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## Important Dates

**Classes End**  
December 1

**Reading Days**  
Dec. 2 and Dec. 8

**Final Exam Days**  
December 3—4  
December 6—7  
December 9—10

**Fall Commencement**  
December 12

**Classes Begin**  
January 10

## FOLLOW US!



# Psychology & Neuroscience Undergraduate Newsletter

Volume 10 | Issue 2

November 2021

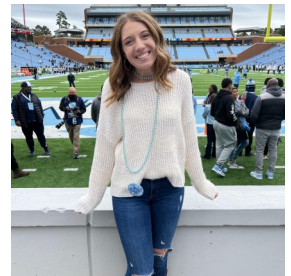
## Student Spotlight

Meet **Taylor Niblack**, a senior Human Development & Family Studies and Psychology double major with a Speech and Hearing Minor. She works in Dr. Clare Harrop's laboratory in the Department of Allied Health Sciences.

**What encouraged you to get involved in research?** I wanted to get involved in research since I learned this was an opportunity for undergraduates at UNC, and I applied to join a lab my sophomore year, but this was cancelled as a result of the pandemic. Coming back this semester, I knew I wanted to get involved in meaningful research, as I know the importance of evidence based practice in the clinical setting, and this will be something I utilize in my future career. I also want to be able to help come up with solutions for how to help people and children especially in difficult situations, and this is done directly through research. The lab I work in focuses specifically on autism diagnosis in girls, and my passion for helping children in stressful situations drew me to the Harrop Lab specifically, and research in general.

**What are your career plans?** I am currently in the process of applying for graduate school to get my Masters in Speech-Language Pathology. My ultimate career goal is becoming a Speech Language Pathologist who works with children in several different settings. I am interested in feeding therapy in the NICU and PICU of the hospital, as well as helping children through childhood speech and language disorders in the clinical and/or school setting. This career will allow me to work with children on a daily basis and help them with their communication, which is an essential part of existence, and that is something I'm so excited to pursue.

**What is the most valuable lesson you've learned?** The most valuable lesson I've learned from this experience is how important research truly is to clinical practice and beyond. Without research, we would not be able to learn and grow as clinicians, or as humans. One of the research projects in our lab involves talking with autistic individuals to see their priorities, and hearing their personal experiences, and how a lot of research does not align with their own values is extremely impactful. Through reading journal articles and working on my literature review, I can see areas of speech and language that need more research, especially with telepractice, and this makes me excited for future practice, and passionate about discovering more throughout my clinical journey and into my own practice.





## Meet a Gil Intern



Meet **Trieu-Vi Khuu**, one of our Fall 2021 interns with the [Karen M. Gil Internship Program in Psychology and Neuroscience](#).

Trieu-Vi is a junior majoring in Psychology and Biology and this Fall she is interning at UNC TEACCH Autism Program. Trieu-Vi has been analyzing Resilience and Transition Readiness. “What fascinates me the most about developmental psychology is the opportunity for resilience given the proper supportive resources. Resilience is wonderful to observe in pediatric medicine, and I have been studying it firsthand thus far.” For her internship, Trieu-Vi is assisting in behavioral assessments for young adults with autism who are enrolled in this T-STEP program. The TREE behavioral assessment stands for the Transition Readiness and Employability Evaluation, and she has been able to play different roles when

delivering these assessments.

She shares, “Interning at UNC TEACCH has been a wonderful experience this semester because it has provided me with experience in patient-facing clinical research. Being able to interact with study participants at TEACCH is a new experience that I have welcomed. My interpersonal communication skills and professionalism have been greatly strengthened throughout my time as a Gil intern at TEACCH, as I have interacted with TEACCH lab members, young adults with autism, and their families. I feel more confident in my work around developmental research and in navigating my professional development alongside a Gil intern cohort of my incredibly talented peers.”

**Want to be a Gil Intern?** The Gil Internship gives you the opportunity to earn course credit and receive a monthly stipend—plus, you’ll gain valuable experience in the field of psychology and neuroscience! Learn more about the [application process](#) online. Questions can be directed to [Emily Dolegowski](#).

## WHAT IS JEDI?

JEDI stands for Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion. It is a department-wide committee comprised of faculty, staff, graduate students, and post-doctoral fellows devoted to promoting equity and diversity in the Psychology and Neuroscience Department.

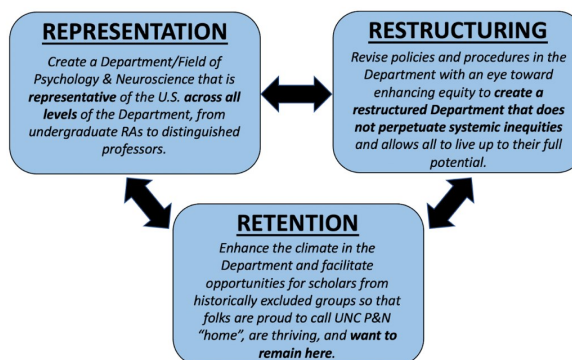
### What have the JEDI been working on?

