44th Annual Psychology Research Conference

Full Program

Rowan University
April 19, 2018

Eynon Ballroom
Chamberlain Student Center

About the Conference

The Rowan University Psychology Department's Annual Research Conference has been an ongoing tradition for 43 years. Its intent is to allow students from both our undergraduate and graduate programs the opportunity to present their research findings in a professional context. This conference offers students an excellent opportunity to develop their skills and gain experiences that will foster their professional development. Most importantly, the conference allows students to showcase the results of the psychological research they have been doing over the course of the past academic year.

Psychology Department Mission Statement

The mission of the Psychology Department, as part of the College of Science & Mathematics at Rowan University, is to provide a high-quality education to undergraduate and graduate students, engage in cutting-edge research in a variety of disciplines and sub disciplines within psychology, and to provide services to children and their families in the South Jersey region. To achieve our mission, the department offers two undergraduate degree programs: Bachelor of Arts in Psychology (33 credits) and a Bachelor of Science in Psychological Science (60 credits). We also offer a Concentration in Neuroscience in conjunction with Biological Sciences as well as a Specialization in Behavioral Services for Children and their Families. At the graduate level, we offer a Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology and three Master of Arts degrees in Applied Behavior Analysis, Clinical Mental Health Counseling, and School Psychology. Students in our department have the opportunity to work with faculty members on novel and innovative research across the diverse subfields within psychology as well as being placed in community agencies and businesses to experience first-hand how psychological science is applied to practice.

Our Students

We currently serve approximately 1250 undergraduate majors, 100 minors, and 60 graduate students. Our graduates are employed in a variety of professions. Some of our recent graduates were employed by the following organizations: AT&T, Bancroft, Foster McKay, Maxim Behavior Services, New Behavior Network, and Twin Oaks. Our graduates have also attended a variety of graduate schools to earn degrees in Social Work, Occupational/Physical Therapy, Experimental Psychology, Clinical Psychology, Mental Health Counseling, School Counseling, and Applied Behavior Analysis. Also, some of our recent graduates have attended the following graduate schools: Bowling Green State University, Drexel University, Kean University, Kent State University, Montclair State University, Rowan University, Rutgers University, Stockton College, The College of New Jersey, University of Delaware, and University of Idaho.

Conference Schedule

9:00-10:00am: Oral Presentations

A Functional Assessment for Smoking Treatment Recommendations
Connor Burrows, Jesse Dallery, PhD, Sun Jung Kim, PhD, & Bethany Raiff, PhD
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Bethany Raiff

Examining the Relationship Between Childhood SES and Current Health Behaviors and Mental Health Symptoms
Erin Ryan & Tom Dinzeo, PhD
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Tom Dinzeo

A Longitudinal Study of Mindfulness and Social Problem Solving in Predicting Depression
Sean Martin, **Kara Webb**, Juliana D'Onofrio, MA, Krista Herbert, MA, & Jim A. Haugh, Ph.D.
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Jim Haugh

Academic Success and Risk Factors for Disease in a College Sample
Benjamin Dunham, **Emmanuel Alvarez** & Lisa C. Abrams, PhD
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Lisa Abrams

Does Dispositional Mindfulness Correlate with Blood Pressure Consistently Across Demographics?
Baseline Analyses from the Serenity Study
Gabrielle Chin, A.B, Jeffrey Greeson, Ph.D, Vanessa Anyanso, B.A, Jonathan Reda, B.S, Mary Keenan, B.A,
Devin Barney, B.A, Rosa Heryak, B.A, Megan Strowger, M.A, Monica Fallon, M.A, Joel Hughes, Ph.D, &
David Fresco, Ph.D,
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Jeff Greeson

10:00-11:15am: Oral Presentations

Effectiveness of Mobile Applications for Managing Depression
Jane Akeret, Juliana D'Onofrio, M.A., Krista Herbert, M.A., & Jim A. Haugh, Ph.D.
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Jim Haugh

Online Community Reinforcement and Family Training (CRAFT) for Smoking Treatment Entry
Connor Burrows, **Jessica Nastasi**, **Samantha Sterner,** & Bethany Raiff, Ph.D.
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Bethany Raiff

Use of Information and Communication Technologies and Mental Health: Relationship to Symptoms of Schizotypy,
Anxiety, and Depression
Devin Massaro M.A. & Tom Dinzeo PhD.
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Tom Dinzeo

Does Positive Affect Moderate Sleep Quality in Schizotypy and Hypomania?
Manny Alvarez & Tom Dinzeo, Ph.D.
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Tom Dinzeo

Visual versus Verbal Declarative Memory: A Comparison Between the BVMT and the CVLT
S. Emrani, V. J. Wasserman, S. Higgins, K. D. Garrett, R. Swenson, & D. J. Libon
Faculty Advisor: Dr. David Libon

Visual Serial List Learning in Statistically-Determined Mild Cognitive Impairment
Victor Wasserman, M.S., Sheina Emrani, B.S., Kelly Davis Garrett, PhD, Catherine C. Price, PhD, Melissa, Lamar, PhD, Rod Swenson, PhD, & David J. Libon, PhD
Faculty Advisor: Dr. David Libon

11:15am-12:00pm: Poster Session I

12:00-1:00pm: Oral Presentations

Using a Family Medical Tree as a Predictor of Physical Activity: An Undergraduate Sample
Pierre A. Leon, M.A., Alex Jaffe, B.A., Breanna Willis, Rebecca Ashmore, Anthony Eldridge, Larissa Thiele, Samantha Weiss, Trina Ganguly, B.A., Dustin Fife, Ph.D., & Georita M. Frierson, Ph.D.
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Georita Frierson

Project PAN: Relationship Between Physical Health and Non-Suicidal Self Injury
Alex Jaffe B.A, Pierre A Leon M.S., Anthony Eldridge B.A., Samantha Weiss, Larissa Thiele, Rebecca Ashmore, & Georita M Frierson Ph.D.
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Georita Frierson

Using a Behavioral Economic Measure to Assess the Reinforcing Properties of Non-Medical Use of Prescription Stimulant Medication Among College Students
Matthew J. Dwyer, Jovanna Beardsworth, Alicia Burke, Connor Burrows, ClaudiaDrossel, & Kimberly C. Kirby, PhD
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Kim Kirby

Identifying Factors Influencing Men's Risk for Sexual Violence Perpetration
Ebru Yucel, DJ Angelone, PhD, & Meredith C. Joppa, PhD
Faculty Advisors: Dr. Meredith Joppa & Dr. DJ Angelone

Can a Little Reality Distortion be Beneficial?
Sherry Pujji & Tom Dinzeo, PhD
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Tom Dinzeo

1:00-2:00pm: Oral Presentations

Schizotypy and Social Functioning: The Role of Coping and Negative Affect
Thomas O'Kane, Tom Dinzeo, PhD, & Dustin Fife, PhD
Faculty Advisors: Dr. Tom Dinzeo & Dr. Dustin Fife

Attitudes and Acceptability of the Stepped-Care Model of Depression Treatment in Physicians and Patients
Krista Herbert, MA, Jim A. Haugh, PhD, Seo Choi, DO, Joanna Petrides, PsyD, Meagan Vermeulen, DO & Juliana D'Onofrio, MA
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Jim Haugh

"I Didn't Go To the Gym Today Because..." Social Physique Anxiety in College-Aged Students
Alannah Srsich, **Megan Brown**, & Lisa Abrams, PhD
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Lisa Abrams

Using Focus Group Data to Inform a Planned Prevention Intervention for College Student-Athletes: Preliminary Findings
Nicole Cantor, Meredith Joppa, PhD, & DJ Angelone, PhD
Faculty Advisors: Dr. Meredith Joppa & Dr. DJ Angelone

Depression, Early Maladaptive Schemas, and Health Behaviors **Juliana D'Onofrio, MA** & Jim A. Haugh, Ph.D. Faculty Advisor: Dr. Jim Haugh
2:00-2:30: Oral Presentations
Walk on the Wild Side: Phone Use & Crosswalk Safety Behaviors **Megan Brown**, Emily Diana & Bonnie Angelone, Ph.D. Faculty Advisor: Dr. Bonnie Angelone
Fifty Shades of Sexism: Sexual Dominance as a Mediator for Hostility Towards Women and Sexually Coercive Behavior Among Male College Students **Grace Van Cleef**, **Gabrielle Longo**, Ebru Yucel, Meredith Joppa, PhD, & DJ Angelone, PhD Faculty Advisors: Dr. DJ Angelone & Dr. Meredith Joppa
2:30-2:45pm: Pepper a Prof w/NeuroClub!
2:45-3:30pm: Poster Session II

Oral Presentation Abstracts

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Title: *A Functional Assessment for Smoking Treatment Recommendations*

Authors: Connor Burrows, Jesse Dallery, PhD, Sun Jung Kim, PhD, and Bethany Raiff, PhD

Student Presenter: Connor Burrows

Program: PhD in Clinical Psychology
Advisor: Dr. Bethany Raiff
IRB#: Pro2017001888

Abstract: Cigarette use is associated with a multitude of negative health outcomes, yet relapse rates for treatment remain high. It has been suggested that the use of functional assessment may aid in targeting treatment for smokers based on underlying behavioral function (Axelrod, 1991). The current study sought to assess the reliability and validity of the Functional Assessment of Smoking for Treatment Recommendations (FASTR) survey. The final FASTR included 20 questions across four subscales: 1) Automatic Negative, 2) Antecedent Stimuli, 3) Social Positive, and 4) Automatic Negative.

