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THE UNIVERSITY
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Psychology & Neuroscience Undergraduate Newsletter

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ADVISING

Need information on department requirements, graduate school, or career counseling?

Our academic advisors are on-hand to meet with you!

[Make an appointment!](#)



Congratulations, Graduates!

Congratulations to all of our Psychology majors who graduated on Sunday, May 8, 2016! Below are a few photos of the main Commencement. Students and families will be contacted directly by our photographer to purchase photos.





Commencement Award Winners

Congratulations to all of our Psychology majors who graduated on Sunday, May 8, 2016! Each of the following were honored with additional awards at our 2016 Commencement Ceremony.

Dr. Steven Buzinski won the *Psi Chi Award for Outstanding Teaching by a Faculty Member*. Dr. Buzinski received this award as he has made a tremendous impact on both the Department and its students. He is a professor that challenges his student and also works to help his students succeed. Dr. Buzinski is an excellent teacher as he explains his teaching methods and cites research that supports his methods.

Garrett Blane Ivey won the *J. Steven Reznick Award for Diversity Enhancement in Psychological Research*. Garrett deserves this award for his groundbreaking research into the effects of gender policing on college students' mental health outcomes. Garrett brings a unique perspective to psychology research, incorporating knowledge from his double major with Women and Gender Studies. Garrett's innovative thesis project examined the phenomenon of gender policing which refers to words or actions by individuals that serve to reinforce traditional constructions and presentations of gender. Garrett works tirelessly to increase tolerance toward gender diversity on campus and beyond. In addition to his senior honors thesis on gender policing, in a PSYC 566 Attitude Change class project this spring, he worked with classmates to construct an intervention to increase UNC students' flexibility in their views of masculinity.

Dr. Beth Kurtz-Costes won the *Psychology Club Award for Outstanding Research Mentorship by a Faculty Member*. Dr. Kurtz-Costes won this award for her dedication in mentorship of Honors students and for her support in her role as the Director of Undergraduate Studies.

Dr. Kristen Lindquist won the *Carolina Neuroscience Club Advancement of Neuroscience Award*. Dr. Lindquist was chosen for this award for her mentorship of multiple undergraduate students through their senior thesis. She also mentored for a departmental research-for-class-credit course. The Lindquist Lab volunteered at UNC's Science Expo, which connected kids as young as 5 to neuroscience. Dr. Lindquist has also authored nearly a dozen academic papers over the last two years, demonstrating a commitment to neuroscience. Dr. Lindquist is dedicated to connecting many individuals with a wide variety of backgrounds to neuroscience.

Danny Rahal won the *Susan M. McHale Award for Outstanding Psychological Research by a Student Who Enhances Diversity*. Danny received this award for his honors thesis examining ethnic name discrimination in Arab Americans, an underrepresented racial/ethnic group. Danny investigated whether Arab Americans showed similar biases regarding ethnic names as non-Arab Whites and whether these biases were related to ethnic identity. Danny identifies as an Arab American and his research has increased knowledge about this understudied population that is the target of much discrimination in our society.

Maria Carisa Ruiz won the *Susan M. McHale Award for Outstanding Psychological Research by a Student Who Enhances Diversity*. Carisa received this award for her project working with the International Society for Bipolar Disorders and the International Bipolar Foundation to (a) gather translated versions of the best free (public domain) rating scales and checklists, (b) program them into Qualtrics so they may be completed online, and (c) work on the scoring and feedback to help people find appropriate information and resources. Carisa worked hard to learn Cascading Style Sheets (CSS) to make the pages look professional, even though the project was volunteer-based. Her dedication and hard work are helping to create a resource with potentially international visibility and impact.



Summer Classes

Students can attend Summer School at UNC Chapel Hill to meet their academic requirements to graduate on time and to take courses for personal enrichment. Summer classes can satisfy General Education criteria or meet requirements for the major! Summer Session II courses run June 20 to July 26.

Our Summer II courses in Psychology and Neuroscience include:

- PSYC 101 General Psychology**
- PSYC 210 Statistical Principles of Psychological Research**
- PSYC 220 Biopsychology**
- PSYC 225 Sensation, Perception**
- PSYC 230 Cognitive Psychology**
- PSYC 245 Abnormal Psychology**
- PSYC 250 Child Development**
- PSYC 260 Social Psychology**
- PSYC 270 Laboratory Research in Psychology**
- PSYC 467 Development of Black Children**
- PSYC 601 Psychology and Law**

More information can be found [online](#). Students register for Summer courses via [Connect-Carolina](#). Questions regarding our courses? Contact our Student Services Manager, [Christopher Coffey](#).

Jobs & Other Opportunities

Looking for a post-baccalaureate position in psychology? Check out an [online database of active positions](#)! You can also subscribe by email to be notified of new postings. This is a great resource for new graduates!



