5TH ANNUAL UNDERGRADUATE
PSYCHOLOGY RESEARCH
CONFERENCE

R’PSYC
2023

Presented by
Psi Chi, The Psychology Honor Society and the Psychology Department at UC Riverside
50% of proceeds will go towards R’PSYC 2024 and future conferences. 50% of proceeds will go towards Operation SafeHouse. Operation SafeHouse provides "emergency shelter, intervention, and outreach services to runaway, homeless, or other youth in crisis" for the community of Riverside. The organization also "offers the youth positive alternatives to becoming victims of the streets." All of the programs are "designed to improve the health, wellness, and well-being of their clients." If you would like to learn more, please visit operationsafehouse.org.

Help us reach our goal of $1000!

On behalf of the entire R’PSYC 2023 team, Psi Chi at UC Riverside, we thank you for your contribution!
Day-Of Timeline

26 May

1:00 - 2:00 PM  Poster Presentations
2:00 - 2:10 PM  Transition
2:10 - 3:30 PM  Highlighted Presentation
3:30 - 3:45 PM  Transition
3:45-5:00 PM  DEI & Interdisciplinary Research Panel
5:00 - 5:15 PM  Transition
5:15 - 6:00 PM  Keynote Speaker Speech
6:00 - 6:30 PM  Closing Ceremony
STUDENT PRESENTATIONS

HUB 302 NORTH

Call to Action: Black and Indigenous Mental Health Disparities
Laura M. Perez Luis
Developmental Psychology, Social Psychology

Caregivers’ Experiences of Ethnic-Racial Discrimination and Corresponding Worry for Children Shape Caregiving Practices
Johannah Moynihan
Developmental Psychology

Emotional Regulation and Well-Being Differences BetweenYounger, Middle-aged, and Older Adults During COVID-19
Mehak Shahzad
Developmental Psychology

Evidence of Associative Learning in Formica Workers
Abigail Pellitteri
Cognitive/Developmental Neuroscience, Behavioral Psychology, Cognitive Psychology

Exploring Extralingual Emotion Words: The Role of Background Experience on Perception in English Speakers
Angela Rincon, Savannah Schaffer
Developmental Psychology, Social Psychology
Fine-scale resolution of sensory discrimination in goal-directed behavior in mice

Lourance Mallouhi, Patrick Shashaty, Pawrsa Nikzad

Cognitive/Developmental Neuroscience

Investigating the Effects of Gamified Tasks on Working Memory Training in Older Adults

Matthew Chea, Divitha Doddi, Rachel Tsai

Cognitive Psychology

Joint Effects of Physical Effort and Cognitive Effort on Pupil Size

Lin Karman

Cognitive/Developmental Neuroscience, Cognitive Psychology

Name that scientist!: Who do Black and Latine undergraduate students identify as a famous scientist?

Marilyn Serrano

Developmental Psychology, Social/Personality Psychology

Puzzle Video Game Play and Associations with Working Memory and Processing Speed in Adulthood

Sian Yu, Emery Lor

Developmental Psychology

Respiratory Sinus Arrhythmia Predicts Social Problem-Solving Behaviors in Childhood

Helia Aval

Developmental Psychology
Talker-Identity Learning Can Be Shared Across Modalities
Chlinton Kuang, Ellie Kim, Onesimo Ndiweni, Gustavo Sanabria, Smritii Senthil
Cognitive Psychology

The effect of task environment on behavior in healthy young adults with simulated central vision loss
Diya Anand, Vasudha Attani
Cognitive Psychology

Twin Correlations of Occupational Interest Among Young Adults
Aileen Tran
Biobehavioral Genetics, Industrial-Organizational Psychology

Working Memory Precision Under Physical Effort
Kitzia Solis
Cognitive/Developmental Neuroscience, Cognitive Psychology
Agency and Communion in SMIs and Social Media Users

Jennifer Amador
Industrial-Organizational Psychology, Social/Personality Psychology

Belief in a Dangerous World and Threat Stereotypes May Facilitate Threat Generalization Across Social Outgroups

Patrick Schmelzer
Social Psychology

Difference in Undergraduate Students’ Academic Motivation and Conscientiousness as a Function of Using Online Group Messaging Apps

Joyce Navarro
Educational/School Psychology, Personality Psychology

Does Children’s Negative Emotion Differentiation Relate to Emotion Regulation and Psychopathology?

Gerardo Michel
Developmental Psychology

Does follower self-esteem affect how they perceive leaders and social media influencers’ (SMIs) authenticity?

