

Spring 2019

Psychological Sciences Newsletter



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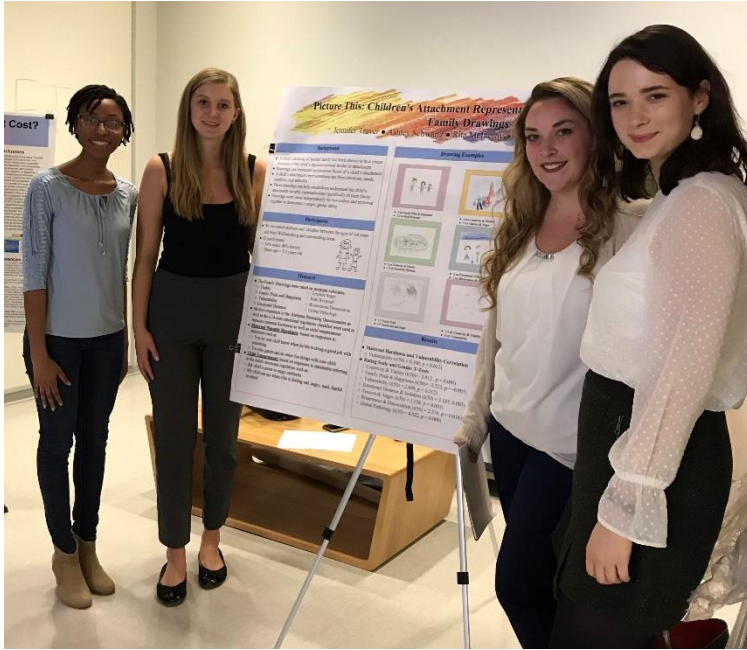
2019 Undergraduate Science Research Symposium

The annual Undergraduate Science Research Symposium is always an opportunity for undergrads to showcase their research skills and share their findings. The 2019 USRS was no exception. There were eight posters presented by students from the Department of Psychological Sciences and an additional three from Neuroscience. Pictured (l to r) are Undergrad Elizabeth Acors, Professor Josh Burk, and Undergrad Brenna Daugherty with their poster *Psychophysiological Processing of Emotions in Individuals Varying in Autistic Traits and Social Anxiety*. Also involved in this project were Undergrad Nicholas Hoyt and Professor Cheryl Dickter. (Continued on page 2)

Inside This Issue

Undergraduate Science Research Symposium	1
2019 Graduate Research Symposium	3
Faculty Awards	4
Natalie Brito presentation and Panel discussion	5
Share Your Success	6





Pictured with their poster *Picture This: Children's Attachment Representations as Assessed in their Family Drawings* are (l to r) Kayla Gibbs, Jennifer Traver, Ashley Schwartz, and Rita McInerny. Justin Kaley also participated in the research.

Other Psychological Sciences and Neuroscience presenters and topics were:

- Valerie Bambha, *The impact of guided pretend play on preschool children's theory of mind task performance;*
- Xiaozhuo Shi and Yu Guo: *Cross-Cultural Resource-Allocation Behavior: Now vs. Future and Tangible vs. Intangible;*
- Qiuyang Shen: *Interpretation Bias and Its Predictability of Depression: a Cross-cultural Comparison of American and Chinese College Students;*
- Clara Stebbins: *Conscientiousness as a Predictor of Problematic Social Networking Site Usage;*
- Shadin Ahmed, Jada Copeland, and Courtney Barr: *The Effect of Imagined Contact on Implicit Attentional Bias to Racial Outgroup Members;*
- Genevieve Thomas: *The Lottery: Who Wins, Who Loses, and at What Cost?;*
- Minna Blottner: *Young Adults' on the Broad Autism Phenotype (BAP) Predict Event Related Potentials (ERPs) to Emotional Stimuli;* and
- Reema Patel: *The Effects of Medial Prefrontal Cortical Administration of an Orexin-1-Receptor Antagonist, SB-334867, on Attention.*

Congratulations to all who participated and to the professors who mentored them.