During the ‘20-’21 academic year, the JEDI expanded the department’s efforts to increase justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion in our community. Among the many initiatives (not all of which are listed here), program faculty, students, and staff (1) developed teaching resources for Psychology and Neuroscience courses to support respectful and inclusive classroom practices as well as to include under-emphasized topics related to BIPOC history, (2) facilitated graduate student representation on faculty search committees and at monthly faculty meetings, (3) coordinated a department-wide, anti-racist book club, (4) created a new set of awards to recognize outstanding service and research contributions related to diversity, equity, and inclusion, and (5) identified and addressed specific barriers to diversity and inclusion within the UNC graduate school, such as GRE score requirements, application prompts, and review criteria.

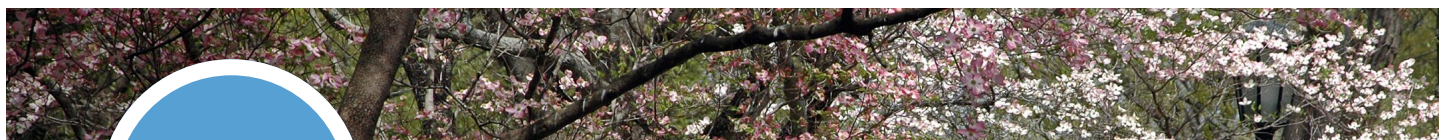
In the new year, we plan to work within each subcommittee in the service of three main aims: Representation, Restructuring, and Retention. These goals were set by Dr. Keely Muscatell working in collaboration with the other members of the leadership team Drs. Barb Fredrickson and Dan Bauer. Each sub-committee was asked to create goals within each of these areas. The goals vary widely (e.g. hosting the Diversifying Psychology Weekend at the level of the department, improving mentoring at every level of the department, posting in this newsletter!) but each is in the service of these three overarching aims of the whole JEDI committee.

*Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (JEDI) Leadership  
Vision for AY 2021-2022 Activities:*

### Prioritizing the 3 Rs: Representation, Restructuring







*Karen M. Gil*

*Internship Poster Showcase*

*Please join us for the*

FALL 2021

**Karen M. Gil  
Internship Poster  
Showcase**



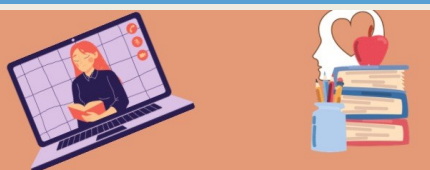
Howell Hall, 1st Floor

Wednesday, December 1, 2021

2:30PM—3:20PM

Light refreshments will be served

*Peer2Peer*



PEER2PEER

**STRESSED FOR FINALS?**

WE'RE HERE FOR YOU.

<https://www.uncpeer2peer.com/>



<http://uncpeer2peer.com/>

## *Jobs & Other Opportunities*

Are you interested in getting involved in research, seeking out funding for your research, or considering graduate school? Check out [a list of our resources](#) on these topics online!



Duke University Medical Center Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Science are seeking a full-time Clinical Research Specialist, Senior (CRS, Sr.) to work on two longitudinal NIH-funded studies that examine neurobehavioral outcomes in HIV infection and chronic marijuana use.

Bachelor's Degree and some previous clinical research experience are required. A background in psychology, neuroscience, and/or biology is preferred.

To apply, please send a CV, statement of interest, and names of three references to [christina.meade@duke.edu](mailto:christina.meade@duke.edu).

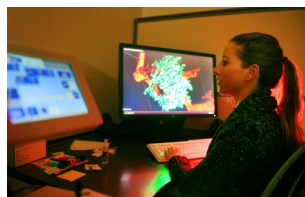
For more information about our lab, please see our website: <http://sites.duke.edu/harp/>.



The DEPEND Lab (director: Dr. Michael Hallquist) is currently recruiting undergraduate research assistants with strong programming backgrounds. We are seeking applicants with substantial experience and training in computer science or related fields. Students who have experience using R, Python, or MATLAB are especially encouraged to apply.

Applicants must have a minimum 3.2 GPA and be able to commit 6-12 hours a week to lab work. The position will begin in Spring 2022 and requires at least a one year commitment.

If you are interested in joining our lab, please fill out the following [form](#) and include your resume/CV (optional) no later than **December 2nd, 2021 at 11:59PM EST.**



Senior PSYC and NSCI majors who are actively involved with service should consider applying for the Donald T. Lysle Award, a service award in the Department of Psychology and Neuroscience. One winner will be selected in **February** and honored with a plaque at the Chancellor's Award Ceremony. Only students who are graduating in May 2022 or August 2022 should apply. Contact [Tudor Comaniciu](#) for more details.



Are you a first year interested in a leadership experience? The NC Fellow programs is a cohort-based program through the Carolina Union Office of Student Life and Leadership. This is an opportunity to participate in the Spring semester of your first-year and remain engaged through graduation, and to deepen your understanding of ethical and effective leadership through academic leadership courses, retreats, and workshops. Deadline is **January 14, 2022**. Apply [online](#).



The Presidential Scholar program is a one-year full time rotational fellowship awarded to three (3) December 2021/May 2022 graduates of a UNC System undergraduate baccalaureate program. This position is ideal for new professionals who are passionate about making equity-minded change to better serve their communities through a variety of avenues.

To apply for this position, complete the online application and upload required documentation no later than **January 16, 2022**. To learn more about the program and past scholars, [please visit our website](#). If you have questions, please reach out to Akura Fontenot, Presidential Scholar Program Coordinator, at [scholars@northcarolina.edu](mailto:scholars@northcarolina.edu).