Shrutisri Sonekar, Kaixin Liu
Social Psychology
Don’t Be Shy, Say Hi: A Study on Extraversion and Well-Being

Raelin Martin, Chelsea Huang

Social/Personality Psychology

Examination of the Relationship Between Youth’s Autonomy and Emotional Awareness

Cesar Enrique Perez

Developmental Psychology

Examining the Effect of Income on Life Satisfaction: Differentiating Between Acts of Kindness and Acts of Sociability

Brian Gao, Sanie Cui

Positive Psychology, Social/Personality Psychology

Experience of an Invisible Illness: How Levels of Visible Illness Determine Social Interaction

Kendra Gonzalez

Health Psychology, Social Psychology

Flowing or Tilting? Well-Being and Behavior in Video Games

Nicklaus Lo

Social Psychology

Friends or Family?: Effects of Social Relationships on Adolescent Mental Health

Preeti Sivakumar, Nardeen Adeib

Developmental Psychology
How Participant Race, Business Owner Race, and Feelings of Displacement Impact Gentrification Perceptions
Karen Huynh, Saanvi Kshetramade
Developmental Psychology

Relations between Performance in Interviews, Self-confidence and Anxiety
Rosario Lopez
Industrial-Organizational Psychology, Social Psychology

School violence behaviors and depression among high school students: Findings from the 2019 Youth Risk Behavior Survey
Haylee Lemus
Developmental Psychology, Psychopathology

State Anxiety as a Moderator Between Affective Empathy and Giving Behavior in Women Engaged in Socially Desirable Responding
Ashley L. Zhang
Social Psychology
DON'T BE SHY, SAY HI: A STUDY ON EXTRAVERSION AND WELL-BEING
Raelin Martin and Chelsea Huang

BELIEF IN A DANGEROUS WORLD AND THREAT STEREOTYPES MAY FACILITATE THREAT GENERALIZATION ACROSS SOCIAL OUTGROUPS
Patrick Schmelzer

CAREGIVERS' EXPERIENCES OF ETHNIC-RACIAL DISCRIMINATION AND CORRESPONDING WORRY FOR CHILDREN SHAPE CAREGIVING PRACTICES
Johannah Moynihan

HOW BUSINESS OWNER RACE AND FEELINGS OF DISPLACEMENT IMPACT GENTRIFICATION PERCEPTION
Karen Huynh and Saanvi Kshetramade

CALL TO ACTION: BLACK AND INDIGENOUS MATERNAL HEALTH DISPARITIES
Laura M. Perez Luis

EMOTIONAL REGULATION AND WELL-BEING DIFFERENCES BETWEEN YOUNGER, MIDDLE-AGED, AND OLDER ADULTS DURING COVID-19
Mehak Shahzad
HIGHLIGHTED PRESENTATIONS

HUB 302 South

EXPERIENCE OF AN INVISIBLE ILLNESS: HOW LEVELS OF VISIBLE ILLNESS DETERMINE SOCIAL INTERACTION
Kendra Gonzalez

SCHOOL VIOLENCE BEHAVIORS AND DEPRESSION AMONG HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS: FINDINGS FROM THE 2019 YOUTH RISK BEHAVIOR SURVEY
Haylee Lemus

PUZZLE VIDEO GAME PLAY AND ASSOCIATIONS WITH WORKING MEMORY AND PROCESSING SPEED IN ADULTHOOD
Sian Yu and Emery Lor

DIFFERENCE IN UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS' ACADEMIC MOTIVATION AND CONSCIENTIOUSNESS AS A FUNCTION OF USING ONLINE GROUP MESSAGING APPS
Joyce Navarro

EXAMINATION OF THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN YOUTH'S AUTONOMY AND EMOTIONAL AWARENESS
Cesar Enrique Perez

DOES CHILDREN'S NEGATIVE EMOTION DIFFERENTIATION RELATE TO EMOTION REGULATION AND PSYCPATHOLOGY?
Gerardo Michel
Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Panelists

Dr. Eui Kyung Kim (she/her)

Eui Kyung Kim, Ph.D., is an Assistant Professor in the School of Education at the University of California, Riverside. Dr. Kim’s research focuses on understanding the pathways to risk and resilience among underrepresented populations in K-12 schools, including social-emotional screening and intervention, perceptions of school climate and social inclusion, and multiculturally responsive graduate recruitment, retention, and training. She currently serves as an Editorial Fellow with School Psychology Review.

Dr. Aerika Brittian Loyd (she/her)

Dr. Aerika Brittian Loyd is an Associate Professor in the Department of Psychology and the director of the Youth Health and Development Lab at the University of California, Riverside. She earned her Ph.D. in Human Development and Child Study from Tufts University and completed postdoctoral training at the Prevention Research Center at Arizona State University. Dr. Loyd is an interdisciplinary and community-engaged developmental scientist who studies race-related social stressors and cultural protective factors among Black and Latine youth and families. She offers recommendations for culturally informed youth practice, prevention, and policy. Her research on the connections between racial stress, health, and development in African American justice-involved youth has been funded by the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD), the National Institutes of Health’s Office of Research on Women’s Health, and the Russell Sage Foundation. Additionally, Dr. Loyd was an active member of the Society for Research in Child Development’s Equity and Justice committee for five years, two of which she served as Co-Chair. She has also collaborated with several professional organizations to advance their diversity, equity, and justice efforts.
Emily Esposito (she/her)