A total of 364 individuals were surveyed, with 300 (M_{age} = 35.56, SD_{age} = 11.12; Females = 168, Male = 131, Transgender = 1) included in the final analysis. Participants who did not endorse current smoking behavior were excluded, as were participants who either 1) failed to complete the FASTR, or 2) failed to respond appropriately to probe questions. Participants were recruited from Amazon's Mechanical Turk crowdsourcing platform.

Principal component analysis outlined a four-factor solution accounting for 42% of response variance. The 4 identified factors had acceptable-to-good measures of internal consistency, ranging from a = 0.73 to a = 0.92. The FASTR demonstrated preliminary predictive validity, as higher mean scores were associated with higher scores on the Fagerstrom Test of Nicotine Dependence (FTND) ($r(298)$ = 0.27, $p < 0.001$). Contrary to the initial hypothesis, concurrent validity was not established with the Behavioral Activation Scale/Behavioral Inhibition Scales. Future research ought to examine the predictive validity of the FASTR in relation to treatment outcome.

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Title: *Examining the Relationship Between Childhood SES and Current Health Behaviors and Mental Health Symptoms*

Authors: Erin Ryan & Tom Dinzeo, PhD

Student Presenter: Erin Ryan

Program: BA in Psychology
Advisor: Dr. Tom Dinzeo
IRB#: Pro2017001704

Abstract: The resources available to an individual during childhood such as the quality of nutritional options, educational/learning experiences, and health care, are related to parental income and education. These variables generally comprise an individual's socioeconomic status (SES) and may impact future physical and mental health. However, there is very little empirical research examining the specific impacts of childhood SES in college students. The current study examined data from 89 undergraduate participants (collection

ongoing). We were interested in broadly examining how childhood is related to health behaviors (lifestyle), and current mental health symptoms. We anticipated that individuals who grew up in lower SES environments would demonstrate more problematic lifestyle patterns and higher scores on a DSM-5 mental health screening measure. Correlations and hierarchal linear regression models were used to evaluate evidence for our predictions. There was mixed support for our predictions. Only a single indicator of SES (household income) was negatively associated with scores on social concern from our lifestyle measure. Psychological wellbeing was negatively associated with 10 out of the 12 symptoms on our symptom domains measure. Levels of social concern and sense of purpose were predicted by SES. Higher levels of sleep problems and substance use are related to decreased scores of accident prevention. Poor memory and poor personality functioning are related to decreased levels of sense of purpose. Further results and discussion will be provided.

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Title: *A Longitudinal Study of Mindfulness and Social Problem Solving in Predicting Depression*

Authors: Sean Martin, Kara Webb, Juliana D'Onofrio, MA, Krista Herbert, MA, & Jim A. Haugh, Ph.D.

Student Presenters: Sean Martin & Kara Webb

Program: BA in Psychology
Advisor: Dr. Jim Haugh
IRB #: Pro2015000262

Abstract: Social problem-solving (SPS) and mindfulness are two constructs that have been linked to the development and maintenance of depressive symptomatology. Previous research has examined the ability of SPS and mindfulness to predict depression; however, these studies have utilized cross-sectional designs. The primary goal of the current study was to examine the ability of SPS and mindfulness to predict depressive symptoms using a brief, longitudinal design. Based on previous literature, we hypothesized that specific components of SPS (e.g. negative problem orientation [NPO], impulsive/careless style [ICS], and avoidant style [AS]) and specific facets of mindfulness (e.g. acting with awareness and accepting without judgment) would significantly predict depressive symptoms across two time points. A secondary goal of the current study was to examine whether individuals' scores on SPS, mindfulness, and depression measures significantly change over time.

Multiple linear regression analyses indicated that NPO and accepting without judgment were significant predictors of depressive symptoms at both time 1 ($F[9, 154] = 26.93$, $p < .001$) and time 2 ($F[9, 152] = 15.14$, $p < .001$). The model predicted 61.1% of shared variance BDI-II scores at time 1, and 47.3% of shared variance of BDI-II scores at time 2. Additionally, a series of paired samples t-tests indicated that scores on the BDI-II, and the observe, describe, and accepting without judgment facets of mindfulness significantly changed from time 1 to time 2. While changes in scores were statistically significant, effect sizes were weak to moderate ($d=.24$, $d=.23$, $d=.35$, and $d=.49$, respectively).

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Title: *Academic Success and Risk Factors for Disease in a College Sample*

Authors: Benjamin Dunham, Emmanuel Alvarez & Lisa C. Abrams, PhD

Student Presenters: Benjamin Dunham & Emmanuel Alvarez

Program: BS in Psychological Science
Advisor: Dr. Lisa Abrams
IRB#: Pro2017002083

Abstract: The current study examines the relationship between mental and physical health risk factors and academic performance. Researchers anticipate that risk factors such as poor sleeping habits, low levels of exercise, excess stress, and unhealthy diet are related to the development of infectious diseases. Researchers also predict that subjects with chronic illnesses, such as cancer and asthma, will have lower academic success as measured by self-reported grade-point averages.

The current study uses a cross-sectional design. Participants responded to recruitment efforts and completed self-report questionnaires. Questionnaires examined participants' mood, medical history, academic performance, exercise, and dietary habits. Researchers will conduct multiple hierarchal regression models to assess the predictive nature of risk factors and their relationship to academic success. Independent samples t-test will examine the possible differences in academic success between individuals with and without chronic diseases. Due to the relationship between general health and academic success, the study may reveal links to specific risk factors for disease acquisition. As an outcome, this may aid in the development of public health policies in universities. Results will be discussed.

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Title: *Does Dispositional Mindfulness Correlate with Blood Pressure Consistently Across Demographics? Baseline Analyses from the Serenity Study*

Authors: Gabrielle Chin, A.B, Jeffrey Greeson, Ph.D, Vanessa Anyanso, B.A, Jonathan Reda, B.S, Mary Keenan, B.A, Devin Barney, B.A, Rosa Heryak, B.A, Megan Strowger, M.A, Monica Fallon, M.A, Joel Hughes, Ph.D, & David Fresco, Ph.D,

Student Presenter: Gabrielle Chin

Program: PhD in Clinical Psychology
Advisor: Dr. Jeff Greeson
IRB#: NCT02371317

Abstract: Mindfulness is associated with subjective mental health measures, yet few studies address the relationship between dispositional (trait) mindfulness and physical health. Using baseline data from the ongoing Serenity Study (NCT02371317), we examined if trait mindfulness correlates with systolic (SBP) and diastolic blood pressure (DBP) levels consistently across three demographic subgroups- race, gender, and socioeconomic status (SES). The Five Facet Mindfulness Questionnaire (FFMQ) was used to measure core qualities of mindfulness: Observing, Describing, Non-Judgment, Non-Reactivity, and Acting with Awareness. The Decentering subscale from the Experiences Questionnaire (EQ) was used to measure viewing experiences and perceptions objectively without over-identifying with them. In African-Americans (n=59) DBP negatively correlated with two mindfulness facets, Observing ($r(59)=-.401$, $p=.002$) and Non-Reactivity ($r(59)=-.374$, $p=.004$). Caucasians (n=141) showed positive correlations with SBP across three facets- Decentering ($r(59)=.403$, $p=.0001$), Non-Judgment ($r(141)=.191$, $p=.02$) and Non-Reactivity ($r(141)=.174$, $p=.04$). Subgroup differences for SBP were significant in Observing ($Z=2.440$, $p=.015$) and Non-Reactivity

(Z=2.323, p=.02); subgroup DBP differences were significant in Observing (Z=3.577, p=.0003) and Non-Reactivity (Z=2.803, p=.005). For SES, Observing correlated negatively with DBP for lower-income households (r(52)=-.372, p=.007). Observing correlated positively with SBP in higher-income households (r(138)=.213, p=.01). Subgroup differences were significant for Observing in SBP (Z=2.314, p=.02) and DBP (Z=3.054, p=.002). Taken together, results show trait mindfulness correlates with SBP and DBP differently across demographic subgroups at baseline. Future studies relating questionnaire mindfulness measures and objective health measures should consider examining such associations separately, by demographics, to elucidate relationships within each demographic and to not assume associations remain stable across diverse groups.

