

PSYCHOLOGY

UC Riverside Psychology Newsletter | Issue 8 | Editor: Rachel Wu, Ph.D.

Graduate student achievements

Juliana Chen: CHASS At Home in the World grant for a study in Singapore

Dr. Lisa Walsh: Postdoc at UCLA; 2022 Psychology of Technology Dissertation Award

Dr. Dana Glenn: NIH NRSA F31; UCR Psychology Robert Rosenthal Award; COGDOP graduate scholarship; NIH T32 postdoc

Dr. Lilian Shin: NIH K99/R00 fellowship at the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center

Isabela Perez and Ramona Martinez: SPSP Jenessa Shapiro Graduate Research Awards

Dr. Chuan Lo: Assistant Professor at St. Bonaventure University

Dr. Pamela Sheffler: Assistant Professor at Landmark College

Dr. Jacob Elder: Robert Rosenthal Graduate Student Research Award; Behavioral Scientist at Vanguard; 3 travel grants; HEERF Dissertation Year Fellowship

Dr. Yrian Derreumaux: Quantitative UX Researcher at Google; HEERF Dissertation Year Fellowship

New faculty 2023-2024



Dr. Halle Dimsdale-Zucker uses behavioral, neural, and computational approaches to study how context (e.g., temporal, spatial) influences what we remember and how our memories are represented by the brain across the lifespan.



Dr. Ian Ballard uses behavioral, neural, and computational approaches to study how we make adaptive decisions. His long-term research goal is to develop strategies and treatments for reducing maladaptive decision-making.



Dr. Hayden Schill Hendley studies visual perception, memory, and learning within applied domains such as radiology and the classroom.



Dr. Stephen Antonoplis will be starting in 2024. He uses behavioral and computational approaches to study how people interact with the social structures they inhabit. He studies who gets resources and who is part of "us."



Dr. Tabea Springstein will be starting in 2024. She studies how social and contextual influences impact individuals' emotion experience and expression across the lifespan.

Graduate student achievements

Dr. Zharoan Zhang: Postdoctoral scholar at Harvard Medical School; Nature Comms paper on "[Motor cortex gates distractor stimulus encoding in sensory cortex.](#)"

Jordan Mullins: NIH NRSA F31; Early Career Distinguished Alumni Award from UC Davis

Tania Rodriguez: UCR Psychology Rising Star Award; Sallie P. Asche Travel Award for the Dallas Aging and Cognition Conference.

Leah Ferguson: Sallie P. Asche Travel Award for the Dallas Aging and Cognition Conference; Robert L. Solso Research Award from WPA

Tina Vo: Behavior Genetics Association's Rowe Award for Outstanding poster presentation

Deja Simon: SPSP Travel Award

Drs. Serena Zadoorian and Pamela Sheffler: UCR Psychology Department Mentor Award

Kamryn Mattingly: GAANN Fellowship

Morgan Gomez: NIH NIA Diversity Supplement

Liz Wilson: SPSP Travel and SPSP Diversity Award

Missy Wilson: CHASS Distinguished Teaching Award

Emily Esposito: SPSP Travel and SPSP Diversity Award; UCR Outstanding TA Award

Lilian Azer: Mentoring and Career Development Award; summer DC policy internship from Gerontological Society of America; travel award from Vision Sciences Society

New grants



[Dr. Kalina Michalska](#) received an NSF CAREER Award to examine ethnic-racial discrimination influences on neural representation of threat learning in Latina girls. She also received an OASIS grant.



[Dr. Aerika Loyd](#) received a UCR Pathways to Psychological Sciences Program from the University of California-Historically Black Colleges and Universities Initiative (UC-HBCU).



[Dr. John Franchak](#) received an Opportunity Award from the James S. McDonnell Foundation's "Understanding Human Cognition" program to use videos captured by parents to characterize their infants' everyday behaviors



[Dr. Lani Bennett](#) with [Dr. Xiaoping Hu](#) received an NIH R21: MRI biomarkers of glial-specific metabolites and microstructure in aging. This project aims to test whether a specific neuroimaging procedure can measure an important type of neuroinflammation.



[Dr. Brent Hughes](#) received a grant with graduate student Eleanor Collier from NSF investigating how people connect through self-disclosure and successful communication and from BSF investigating deindividuation of social outgroup members in the absence of between-group visual difference.



[Dr. Rachel Wu](#) with graduate student Isadora Farias received a Game in Lab grant to investigate how to best encourage older adults to learn new board games - either through the foot-in-the-door approach, or the door-in-the-face approach.

Graduate student achievements

Dr. Jenna Merenstein: APA Div20 Dissertation Award in Psychology of Aging

Monica Beals: UCR ADP Honorable Mention Distinguished Teaching Award

Dr. Jesse Bridgewater: SRCED Executive Branch Policy Fellow; University of California President's Pre-Professoriate Fellowship & Honorable mention on Ford dissertation grant

Stephen Cadieux: [The Sanskrit Handbook: A Guide for Yoga Students](#)

Outreach

- **Dr. Sonja Lyubomirsky:** Featured in a film called [Mission: JOY](#) (about the friendship between the Dalai Lama and Bishop Desmond Tutu).
- **Dr. Rachel Wu:** Featured in [BBC](#) episode on brain aging; [Scientific American](#) article; [TedX UCR](#) talk

Donate to UCR Psych

[UCR Psychology Research](#), [Rosenthal Graduate Student Award](#), Austin & Helen Riesen Senior Psychobiology Award, UCR Psychology Department (workshops, infrastructure, etc.), Ross D. Parke Annual Lecture on Children's Social-Emotional Development Fund, Stella R. Arambel Memorial Award (excellence in Psychological Science), University STEM Academy-USA Program, [Guardian Scholars \(helping emancipated foster youth in higher education\)](#). [Click here for more information.](#)

New faculty awards

Dr. Aerika Loyd: UCR Community Engaged Teaching Award from the Academy of Distinguished Teaching

Dr. Anu Goel: Junior Investigator Award from the National Fragile X Foundation

Dr. Carolyn Murray: Edward A. Dickson Emerita Professor

Dr. Rachel Wu: UCR Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Research and Creative Achievement Faculty Award

Dr. Ilana Bennett: Center for the Neurobiology of learning and Memory (CNLM) fellow

Dr. Halle Dimsdale-Zucker: Memory Disorders Research Society (MDRS) and as Center for the Neurobiology of learning and Memory (CNLM) fellow

Dr. Annie Ditta: UCR Junior Excellence in Teaching Award

Dr. John Franchak: UCR Psychology Department Faculty of the Year

Dr. Misaki Natsuaki: 2022 cohort for the Towards 2044: Horowitz Early Career Scholar Program

Dr. Eddie Zagha: University Honors Faculty Mentor of the Year Award

Dr. Ed Korzus: US Army xTech Research Award

Dr. Kalina Michalska: UCI Fellow Center for the Neurobiology of Learning and Memory

Drs. David Funder, Sonja Lyubomirsky, and Robert Rosenthal: Research.com's top 1,000 scientists, ranked No.907, No. 938, and No.166 respectively