2019 Graduate Research Symposium

Our highly dedicated psychology graduate students were active participants in the 19th Annual Graduate Research Symposium (GRS), held from March 20-21, 2019 in the Sadler Center. In total, 14 of our M.S. students presented talks or posters sharing the results of their research, covering a wide range of areas, such as clinical, neurophysiological, developmental, and social/personality psychology. For more on the entire Graduate Research Symposium, including the full list of graduate presenters from all departments, click here: <https://www.wm.edu/as/graduate/graduate-symposium/documents/programs/grs-2019-final-program.pdf>

Two of our graduate students were honored with awards at the GRS. Sarah Blumenthal (advisor: Dr. Joshua Burk) was awarded the William & Mary Award for Excellence in the Natural & Computational Sciences. Maria Larrazabal (advisor: Dr. Christopher Conway) was awarded the S. Laurie Sanderson Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Mentoring in the Natural & Computational Sciences.



Sarah Blumenthal



Maria Larrazabal

To view photos of the 2019 GRS, click on the following link: <https://www.wm.edu/as/psych-sciences/images/graduate-research-symposium/2019-graduate-research-symposium-photos/index.php>

Faculty Awards



Congratulations!



Professor Joanna Schug

On your selection to receive the Alumni Fellowship Award as an outstanding young faculty member who represents William & Mary at its very best!



Congratulations!



Professor Cheryl Dickter

Recipient of the Jennifer and Devin Murphy Faculty Award for outstanding integration of faculty research with teaching, involving either or both undergraduate or graduate students

You can learn more about these faculty members by visiting our Faculty Directory page: <https://www.wm.edu/as/psych-sciences/facultydirectory/index.php>

Natalie Brito presentation and Panel discussion



Annual Alumni Colloquium Features Natalie Brito, MA 2008

Natalie Brito, Alumni Speaker, MA W&M 2008, Ph.D. 2013 Georgetown University, Assistant Professor New York University.

This year's Alumni Speaker for the Department of Psychological Sciences was Natalie Brito, Assistant Professor at New York University. Professor Brito's day on campus was part of the year-long celebration of 100 Years of Women at William & Mary.

The day featured two main events. The colloquium was well-attended by undergraduates, graduates, and faculty and even some Colonial Williamsburg tourists who happened to be in town and heard about the event! The title of the colloquium was *Early Experiences Play a Critical Role in Shaping Neurocognitive Trajectories*. She discussed her research on the effects of sociocultural context on development and how it can disentangle pathways where positive and negative environments impact brain and behavior. Her research highlighted two themes: growing up in lower-socioeconomic households and being exposed early to more than one language.

The second event was a panel discussion on *Paths to Career Success in Psychology* moderated by Psi Chi President Elizabeth Gallery with Prof Janice Zeman, Prof Danielle Dallaire, and M.S. Candidate Maria Alexandra Larrazabal Carrillo, all with the Department of Psychological Sciences. Topics included paths to career success, especially for women, and how undergraduates and early career women can identify and pursue paths to success in Psychology.



At the panel discussion on *Paths to Career Success in Psychology* (l to r) are Alumni Speaker and NYU Professor Natalie Brito, Professors Janice Zeman and Danielle Dallaire, M.S. Candidate Maria Alexandra Larrazabal Carrillo, and panel moderator Psi Chi President Elizabeth Gallery.

Would You Be Willing to Share Your Success?

Here in the Department of Psychological Sciences we try to show our undergrads some of the various paths to professional success for psych majors and of course that success can be within psychology or in a variety of other areas – public service, education, health care, law, etc. Once or twice each academic year we bring alumni to campus to meet with undergrads to discuss their own professional development to help students see various opportunities. Would you be willing to be considered for this? If so, please submit your CV or resume to psychology@wm.edu .