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Title: *Effectiveness of Mobile Applications for Managing Depression*

Authors: Jane Akeret, Juliana D'Onofrio, M.A., Krista Herbert, M.A., & Jim A. Haugh, Ph.D.

Student Presenter: Jane Akeret

Program: BA in Psychology
Advisor: Dr. Jim Haugh
IRB#: Pro2016001311

Abstract: Given the prevalence, cost, and functional impairment of experiencing depression, alternative treatments have been proposed to increase efficiency, access to, and effectiveness of mental health services. One alternative to traditional care is the use of less intensive, more personalized mHealth interventions including mobile applications. While mHealth interventions have been found to increase treatment accessibility and retention, there is very little scientific evidence that examines their effectiveness in the treatment of depressive symptoms (Donker et al., 2013). Therefore, the purpose of the current was to examine individuals' reports of whether m-health apps are effective in helping to manage depressive symptoms.

Individuals were asked to identify which apps they were using for managing their symptoms of depression. Through running a series of independent t-tests, results indicated that there was no difference in the effectiveness in depression/mood specific apps and other mental health apps. Participants were then asked which common app features were most effective. Results indicated that the monitoring feature was found to be most effective (71%) which included tools to record behaviors, thoughts, emotions, and/or events. Finally, participants on average agreed that overall they found the app useful and would recommend it to another individual (M=5.72; SD=1.22).

As a whole, results indicate that participants on average found the apps that they are using to be effective in helping them to manage symptoms of depression. Though our findings suggests that mobile apps are effective, more research needs to be conducted to further assess certain apps and features.

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Title: *Online Community Reinforcement and Family Training (CRAFT) for Smoking Treatment Entry*

Authors: Connor Burrows, Jessica Nastasi, Samantha Sterner, & Bethany Raiff, Ph.D.

Student Presenters: Connor Burrows, Jessica Nastasi & Samantha Sterner

Program: PhD in Clinical Psychology & MA in Applied Behavior Analysis
Advisor: Dr. Bethany Raiff
IRB#: Pro2017001870

Abstract: Only a minority of smokers attempt to quit for at least one day and successful quitting typically requires multiple attempts because of the high rate of relapse among even the most successful interventions. Although contingency management (CM) interventions for smoking cessation can initiate abstinence, relapse is the most likely outcome, as with all smoking cessation interventions. Thus, a primary public health goal is to develop and test more effective techniques for initiating and maintaining smoking abstinence.
The initial proposal sought to coopt preexisting social support networks to provide continued reinforcement for abstinence through social support (SS) skills training sessions. Participants (N = 12) were consented and randomized into 3 groups: CM alone (n = 6; M-age = 42, SD-age = 10.6), CM plus SS (CM+SS) training (n = 3; M-age = 29, SD-age = 19.8), or TAU (n = 3; M-age = 34.7, SD-age = 13.4). Retention rates were 83%, 0%, and 33% respectively. Attrition was particularly high among individuals assigned to CM+SS and TAU. Participants recruited into the CM alone condition were generally successful, with three participants reducing cigarette use during treatment. A general pattern of non-adherence was observed among the remaining participants. The presented methodological changes seek to address concerns related to attrition and recruitment. The proposed intervention reorients the focus of treatment towards non-smoker skills training in order to promote treatment entry and the utilization of evidence-based interventions via Community Reinforcement and Family Therapy Treatment Entry Training.

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Title: *Use of Information and Communication Technologies and Mental Health: Relationship to Symptoms of Schizotypy, Anxiety, and Depression*

Authors: Devin Massaro M.A. & Tom Dinzeo PhD.

Student Presenter: Devin Massaro, M.A.

Program: PhD in Clinical Psychology
Advisor: Dr. Tom Dinzeo
IRB#: Pro2017001828

Abstract: Onset of schizophrenia peaks in the period of late adolescence and early adulthood (APA, 2013), corresponding with traditional college age. Recent technological innovations have many tangible benefits (i.e., facilitating communication and accessing information); however, technology use has been associated with negative outcomes for emerging adults (Vannucci et. al., 2017). There is very little currently known about how the use of this novel technology may help or hinder those who are at risk for psychosis. The purpose of the present study was to better understand how these technologies is used by college students and whether any specific use patterns would be associated with specific symptom dimensions of schizotypy (i.e., subclinical indicators of risk for schizophrenia). In particular, we were interested in to the use of a social networking site (SNS) while controlling for concurrent symptoms of depression and anxiety. Based on the current clinical literature (Torous & Keshavan, 2016) we hypothesized that both positive and negative schizotypy symptoms would predict greater SNS use, when controlling for anxiety and depression. However, we anticipated that only positive symptoms would be associated with greater internet addiction (Truzoli et. al., 2016). Thus far,

our sample consists of 103 undergraduate participants from Rowan University, varying in age, gender, and ethnicity. Surprisingly, mood and schizotypy symptoms did not predict SNS use. However, schizotypy (specifically disorganized symptoms) and mood symptoms independently predicted internet addiction behaviors. Thus, our results partially support our initial premise, although we believe our null findings reflect shifting social media usage in emerging adults.

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Title: *Does Positive Affect Moderate Sleep Quality in Schizotypy and Hypomania?*

Authors: Manny Alvarez & Tom Dinzeo, Ph.D.

Student Presenter*: Manny Alvarez

Program: BS in Psychological Science
Advisor: Dr. Tom Dinzeo
IRB#: Pro2016001031

Abstract: Sleep quality is related to quality of life and prognosis in individuals with schizophrenia-spectrum (Ritsner et al., 2004) and bipolar-spectrum conditions (Harvey et al., 2009). Recent literature suggests positive affect (PA), an elevated mood state, may be considered a protective factor for sleep quality in severe psychopathology (Ong et al.,2015). The current study seeks to explore the relationship and possible protective nature of PA in sleep quality in individuals with higher prevalence of subclinical symptomatology. We anticipate greater symptom severity to be related with poorer sleep quality. Consistent with the literature, we anticipated that PA would act as a moderator of sleep quality across schizotypy subscale scores (positive, negative, and disorganized). As an exploratory hypothesis, we sought to also examine the role of PA in those with varying levels of hypomania. Data was collected from an upwards of 140 undergraduate students. Participants completed questionnaires that examined aspects such as mood (PANAS and HCL-32), sleep quality (PSQI), and schizotypy (SPQ-BR). Preliminary results support our first hypothesis; greater levels of symptom severity (HCL-32 and SPQ-BR) are related to poorer sleep quality (PSQI) across symptom clusters. Contrary to our predictions, PA did not moderate sleep quality scores across the SPQ-BR subscales. However, there was a non-significant trend (p=.064) suggesting that PA may act as a moderator for sleep quality across hypomania scores. Information from this study may expand the current literature on the role of positive affect in subclinical symptomatology. Further implications and results will be discussed.

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Title: *Visual versus Verbal Declarative Memory: A Comparison Between the BVMT and the CVLT*
Authors: S. Emrani, V. J. Wasserman, S. Higgins, K. D. Garrett, R. Swenson, & D. J. Libon

Student Presenter: Sheina Emrani

Program: PhD in Clinical Psychology
Advisor: Dr. David Libon
IRB#: Pro2016001115, Pro2016001117

Abstract:
Objectives: Compare the differences in clinical presentation between visual declarative memory and verbal declarative memory in patients with mild cognitive impairment (MCI) and without MCI.

Methods: Patients were administered the Brief Visuospatial Memory Test (BVMT) and the California Verbal Learning Test (CVLT). Patients were diagnosed as either single or multi-domain MCI or non-MCI using Jak, Bondi et al., (2009) criteria on tests other than our outcome measures assessing memory, language, and

executive control. MCI was diagnosed when scores fell below >1sd on at least two measures within at least one cognitive domain. Non-MCI was diagnosed in patients who scored above >1sd on all tests.

Results: Analyzing the entire sample, we find an effect between group for total immediate free recall on the CVLT such that non-MCI patients present with better immediate free recall than both the amnestic MCI (aMCI) group and the mixed MCI. In comparison, when assessing the entire sample on total recall for the BVMT we find significant differences only between non-MCI and aMCI. When analyzing the analog variables from the CVLT to the BVMT (i.e. Trial 1 versus Trial 3; Trial 3 and Recognition) we find significant differences in Trial 1 versus Trial 3 for the aMCI group and the mxMCI group.

Conclusion: Visual and verbal declarative memory tests are routinely used to assess for memory impairment. Nonetheless, comparing each test results in heterogeneity between responses and errors.

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Title: *Visual Serial List Learning in Statistically-Determined Mild Cognitive Impairment*
Authors: Victor Wasserman, M.S., Sheina Emrani, B.S., Kelly Davis Garrett, PhD, Catherine C. Price, PhD, Melissa, Lamar, PhD, Rod Swenson, PhD, & David J. Libon, PhD

Student Presenter: Victor Wasserman, M.S.