Emily Esposito is a fourth-year Ph.D. student in the Riverside Social and Spatial Cognition lab, where she studies attitudes, contexts, and identity. In her time at UCR, Emily has studied gay migration, which is the process by which sexual minority people (those who do not identify as straight) leave places that are not gay-friendly and move to places that are gay-friendly. With the help of her undergraduate RAs, she has also studied what contributes to perceptions of gentrification, and how gentrified places impact marginalized racial groups’ sense of belonging. Her current research focuses on sexual minority people’s identity development, and how sexual minority people’s environments impact their belonging and well-being. Overall, Emily’s research investigates how places and contexts affect people in different ways, based on their identities. Through her research, Emily wants to gain a better understanding of how people are affected by the world, and in doing so, she hopes to make the world a better and more equitable place.

Dr. Cecilia Cheung (she/her)

Dr. Cheung is an associate professor of psychology at UCR. Her research focuses on the role of the social environment (e.g., parents, teachers, peers) in children’s academic and emotional adjustment. She also has a special interest in understanding children's development across cultures. She is a recipient of the Society for Research in Child Development Early Career Research Contributions Award, a Distinguished Research Award in Human Development by the American Education Research Association, the American Psychological Association Early Career Outstanding Paper Award in Developmental Psychology, and the AERA-SRCD Early Career Fellowship. A large portion of her leisure time is spent on tennis, guitar, movies, and novels.
Tuning out a noisy cart during a grocery trip, the drip of an annoying faucet or the sound of a siren can be challenging to individuals with Fragile X syndrome (FXS) and Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). Growing consensus suggests that an inability to tune out distractors can lead to attention deficit disorders (ADD), limit social interactions and delay learning. What are the neurobiological mechanisms that contribute to susceptibility to sensory distractors, such as lights and sounds? This question is largely unanswered, leaving a huge gap in our understanding of how neural circuits in our brain focus on task relevant stimuli. To fill this gap, our research focus is to study neural circuits and mechanisms that can be therapeutic targets to rescue distractor susceptibly and other atypical behavior in Fragile X Syndrome, using a mouse model of FXS (Fmr1 KO mouse). We use behavior assays, two photon microscopy and machine learning techniques to address our questions. Our research paradigms and techniques are implemented with analogous versions for humans and mice, which allows assessing the translational relevance of the effects of our research questions (and, by extension, the associated circuit dysfunction). A better understanding of the neural communication in the brain will pave the way for circuit based therapeutic interventions to rescue a range of atypical behaviors in FXS.
Dr. Chandra Reynolds (she/her)

Does forgetting a word now and then or walking into a room and forgetting why you stepped into it signal that dementia is in one’s future? The work of Dr. Chandra Reynolds, Professor of Psychology at UCR, addresses why some individuals maintain cognitive functioning and others do not, including typical changes with age versus Alzheimer’s disease and related dementias. She received her Ph.D. in Psychology from the University of Southern California in 1994. She was a postdoctoral fellow at the Institute for Behavioral Genetics, University of Colorado at Boulder and the Andrus Gerontology Center, University of Southern California. Professor Reynolds’s research interests focus on life span development and aging, particularly the coaction and interplay of genes and environments on cognitive aging and risk of ADRD. She engages in longitudinal research, often of twins and adoptees, to examine how and why individuals differ in early life contexts and behavioral health pathways across time and their effects on cognitive functioning. Cognitive resiliency in the face of genetic and environmental risks is a new direction. In addition to participating in the international Interplay of Genes and Environment Across Multiple Studies (IGEMS) consortium, Professor Reynolds leads the Colorado Adoption/Twin Study of Lifespan behavioral development and cognitive aging.

Samyukta Jayakumar (she/her)

I’m a 4th year graduate student in the Cognition and Cognitive Neuroscience track program at the Department of Psychology at UCR working in Aaron Seitz’s lab. My work centers around developing visual perceptual training paradigms for healthy adults as well as for patients with Schizophrenia and Macular Degeneration with a primary focus on developing tools that are available to the public outside of the scientific community. If I’m not in the lab, I’m traveling and hiking or just painting and enjoying a nice book with a cup of hot chocolate!
KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Dr. Sonja Lyubomirsky
Distinguished Professor

THE HOW OF HAPPINESS: BOOSTING WELL-BEING THROUGH GRATITUDE, KINDNESS, AND CONNECTION
Thank you all so much for your contribution and commitment to R'PSYC 2023!

R'PSYC is a research conference created and hosted by Psi Chi at UCR, the International Honor Society in Psychology. We strive to uplift and give a platform to undergraduate researchers pursuing a career in psychology. We promote excellence and enthusiasm for psychological and neuroscience research. Alongside encouraging researchers, we seek to spread knowledge through presentations by exceptional individuals on topics of interest. R'PSYC is committed to sparking passions for research, knowledge, and psychology.

Thank you to the individuals who made this event possible:

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