively, I'm interested in biopsychosocial contributions to gender development, particularly the influence of sex hormones on gendered cognition and psychopathology. I utilize

natural experiments, such as children with disorders of sex development, adolescents in puberty, or women using hormonal contraceptives, in order to understand how androgens and estradiol relate to variation in the brain and behavior.

# Where do you see your research program headed?

My research at Michigan will merge my methodological and substantive interests - using dynamic network models to understand how gendered brain function and behavior emerge from complex systems. For example, my lab is currently collecting daily diary data from men, naturally cycling women, and women using oral contraceptives. For 75 days, participants report on their affect, self-perceptions, and daily experiences, and they also complete cognitive tests. These time series data afford investigations into the temporal interrelations among biological (e.g., exogenous hormones in oral contraceptives), psychological (e.g., affect), and social (e.g., relationship conflict) factors. Thus, my future aim is not to isolate sex hormone effects on categorical sex differences, but rather to take advantage of gender as a marker for individual variation in biopsychosocial developmental processes.

# How did you get interested in your research area?

My research merges my graduate training in the effects of prenatal and pubertal sex hormones on gendered behavior with my postdoctoral training in neural network modeling. To be honest, though, I think I could have been happy doing research in many different areas of psychology! Perhaps the opportunity to collaborate and consult with psychologists in other sub-disciplines and with scientists in other fields is one reason I ended up a methodologist.

# What are some words that you live by (favorite quote/ mantra)?

Although I am not too keen on inspirational quotes, I found "Follow your arrow wherever it points" reassuring during key transitions in my career. I think it is an important reminder that we each have a unique journey. What else would you like to tell us about yourself?

I moved to Michigan with my husband, Jeremy, and our now 19-month-old son, Emmitt. In my short time here, it is apparent that this - area, department, university, and community - is an amazing place to work and live. I feel very fortunate to be here.

-COLLECTED BY CHANGE KWESELE

### **Conference Spotlight:** SRCD's 2017 Biennial Meeting April 6-8, 2017, Austin, Texas

The overarching theme for the 2017 Biennial Meeting was: Developmental Science and Society. Developmental area faculty and students contributed to the four areas of emphasis, which were:

- 1. Poverty, Inequality and Developmental Science
- 2. Global Change and Child Development
- 3. Neuroscience and Child Development
- 4. Behavioral Science and Public Policy

Reception: Developmental Psychology and the Center for Human Growth and Development invited current and former students and faculty to a well-attended and very enjoyable evening party on April 6th.



#### Clockwise from top:

Joint Developmental & Social Work student, Joyce Lee (second from right), networking with doctoral students and Dr. Jennifer Landsford from the Sanford School of Public Policy at Duke University.

Left to right: Patty Kuo, Tissyana Camacho, Maria Arredondo, Francisco Velsaquez, Daniel Choe, Selin Gulgoz, and Julie Sone.

Developmental student Vaness Cox presents her research at a poster session.

Left to right: Selin Gulgoz, Danielle Labotka, Margaret Echelbarger, Steven Roberts, Jasmine DeJesus, Amanda Brandone, and Marjorie Rhodes.







-COLLECTED BY BERENICE CASTILLO

# Successful Defenses

Congratulations to our 2016-2017 PhD recipients!



Dr. Maria Arredondo



Dr. Tissyana Camacho



**Dr. Adrian Gale** 



Dr. Meghan Martz



**Dr. Steven Roberts** 



Dr. Jennifer Sun



Dr. Francisco Velasquez



**Dr. Abbey Williams-Butler**