Program: PhD in Clinical Psychology
Advisor: Dr. David Libon
IRB#: Pro2016001115, Pro2016001117

Abstract:
Objective: To analyze visual serial list learning immediate free recall and commission errors in mild cognitive impairment (MCI).

Memory clinic patients were assessed with the Brief Visuospatial Memory Test-R (BVMT- R). Three groups were examined; amnestic MCI (aMCI), mixed/dysexecutive MCI (mx/dysMCI) using Jak/Bondi (2009) criteria; and non-MCI where comprehensive neuropsychological performance were generally above 1sd. Groups (aMCI, n=11; mx/dysMCI, n=14; non-MCI, n=27) did not differ on age (M=77.2±6.0), education (M=14.2±2.9), or MMSE (M=27.1±1.9). Using age-based norms mean scores on all trials for all three groups were > -1sd. Examination of immediate free recall trials with a 3 x 3 (group x test trials) repeated measures ANOVA yielded a significant effect for trials (p< .001). A flat learning curve characterized non-MCI patients. Learning curves for both MCI groups demonstrated a negative slope (within group; p< .015). 3 x 3 (group x trial) repeated measures ANOVA for commission errors found mx/dys patients generated more errors (p< .001). A group x trial interaction (p< .047) found that non-MCI and mx/dys MCI patients made more errors on trial 3 than 1 (p< .008), while errors made by aMCI patients were unchanged as a function of trial. Markedly reduced free recall performance on the BVMT-R was found in all three groups (>- 1sd). Negative free recall slope coupled with increasingly commission errors as a function of test trials in non-MCI and mx/dys groups was noted. Interference effects mediated by dysexecutive impairment could underlie these profiles.

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Title: *Using a Family Medical Tree as a Predictor of Physical Activity: An Undergraduate Sample*

Authors: Pierre A. Leon, M.A., Alex Jaffe, B.A., Breanna Willis, Rebecca Ashmore, Anthony Eldridge, Larissa Thiele, Samantha Weiss, Trina Ganguly, B.A., Dustin Fife, Ph.D., & Georita M. Frierson, Ph.D.

Student Presenter: Pierre A. Leon, M.A.

Program: PhD in Clinical Psychology
Advisor: Dr. Georita Frierson
IRB#: Pro2016001170

Abstract:
Background: Physical activity (PA) literature promotes PA as an effective preventive measure in the reduction and management of disease in older adults, however, literature on young adults‚Äô PA levels and risk is limited.

Purpose: The primary aim of this study is to determine whether young adults are aware of the American Heart Association (AHA)/ American College of Sports Medicine (ACSM) PA guidelines and whether there are any gender differences in the amount of days they are active. The secondary aim is to determine whether the inclusion or exclusion of non-healthy behaviors predict moderate-vigorous physical activity (MVPA) levels.

Methods: A cross sectional, prospective on-line study was conducted at a northeast university, utilizing self-report questionnaires on PA levels, PA guidelines and a Family Medical History check-list.

Results: The sample was 62.8% (N=49) female and 37.2% (N=29) were male. Overall, 52.2% (N=48) were White, 10.8% (N=10) Asian, 19.5% (N=18) African American, and 4.3% (N=4) multi-racial. An awareness to PA guidelines showed an increase in MVPA, males=Σ4.11 days & females= Σ 3.82 days respectively. Females who consumed alcohol had lower MVPA Godin Scores than individuals who did not consume or consumed little amounts (χ^2 =.048), this was opposite to their male counterparts. Also, sex*alcohol consumption have a trending significance (p=.055) with MVPA. Conclusion This study provides insight on possible primary prevention interventions for young adults with various FMHs as well as provides a strong representation of underrepresented individuals (48%,) in physical activity research. Lastly, alcohol and gender differences play a role in MVPA scores.

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Title: *Project PAN: Relationship Between Physical Health and Non-Suicidal Self Injury*
Authors: Alex Jaffe, B.A, Pierre A Leon, M.S., Anthony Eldridge, B.A., Samantha Weiss, Larissa Thiele, Rebecca Ashmore, & Georita M Frierson, Ph.D.

Student Presenter: Alex Jaffe, B.A.

Program: PhD in Clinical Psychology
Advisors: Dr. Georita Frierson
IRB#: Pro2016001166

Abstract:
Background: The research on non-suicidal self-injury (NSSI) is abundant. Undergraduates have been found to have the highest rates of NSSI. The collegiate environment is a stressful environment. To this point, undergraduates may cope maladaptively, examples being drinking alcohol and smoking. This population might engage in NSSI because of their increase in stress and inability to regulate their emotions. When dealing

with anxiety, students might misinterpret the associated somatic symptoms for physical ailments. These somatic symptoms can have negative effects on their affect and emotions. Furthermore, there is a paucity of literature assessing the relationship between physical health behaviors and non-suicidal self-injury, especially the type of self-injurious behavior used.

Purpose: The present study explored the relationship between physical health and non-suicidal self-injury.

Methods: Participants completed an online survey at Rowan University. Participants were recruited using an IRB approved flyer, an undergraduate psychology pool, and through class presentations.

Results: A logistic regression indicated that as physical health improves, the probability of engaging in NSSI decreases ($p<0.05$). The odds ratio indicated that people who are in better physical health are 0.99 times less likely to engage in non-suicidal self-injury. Analyses indicated statistically significant correlations between the following: physical health and severe scratching ($r(137)=-0.187$, $p=0.05$), physical health and banging / hitting oneself ($r(136)=-0.186$, $p=0.05$), and physical health and picking scabs ($r(136)=-0.185$, $p=0.05$).

Conclusions: Individuals who self-reported lower physical health engage in NSSI more than those who reported being healthier. In the future, individuals with poor physical health can also be asked about NSSI engagement.

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Title: *Using a Behavioral Economic Measure to Assess the Reinforcing Properties of Non-Medical Use of Prescription Stimulant Medication Among College Students*

Authors: Matthew J. Dwyer, Jovanna Beardsworth, Alicia Burke, Connor Burrows, Claudia Drossel, & Kimberly C. Kirby, PhD

Student Presenter: Matthew J. Dwyer

Program: PhD in Clinical Psychology
Advisor: Dr. Kim Kirby
IRB#: 2017001975

Abstract: The non-medical use of prescription stimulants (NMUPS), such as Ritalin, Adderall, and Concerta, is a rising trend in American adults, and use is most prevalent among college age adults. Survey research among experienced users has identified several reasons students are engaging in NMUPS, but less is known about what the relative reinforcing properties are for college students as a whole. Behavioral economic drug purchase tasks have been used to capture reinforcer strength and motivation for use for prescription drugs and other substances, by assessing how many units (pills) individuals would purchase and consume at increasing prices. For this study, we developed a hypothetical drug called "Imaginex" that has stimulant-like drug effects but without other factors that may discourage drug use, such as illicit use, undesired negative side effects, social stigma, or issues of accessibility. Students were asked to rank order their preferences among eight effects associated with Imaginex, including increased focus and energy, academic performance, athletic performance, ease of socialization, appetite suppressant, or recreational high. To determine relative differences in demand (as measured by how many pills they would purchase and consume at increasing prices) between these drug properties, participants then completed separate purchase tasks for their first, second, fifth, and eighth ranked preferred effects. Pilot data will be presented, along with a description of initial findings, limitations, and possible changes as this project continues.

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Title: *Identifying Factors Influencing Men's Risk for Sexual Violence Perpetration*

Authors: Ebru Yucel, DJ Angelone, PhD, & Meredith C. Joppa, PhD

Student Presenter: Ebru Yucel

Programs: PhD in Clinical Psychology
Advisor: Dr. Meredith Joppa & Dr. DJ Angelone
IRB#: 2015029

Abstract: Background: Approximately 25% of college men report engaging in an act of sexual violence (SV) (Koss, Gidycz, & Wisniewski, 1987). The confluence model has been the gold standard for predicting risk for perpetration of SV over the last three decades (Malamuth, 1995). However, there have been significant shifts in culture since the development of this model; thus, there is a need examine and clarify its relevancy. Method: Participants were 265 male college students who participated in a laboratory analogue of SV, and answered relevant questionnaires. The analogue provides an opportunity for participants to engage in behaviors that serve as a proxy for SV outside of the laboratory (Hall & Hirschman, 1993). Results: The model includes two primary constructs: 1) Hostile masculinity (HM), a composite of three measures (Sexual Dominance Scale (Nelson, 1979), Hostility Towards Women Scale (Buss & Perry, 1992), and Adversarial Sexual Beliefs (Burt, 1980)) 2) Impersonal sex (IS), a composite of items from the Attitudes about Casual Sex (Hendrick et al., 2006). We were interested to see if the addition of another construct, Hostile sexism (HS; Glick & Fiske, 1996) would enhance the original model. Structural Equation Modeling and a series of confirmatory factor analyses were used to determine which variables best predicted risk for perpetration of SV. Conclusion: The combination of HS and IS may be a better predictor of SV perpetration than the original combination of HM and IS; thus, future researchers should consider using this alternative enhanced model.