The Laboratory for Relational Cognition at Georgetown University is seeking a full-time Research Assistant to start August 2016. The RA will coordinate and conduct research on reasoning and creativity in high school students and young adults. Questions and information on how to apply may be directed to [Dan Goldman](#) via email.



Home Base, a Red Sox Foundation and Massachusetts General Hospital Program, is recruiting a new Research Coordinator position to start in Summer 2016. Qualified applicants have a Bachelor's degree and prior research experience. To apply, contact [Rebecca Zakarian](#).



Graduating psychology students are welcome to apply to the Qualtrics University Team as product specialists or as part of the corporate sales team. Applications are [online](#). Contact [Christian Page](#) for more information.

A Lab Coordinator position is available with the Cognition and Development Lab at the University of Maryland College Park to start no later than August 22. Candidates must have a Bachelor's Degree, be able to work independently and in collaboration with others, and be comfortable working with young children. Top candidates have considerable research experience with children under 8 years of age and familiarity with EEG and MatLab. Interested individuals should contact [Dr. Lucas Butler](#).



The Department of Psychology at the University of Minnesota will host the 2nd Annual Diversity Weekend on the Minneapolis campus October 12—14, 2016. Individuals who are enrolled as a college junior or senior, or who have graduated in the last two years, and identify as a member of an underrepresented group (ethnic/racial minority, first-generation student) are encouraged to apply. This is a great opportunity for individuals who are interested in learning about graduate-level training in psychology. The program features formal and informal experiences designed to familiarize participants with strategies to construct a successful graduate application. Applications must be submitted by August 22 at 5 pm [online](#).





(Commencement Award Winners continued from page 2)

Elizabeth Schroeder won the *Dashiell-Thurstone Prize*. The Dashiell-Thurstone Prize is awarded each year for the best senior honors thesis, as judged by a faculty committee. Elizabeth Schroeder, working with her mentor Mark Klingler, is the recipient of the 2016 Dashiell-Thurstone Prize. Elizabeth conducted an innovative and informative investigation that involved a 20 to 40 year follow-up of individuals with autism spectrum disorder who had been evaluated as children at the UNC TEACCH Autism Program between 1965 and 1999. Her findings indicated that even after the severity of symptoms had been taken into account, the parents' predictions of how well their children would do in the future predicted their grown children's functioning decades later when they were now adults. The findings point out how the power of parents' beliefs in their children's abilities might influence their children's functioning far into the future.

Kelly Sheppard won the *Psychology Club Award for Outstanding Research Mentorship by a Graduate Student*. Kelly is a graduate student in Developmental Psychology and received this award for her dedication as a teaching assistant and support of undergraduates in their pursuit of research opportunities.

Vanessa Volpe won the *Psi Chi Award for Outstanding Teaching by a Graduate Assistant*. Vanessa is a teaching assistant in the Developmental Psychology Program. Her research focuses on the physical consequences of racial discrimination experienced by African-Americans. The most common word students use to describe Vanessa is "great." Vanessa received this award for her excellence in teaching and mentoring.

(Jobs & Opps cont. from page 3)



The Thirty Million Words Initiative at the University of Chicago is looking for a Research Support Assistant to implement a video-based parent-directed curriculum. This position will recruit, manage, and follow-up with their patient case-loads. The successful candidate must have proficiency in Spanish. Applicants may email a resume and cover letter to [Ashley Telman](#).



The Children's Campus is currently seeking early childhood professionals to join the Durham and Chapel Hill locations. Qualified applicants are knowledgeable in child development. Cover letters and resumes should be emailed to [Amy Boyette](#).

The Identity and Diversity Lab at Duke University is seeking a full-time Lab Manager to start August or September 2016. The initial appointment is for one year with the possibility to extend for additional years based on performance and funding. Preferred qualifications include a Bachelor's degree, 1+ years of research experience with children and/or racially diverse populations, and programming skills in Qualtrics, Direct RT, Media Lab, and/or Mechanical Turk. To apply, contact [Dr. Sarah Gaither](#).



Juniors, seniors, and graduates from underrepresented groups with a GPA > 3.25 are welcomed to apply to attend an all-expenses-paid conference and expo at Penn State. [Learn more about Healthy People 2020](#) (October 12–15).

A Research Analyst in Early Mathematics Development position is available at Vanderbilt University's Department of Psychology and Human Development. The position requires a Bachelor's degree in psychology or education and previous research experience in tasks such as literature reviews and data coding is highly desirable. To apply, email [Dr. Bethany Rittle-Johnson](#).



The Harvard Lab for Developmental Studies is seeking a Research Assistant in Language Development to start July. Qualifications include an undergraduate degree, a strong interest in the psychology of language, and experience working with young children. Applicants should email [Chantal Hoff](#).