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Title: *Can a Little Reality Distortion be Beneficial?*

Authors: Sherry Pujji & Tom Dinzeo, PhD

Student Presenter: Sherry Pujji

Program: MA in Clinical Mental Health Counseling
Advisor: Dr. Tom Dinzeo
IRB#: Pro2015000430

Abstract: The pathway to the formation and maintenance of delusional beliefs is highly individualized. Historically, delusions have been considered to be pernicious and the corresponding distortions of reality are viewed as harmful to the individual. However, reality distortion and delusional beliefs may also be beneficial if they are perceived and experienced in a positive way by the individual. Previous research has shown that a subset of individuals with delusional beliefs tend to experience higher levels of sense of purpose and a higher sense of self. The current study seeks to examine the relationships between delusional beliefs, sense of purpose, self-esteem, and positive affect. Based on the current literature, we anticipated that the sense of purpose, self-esteem, and positive affect would be predicted by the presence of delusional ideation, especially expansive delusions. Data collection is ongoing with upwards of 200 undergraduate student participants. Preliminary results suggest that the presence of certain specific types of delusional ideation contributed to the prediction of both higher sense of purpose and self-esteem. There were some instances where lower levels of certain types of delusional ideation, such as persecutory beliefs contributed to the prediction of higher levels

of self-esteem. Only expansive delusions contributed to the prediction of positive affect, though the overall regression model was not significant. Further results and implications will be discussed.

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Title: *Schizotypy and Social Functioning: The Role of Coping and Negative Affect*

Authors: Thomas O'Kane, Tom Dinzeo, PhD, & Dustin Fife, PhD

Student Presenter: Thomas O'Kane

Program: BA in Psychology
Advisors: Dr. Tom Dinzeo & Dr. Dustin Fife
IRB#: N/A

Abstract: College students are exposed to a wide range of academic and social pressures. Wellbeing in particular is often sensitive to the quality of social supports, friendships, and romantic relationships. However, research suggests that individuals with higher levels of schizotypy (i.e., subclinical risk indicators for schizophrenia) have impairments in social functioning and lower quality of life. In addition, the literature suggests that social functioning can be affected by factors such as stress and unique coping strategies. We developed a series of a priori hypotheses regarding the prediction of social functioning scores (SFS) based on levels of 1) schizotypy, 2) negative affect/stress, and 3) coping styles (problem focused vs emotion focused strategies). The current study represents a secondary analysis of a larger dataset and there were 370 participants who had completed all of the measures-of-interest. Based on the previous literature we anticipated that higher levels of schizotypy would be associated with a greater degree of impairment in social functioning and that levels of negative emotion and coping style would moderate the relationship between schizotypy and social functioning. At the present time, little research exists examining all of these interactions within the realm of schizotypy. We are currently in the process of preparing the database for our analyses and we will present our findings, and their implication, in full.

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Title: *Attitudes and Acceptability of the Stepped-Care Model of Depression Treatment in Physicians and Patients*

Authors: Krista Herbert, MA, Jim A. Haugh, PhD, Seo Choi, DO, Joanna Petrides, PsyD, Meagan Vermeulen, DO & Juliana D'Onofrio, MA

Student Presenter: Krista Herbert, MA

Program: PhD in Clinical Psychology
Advisors: Dr. Jim Haugh
IRB#: Pro2016001559

Abstract: Approximately 43-60% of people will seek treatment for depression within primary care (Kessler, 2008). While depression can be treated effectively using standard care, initiation and adherence is low (Seekles, 2009). Stepped care models (SCM) have been adopted in international primary care settings as an alternative to standard care. Studies suggest that SCM's are as effective as standard care and reduce attrition and cost (van Straten, 2010). Despite the potential value of the SCM, little is known about attitudes of patients and providers regarding this model. The purpose of the study was to assess three questions: is the SCM acceptable, is it an improvement over traditional care, and if given a choice, at what step would they begin?

127 patients and 32 providers were recruited from four primary care settings. Results indicate that all providers and 91% of patients view the SCM as an acceptable form of treatment. Additionally, 72% of

providers and 66% of patients view the model to be an improvement upon standard care. Finally, when asked what treatment would be preferred if prescribing or seeking help, patients most frequently endorsed a preference for step two (e.g., self-help, 43%) and three (e.g., psychotherapy, medication, or a combination, 38%). In contrast to patients, providers were asked to rank each step in the order that they would prescribe them. Results indicated that providers would prescribe the steps consistent with how they are laid out in the SCM. Knowledge about attitudes and acceptability in this population may be important to future implementation of such models within a primary care setting.

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Title: *Attitudes and Acceptability of the Stepped-Care Model for Depression Treatment in Physicians and Patients*

Authors: Krista Herbert, MA, Meagan Vermeulen, MD, Joanna Petrides, PsyD, & Seo Choi, DO

Student Presenter: Krista Herbert, MA

Program: PhD in Clinical Psychology
Advisors: Dr. Jim Haugh
IRB#: Pro2016001559

Abstract: Given that approximately 43 to 60% of people experiencing symptoms of depression will seek services in primary care practices (Kessler & Stafford, 2008), integrating psychological services into these settings is vital. In recent years stepped care (SC) models have been adopted in several international primary care settings as an alternative to standard care for people with depression. In a SC model, a patient's depression severity is assessed and an intervention is prescribed that matches the severity of symptoms (Franx et al., 2012).

Some studies suggest that SC is at least as effective as usual care for depression, in addition to being cost-effective (van Straten et al., 2010). Further, the implementation of a SC model may decrease patient drop out because care can be more tailored to the patient's treatment preferences (Firth et al., 2015). Despite evidence suggesting the possible value of SC models, little is known about the attitudes of patients and physicians regarding this model. The purpose of the current study is to explore patient and physician attitudes towards the SC model using two treatment preference inventories that the authors created.

Data collection will commence in March 2017. Participants will be recruited from the Department of Family Medicine at Rowan University's School of Osteopathic Medicine. Statistical analyses will examine treatment preferences using descriptive statistics, chi square test of independence, Mann-Whitney tests, and Wilcoxon signed rank tests. Knowledge about attitudes and acceptability in this population may be important to future implementation of such models within a primary care setting.

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Title: *"I Didn't Go To the Gym Today Because..." Social Physique Anxiety in College-Aged Students*

Authors: Alannah Srsich, Megan Brown, & Lisa Abrams, PhD

Student Presenters: Alannah Srsich & Megan Brown

Program: BS in Psychological Science
Advisors: Dr. Lisa Abrams
IRB#: Pro2017002078

Abstract: Social physique anxiety (SPA) is a feeling of distress categorized by the fear of lack of expertise and negative judgment in an exercise setting. The purpose of this study was to examine the relationship between

SPA, gender, hours spent in the gym, and the type of training the individual engages in. Researchers hypothesized that women and transgender individuals will report higher SPA scores than men, that the hours spent in the gym significantly predicts SPA scores, and that training type significantly predicts SPA scores. Participants completed an online questionnaire, which included demographic information, exercise habits, and items from the Physical Activity and Sport Anxiety Scale (Norton, Hope, & Weeks, 2004). One-way ANOVA analyses tested whether there was a significant difference between (1) gender and SPA and (2) training type and SPA. A simple regression assessed whether hours spent in the gym significantly predicted SPA. Results of these analyses and implications of the study will be discussed. This study was conducted in hopes to better understand the impact of anxiety in a gym setting. These results aim to give researchers and clinicians insight to better alleviate anxiety, and overall increase physical activity.

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Title: *Using Focus Group Data to Inform a Planned Prevention Intervention for College Student-Athletes: Preliminary Findings*

Authors: Nicole Cantor, Meredith Joppa, PhD, & DJ Angelone, PhD

Student Presenter: Nicole Cantor

Program: PhD in Clinical Psychology
Advisors: Dr. Meredith Joppa & Dr. DJ Angelone
IRB#: Pro2016001053

Abstract: Despite college students engaging in sexual risk behaviors (SRB) that may increase their risk for sexual assault (SA) and dating violence (DV) (Kaukinen, 2014), there is little research about NCAA Division III student-athletes . Further, prevention interventions are maximally effective when they are targeted to the unique needs of the population (Lauver et al., 2002). Thus, in order to develop a targeted prevention intervention to decrease SRB, SA, and DV in college student-athletes, we conducted focus groups to provide perspectives on dating and relationship experiences, as well as individual and team strengths, which may serve as protective factors against SRB, SA, and DV (Fasting, Brackenridge, Miller, & Sabo, 2008). Student-athletes (N = 33, mean group size = 7) discussed their personal experiences with romantic relationships, their definitions of healthy/unhealthy relationships, and preferences for a targeted prevention intervention. Audio recordings were transcribed and analyzed through a qualitative content analysis, which revealed several themes about athletes' behavior in and out of their athletic season. These themes include: peer support, motivation to succeed, means of relaxation, and enjoying college. In season, athletes describe practicing self-control given their desire to succeed athletically. Out of season, athletes report engaging in drinking and casual sex behaviors. The strengths and weaknesses described by athletes suggest that a targeted prevention intervention to decrease SRB, SA, and DV by promoting healthy relationship skills could build upon pre-existing skills utilized in season.

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Title: *Depression, Early Maladaptive Schemas, and Health Behaviors*

Authors: Juliana D'Onofrio, MA & Jim A. Haugh, Ph.D.

Student Presenter: Juliana D'Onofrio, MA

Program: PhD in Clinical Psychology
Advisor: Dr. Jim Haugh
IRB#: Pro2017001634

Abstract: The purpose of the study is to explore the relationships among depressive symptoms, early maladaptive schemas (EMS), and health behaviors. According to Young et al. (2003), individuals deal with EMS through three different coping styles. More specifically, when an individual is coping with EMS through means of avoidance, he or she attempts to "live without awareness, as though the schema does not exist" (p. 34). Therefore, schema theory proposes that an individual attempting to avoid EMS is likely to do so through engaging in specific negative health behaviors, which might include using drugs, drinking excessively, risky sex, and/or overeating (Young et al., 2003).

Limited research has established a link between EMS and some specific negative health behaviors (e.g. opioid drug use, sexual aggression). However, no research has examined the relationship between EMS and general health behaviors (e.g. nutrition, drug/alcohol use, physical/sexual activity, etc.). Schema theory and a recent review, which found that personality factors significantly predicted health behaviors (Strickhouser, Zell, & Krizan, 2017), suggest the existence of such a relationship. Our hypotheses were threefold. First, individuals who endorse EMS will be more likely to report higher levels of depression. Second, individuals who report higher levels of depression will be more likely to report negative health behaviors. Finally, individuals who endorse EMS will be more likely to report negative health behaviors.

Data collection is ongoing and included measures assess presence of depressive symptoms, endorsement of EMS, and health behaviors. Results will include descriptive and inferential analyses to examine relationships across variables.

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Title: *Walk on the Wild Side: Phone Use & Crosswalk Safety Behaviors*

Authors: Megan Brown, Emily Diana & Bonnie Angelone, Ph.D.

Student Presenter: Megan Brown

Program: BS in Psychological Science
Advisor: Dr. Bonnie Angelone
IRB#: Pro2017001850

Abstract: Recent research has explored the phenomenon of distraction and traffic safety, in particular, driving while distracted. However, dangerous distractions are not limited to driving; pedestrians may also engage in distractions that interfere with using safety behaviors. Research exploring the relationship between distracted walking and pedestrian safety has shown that when individuals engage in distracting behavior, such as texting, talking on the phone (Schwebel et al., 2012; Hyman et al., 2010), having a conversation next to someone (Hyman et al., 2010), or listening to music through headphones (Schwebel et al., 2012; Hyman et al., 2010), they are likely to be less aware of their surroundings, putting them at risk for injury (Naser & Troyer, 2013). Researchers hypothesized that distracted pedestrians would exhibit fewer safety behaviors while walking through a crosswalk. An observational study was conducted at high volume crosswalks here at

Rowan. To track information, a checklist was designed for each researcher to use during the observation. Pedestrians' (N=265) safety behaviors were recorded along with common distractive behaviors. Three 2x2 chi-square analyses were conducted to examine phone use and 3 different safety behaviors (pressing/waiting for the signal crossing button, looking both ways before entering the crosswalk, waiting for traffic to stop before crossing). Researchers also examined the use of headphones (N=55) on the 3 safety behaviors. Overall, there were no significant effects of cell phone or headphone use on safe walking. Perhaps pedestrians use caution when approaching some crosswalks and reduce the use of their distracting devices.

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Title: *Fifty Shades of Sexism: Sexual Dominance as a Mediator for Hostility Towards Women and Sexually Coercive Behavior Among Male College Students*

Authors: Grace Van Cleef, Gabrielle Longo, Ebru Yucel, Meredith Joppa, PhD, & DJ Angelone, PhD

Student Presenters: Grace Van Cleef & Gabrielle Longo

Programs: BA in Psychology & BS in Psychological Science
Advisors: Dr. DJ Angelone & Dr. Meredith Joppa
IRB#: 2015-029

Abstract: There has been a rise in popularity and mainstream media coverage for dominant/submissive sexual roles, particularly regarding the Fifty Shades of Grey franchise. However, there has been a backlash to these films from the BDSM community claiming that their portrayal of a sadomasochistic relationship is abusive and that the titular character, Christian Grey, is misogynistic and controlling. From a research perspective, sexual dominance has been shown to predict sexually violent behavior among male college students (Martin et. al, 2005; Schatzel-Murphy et al., 2009). In addition, hostility towards women is associated with an increase in sexual violence (Forbes, Adams-Curtis, & White, 2004; Bosson et al., 2015). Using data from a study of 265 male college students, we examined a model of sexual dominance as a mediator of the relationship between hostility towards women and sexual violence. Our data shows that there is a significant direct effect of hostility towards women on sexual violence and a significant indirect effect of hostility towards women on sexual violence through sexual dominance as a mediator. Results suggest that sexual dominance could serve as an excuse or a justification for sexually violent behavior. Preexisting hostile views towards women could lead men to blur the lines between sexual dominance and sexual violence. This indicates that sexual dominance may be less of a predictor of sexual assault on its own and more of a tactic for sexual violence used by men who already exhibit negative views of women.

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Poster Session I Abstracts

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Title: *Will Adding the Triggr Mobile Recovery Application to Outpatient Drug and Alcohol Treatment Produce Better Treatment Engagement and Drug Abstinence Compared to Usual Care?*

Authors: Julie L. Weiss, Matthew J. Dwyer, Sarah F. Springer, Autumn Paz, Jessica R. Donlan, Elena Bresani, & Kimberly C. Kirby, PhD

Author/Student Presenter: Julie L. Weiss

Program: MA in Applied Behavior Analysis
Advisor: Dr. Kim Kirby
IRB#: 2016000967

Abstract: Approximately 21.5 million Americans suffer from a substance use disorder and there is a need for cost-efficient and effective treatments. Mobile technologies have the potential to be both effective and cost-efficient and have been supported in previous research. This study tests a smartphone application, Triggr, and its effects on treatment engagement and drug use. Triggr uses machine learning and passively monitors behavior patterns to determine when patients are at risk for drug use, sending immediate praise for compliance, and providing active communication between the patient and a recovery advocate. Participants (N=17) were recruited from a community outpatient treatment program and were randomized into the Triggr or Treatment as Usual (TAU) condition. Treatment engagement was monitored through clinic records. Urine samples were collected twice weekly and tested for drugs (via integrated test cups) and alcohol (via EtG dip sticks). We found no differences in attendance; however, the Triggr group showed no opioid or THC use compared to up to 22% each in the TAU group. At the end of treatment there was an increasing trend in any drug use in TAU as compared to stable low levels in Triggr. Most participants reported opioid use as their primary problem (TAU=56%; Triggr=75%), thus no opioid use in the Triggr group is an important finding. Limitations of the study include small N, limited one-month study duration, and a high proportion of participants with drug court involvement, which likely reduced sensitivity to changes in drug use.

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Title: *Community Reinforcement and Family Training (CRAFT): Do Programs for Family Members of Patients with Substance Abuse Disorders Lead to Improvements in Relationship Satisfaction?*

Authors: Samantha Weinstein, Kelly Sullivan, Elena Bresani, Karen Dugosh, PhD, & Kimberly Kirby, PhD

Student Presenter: Samantha Weinstein

Program: MA in Applied Behavior Analysis
Advisor: Dr. Kim Kirby
IRB#: 2018002255

Abstract: Community Reinforcement and Family Training (CRAFT) is a behavioral training program designed to help concerned family members and significant others (CSO's) of a substance abusing, treatment resistant loved one (IP.) CRAFT trains CSOs to use communication skills and principles of reinforcement to improve their own lives while managing their IP's behavior and improving their relationship with the IP. CRAFT has empirical support for use with adults, but until recently, there had been no controlled studies with parents of adolescents and young adults. In an intent-to-treat randomized clinical trial conducted by the Treatment Research Institute in Philadelphia, 49 CSO's of treatment-resistant youth (aged 12-25) were

assigned to either (a) CRAFT or (b) Al-Anon/Nar-Anon Facilitation Therapy (ANF); an alternative method designed to encourage the CSO's involvement in 12-step family support programs. All participants were to complete 11 individual training sessions within a 4-month period. We report a secondary analysis of de-identified data from the Parent Happiness with Youth Scale (PHYS), which asked parents to rate (on a scale of 0 to 100%) how happy they are with their youth. Parents completed the PHYS at baseline, 3-, 6-, and 12-month assessments. A mixed effects model examined group differences in PHYS scores across the four assessment points. There was a significant interaction ($F_{(3,115)}=2.78$, $p>.05$), with CRAFT parents happier with their youth (56.5%) than ANF parents (36.9%) at 12 months. This suggests that CRAFT can improve the relationship between parents and their drug-involved children and thus potentially enhance lives of both.

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Title: *Using the Triggr Mobile Recovery Application in a Primary Care Setting to Increase Opiate-Dependent Patients' Engagement in Recovery Activities*

Authors: Sarah F. Springer, Samantha Weinstein, Kelly Sullivan, Alicia Burke, Jessica R. Donlan, Matthew J. Dwyer, M.S., Elena Bresani, M.S., CCRP, Kimberly Kirby, PhD, BCBA-D

Student Presenters: Sarah F. Springer

Program: MA in Applied Behavior Analysis
Advisor: Dr. Kim Kircy
IRB#: 20170057

Abstract: According to the results from the 2016 National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH), 11.8 million Americans misused the opioids during the past year and approximately 2 million people were diagnosed with an opioid use disorder, with 1.8 million of them using prescription pain relievers and 626,000 using heroin. Addressing opioid misuse has become increasingly important as opioid-involved deaths have become an epidemic in the United States, increasing by a factor of 5 since 1999, with 116 people dying from an opioid overdose every day: more than one every 15 minutes. There are effective medications for treating opioid use disorders, including a buprenorphine/naloxone combination that can be prescribed and delivered in primary care settings. The medication is very effective at stopping opioid use, but it can be a challenge to keep patients in treatment. Triggr is a mobile-health application that can predict treatment dropout up to three days prior to it occurring. The purpose of this study is to compare Triggr plus Usual Care in a primary healthcare setting to Usual Care (UC) only to determine if Triggr can extend treatment retention and reduce opioid use. Patients on buprenorphine maintenance therapy are randomly assigned to receive Trigger or UC only. Clinic records provide information on patient retention in buprenorphine therapy and on opioid use based on weekly urinalysis. We expect that Triggr will extend treatment retention and reduce opioid use. We will present preliminary data from the first 15 patients in the ongoing trial.

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Title: *Development of a Direct Behavioral Recording System for CRAFT Positive Reinforcement Skills*

Authors: Jessica R. Donlan, Natalie A. Torres, Trina Ganguly, Autumn Paz, Elena Bresani, M. S., & Kimberly C. Kirby, Ph.D., BCBA-D

Student Presenter: Jessica R. Donlan

Program: MA in Applied Behavior Analysis
Advisor: Dr. Kim Kirby
IRB#: 2018002299

Abstract: This study describes the methodology involved in developing a direct observation behavioral recording system for positive reinforcement skills trained during Community Reinforcement and Family Training (CRAFT). CRAFT is a unilateral intervention for the concerned significant others (CSOs) of treatment-resistant individuals suffering from a substance use disorder (i.e., the Identified Patient; IP). In randomized controlled trials, CRAFT has produced greater treatment entry of IPs in comparison to other CSO interventions; however, it has not produced greater decreases in drug use. Since the positive reinforcement skills that are trained in CRAFT should theoretically produce reductions in drug use, it is not clear why CRAFT has not achieved this. Surprisingly, no previous CRAFT study has directly measured whether CRAFT training actually produces changes in CSO positive reinforcement skills. The purpose of the current study is to develop a direct behavioral observation system to allow direct measurement of these skills. We developed standardized role plays involving positive reinforcement skills, operationally defined specific positive reinforcement skills, and constructed an interval recording system for direct observation recording. The interval recording system is being tested using the standardized role plays and interobserver agreement is calculated to assess reliability of the measurement system. For behaviors with interobserver agreement less than 80%, behavioral definitions are revised and interrater agreement reviewed in an iterative fashion until ≥80% agreement is achieved. We will present these methodological components and provide data on our preliminary assessments of the reliability of the measurement system by an interobserver agreement.

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Title: *Development of a Direct Behavioral Recording System for CRAFT Communication Skills*

Authors: Natalie A. Torres, Jessica R. Donlan, Kelley Sullivan, Samantha B. Weinstein, Elena Bresani, M.S., & Kimberly C. Kirby, Ph.D., BCBA-D

Student Presenters: Natalie A. Torres

Program: MA in Applied Behavior Analysis
Advisor: Dr. Kim Kirby
IRB#: 2018002297

Abstract: Community Reinforcement and Family Training (CRAFT) is unilateral intervention for concerned significant others (CSOs) of treatment-resistant individuals with a substance use disorder (i.e., the Identified Patient; IP). In controlled trials, CRAFT produced greater treatment entry of IPs in comparison to other CSO interventions; however, it has not reliably produced greater improvement in drug abstinence or in the relationship between the CSO and IP. One possible reason for this may be that CRAFT does not produce significant changes in the behaviors of the CSO. To date, no studies have directly measured to determine if CRAFT changes the CSO behaviors that it trains. Communication skills are particularly important, as they are required for implementing all other CRAFT skills, but no method exists for measuring them. The primary goal of this study is to develop a reliable direct observation coding system to measure CRAFT

communication skills. We constructed standardized role plays involving communication skills, operationally defined each of the skills, and created an interval recording system for direct observation recording. Coders recorded behaviors during the standardized role plays and interobserver agreement was calculated to assess reliability of the measurement system. Interrater reliability was initially assessed at 68% overall, with poorest agreement on two behaviors. The definitions of these behaviors were revised and interrater agreement will be reviewed in an iterative fashion until ≥80% agreement is achieved. We will present these methodological components and provide data on our preliminary assessments of the reliability of the measurement system.

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Title: *Community Reinforcement and Family Training: Do Programs for Family Members of Patients with Substance Use Disorders Lead to Increased Knowledge of Intervention Strategies?*

Authors: Kelly Sullivan, Samantha Weinstein, Elena Bresani, M.S., Karen Dugosh, Kimberly C. Kirby, Ph.D., BCBA-D

Student Presenter: Kelly Sullivan

Program: MA in Applied Behavior Analysis
Advisor: Dr. Kim Kirby
IRB#: Pro2018002254

Abstract: Community Reinforcement and Family Training (CRAFT) is a behavioral therapy training program designed to help concerned family members and significant others (CSOs) get their a substance abusing, treatment resistant loved one (IP) into treatment. CRAFT includes a family training component (CRAFT) which trains CSOs to use communication skills and principles of reinforcement to help them improve their own lives while managing their IP's behavior, improving their relationship, and providing their IP with appropriate support. CRAFT has empirical support for use with adults, but until recently, there had been no controlled studies with parents of adolescents and young adults. In an intent-to- treat randomized clinical trial conducted by the Treatment Research Institute in Philadelphia, 49 CSO's of treatment-resistant youth (aged 12-25) were assigned to either (a) CRAFT or (b) Al-Anon/Nar-Anon Facilitation Therapy (ANF); an alternative method designed to encourage the CSO's involvement in 12-step family support programs. All participants were encouraged to complete 11 individual training sessions within a 4-month period as well as partake in baseline, 3-, 6-, and 12-month assessments to evaluate the effectiveness of CRAFT in comparison to ANF. We report a secondary analysis of de-identified data from the Family Training Survey (FTS), which asked parents to identify the best CRAFT appropriate response in a given scenario. Parents completed the FTS at baseline, 3, 6 and 12-month assessments. A mixed effects model examined group differences in FTS scores across the four assessment points. There was a significant interaction (F $(3,137)$ =3.04, p = .03), with CRAFT parents showing more CRAFT knowledge (51.1%) than ANF parents (30.0%) at 6 months.

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Title: *An Empirical Examination of the Social Validity of Incentive Programs to Promote Healthy Behavior Change*

Authors: Autumn Paz, Matthew J. Dwyer, Mary Talbit, Elena Bresani, M.S., Connor Burrows, and Kimberly C. Kirby, Ph.D., BCBA-D

Student Presenter: Autumn Paz

Program: BA in Psychology
Advisor: Dr. Kim Kirby
IRB#: 2018002305

Abstract: Contingency Management (CM) is an evidence-based intervention that utilizes incentives to initiate and maintain healthy behavior changes. Despite empirical support, dissemination into healthcare systems has progressed slowly. The purposes of the present study were to survey the general public in order to access prior experience with incentive programs, preferred types of incentives, acceptable costs for incentives as well as acceptability of using incentives to address several health-related disorders (as measured by assessing positive and negative beliefs). As part of a larger study, web-based survey responses were analyzed for a national sample of 200 participants who were not healthcare service providers. Compared to census data, the sample was representative in gender and race, but better educated, as typical of web-based samples. Few participants (<25%) reported experience with an incentive program. More than half identified a diverse range of incentives as appropriate. The median cost endorsed for the incentives was $50. A substantial majority of participants agreed that health incentive programs were useful (83%) and were in favor of using them (79%) with only ≤5% disagreeing. Greater endorsement was expressed for incentives treating substance use disorders as opposed to non-substance use disorders (55% vs 44%; χ^2=7.03, p=.01) and support was significantly greater for use of legal substances when compared to illicit ones (64% vs 45%; χ^2=22.5, p<.0001). These findings suggest that health incentives (CM) promoting healthy behavior changes are well-accepted among the general public even though they are not widely used in healthcare systems.

Title: *Race and Implicit Racial Attitudes: How these Factors Relate to Perception of Existence and Severity of Racial Discrimination in the United States*

Authors: Falisha Lormejuste, Daniel Wolf, & Lisa Abrams, PhD

Student Presenters: Falisha Lormejuste & Daniel Wolf

Program: BS in Psychological Science
Advisor: Dr. Lisa Abrams
IRB#: Pro2017002075

Abstract: The purpose of the proposed study is to evaluate how both race and implicit racial attitudes relate to how one perceives the existence and severity of disparate treatment African-Americans experience in the United States. It is hypothesized that there is a significant relationship between an individual's race and level of implicit racial attitudes (preference for a specific racial group) and how they perceive the severity and existence of the disparate treatment African-Americans experience in the United States. Three measures were used to evaluate the variables; a demographics questionnaire, an existence of disparate treatment survey (EDTS), and a severity of disparate treatment survey (SDTS). The demographics questionnaire consists of three questions and has been included to capture the variable race. The EDTS is a 16-item researcher made survey that indicates the level to which the user agrees with the sentence. The SDTS is a 16-item researcher made survey that indicates the level to which the user believe various forms of disparate treatment are a serious problem in American society. Participants completed the questionnaire and surveys as well as the race

implicit association test (IAT), which was used to evaluate preference for a specific racial group. In order to evaluate statistical significance between the variables, a 2-way ANOVA was used to compare race and implicit racial attitudes scores to severity and existence of perception of oppression of African Americans in the United States. The results will be discussed.

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Title: *Social Media: How Does Emotional Investment, Social Media Usage, and Passivity Relate to Mental Well Being?*

Authors: Breanna Holloway, Carly Johnson, & Lisa Abrams, PhD

Student Presenters: Breanna Holloway & Carly Johnson

Program: BS in Psychological Science
Advisor: Dr. Lisa Abrams
IRB#: Pro2017002087

Abstract: This study aimed to investigate the relationship between social media (SM) integration, social network (SN) time usage, engagement in general SM tasks, and mental well being using a between-subjects, multiple regression model. The specific aims were: explore if a relationship amongst the types of tasks executed, specific time usage, emotional connection relate to mental well being, independently and collectively. The general hypothesis for this experiment inferred that SM integration, engagement in passive tasks, and high usage would relate to mental well being. This study asked for participants ages 18 to 25 years old. The sample will be described in terms of mean, ranges, and standard deviations. The outcome variable is described in terms of means, standard deviations, and ranges. Intercorrelations are calculated for all variables. Regression coefficients were assessed for linear relationships between the variables using a multiple regression test. Analysis of each independent variable was measured collectively and individually. Confidence intervals are measured at 95%, an alpha level of $p<0.05$. If social media plays a part or exacerbates low levels of mental well being, understanding how this relationship operates can help us to use better SM etiquette. Results will be discussed.

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Title: *Project PALMMS: **P**hysical **A**ctivity **L**evels and Fa**m**ily **M**edical Historie**s**, a Diabetes Sample*

Authors: Alex Jaffe, B.A., Pierre A. Leon, M.A., Anthony Eldridge, B.A., Victoria Ukegbu, B.S., Breanna Willis, & Georita Frierson, Ph.D.

Student Presenter: Anthony Eldridge, BA

Program: MA in Clinical Mental Health Counseling
Advisor: Dr. Georita Frierson
IRB#: Pro2016001170

Abstract:
Background: Incidence of Type 2 diabetes in a young adult population has increased whereas Type 1 diabetes has typically been a health concern. A risk factors for Type 2 diabetes is family medical/behavioral history. There is a dearth of literature on young adults' knowledge of family medical history (FMH) regarding Type 2 diabetes. In middle age/older adults, weekly physical activity (PA) has shown to decrease incidence rates of Type 2 diabetes. Within young adults, there is also a paucity of PA literature and its relationship to FMH.

Purpose: The primary goal of this study is to evaluate whether knowledge of FMH of diabetes influences PA levels in a college population. Further, this study analyzed gender differences in weekly PA.

Methods: One hundred forty-nine randomly sampled undergraduate students aged 19-34 (M=20.7; SD=2.3, 53% female) completed an online survey at a public university. Participants were recruited through an IRB-approved flyer and/or an undergraduate psychology pool.

Results: The final sample consisted of 54 students because of their self-reported FMH of Type 2 (or 1) diabetes. A two-way ANOVA presented a trending significant interaction $F(1,18)=3.984$, $p= 0.061$ between the knowledge of FMH of either type of diabetes and PA levels. An independent samples t-test determined a non-significant effect for gender on PA levels (males: M=56.67, SD=28.0; females M=66.21, SD=96.21); $t(130)=-0.759$, $p=0.335$.

Conclusions: Individuals with a FMH of Type 1 diabetes had higher PA levels than those with FMH of Type 2 diabetes. Furthermore, individuals with FMH of either type had the lowest PA levels.

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Title: *Early Maladaptive Schemas & Social Media Use*

Authors: Hayley Haberstroh, Alexandria Quinto, & Lisa Abrams, PhD

Student Presenters: Hayley Haberstroh & Alexandria Quinto

Program: BS in Psychological Science
Advisor: Dr. Lisa Abrams
IRB#: Pro2017002074

Abstract: The purpose of this study was to address the gap in knowledge regarding the relationship between early maladaptive schemas (EMS) and social media use in undergraduate students. The researchers hypothesized that students with one or more EMS will be more likely to have irregular relationships with social media in comparison to students who do not have any EMS. It was also hypothesized that students found to have different social media usage patterns would have the tendency to fall into specific EMS. Those participating in the study included undergraduate students over the age of 18 from Rowan University who were recruited through flyers distributed throughout the main campus and the SONA research database. The participants consented to taking an online questionnaire through Qualtrics that included the Young Schema Questionnaire (YSQ-3) and the Social Media Disorder Scale (SMDS). Responses from the YSQ-3 have been indicated on a 6-point Likert scale, while responses from the SMDS have been indicated on a Yes/No scale. The researchers tested the hypotheses using an independent-sample t-test to analyze the mean difference of social media usage for the groups that did and did not have one or more EMS. The researchers also tested the hypotheses utilizing independent-sample t-tests for each of the 15 EMS. Results will be discussed at the Rowan University Psychology Research Conference. This study may have a positive impact on young adults who struggle with irregular social media usage patterns and on the overall issue of obsessive social media use.

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Title: *Walk the Line: An Observational Study of Gender and Pedestrian Safety*

Authors: Joseph McKnight, Kristina Shepherd, & Bonnie Angelone, PhD

Student Presenters: Joseph McKnight & Kristina Shepherd

Program: BS in Psychological Science & BA in Psychology
Advisor: Dr. Bonnie Angelone
IRB#: Pro2017001850

Abstract: Gender differences have been examined in relation to pedestrian safety. Pedestrian fatalities occur more often for males than females (Clifton & Livi, 2005). Also, males are more likely to engage in risky crossing behavior (√ñzkan, Lajunen, Chliaoutakis, Parker, & Summala, 2006) while females tend to wait longer before crossing at some intersections (Gupta, Chatterjee, Tiwari, & Fazio, 2010). We have collected observational data by examining common distractions (cell phone and headphone use) and pedestrian safety behaviors. Females talking on a phone while crossing were less likely to look for traffic before crossing at signalized and unsignalized crosswalks, and were less likely to wait for traffic to stop at unsignalized crosswalks. Furthermore, males talking on a phone while crossing crossed slower than males not on a mobile phone at unsignalized crosswalks (Hatfield & Murphy, 2007). We predict there to be gender differences in the use of safety behaviors while crossing the street in our observational study. We observed pedestrians (N=265) at 3 crosswalk locations on Rowan's campus. Several safety behaviors were recorded: pressing the crosswalk signal, looking both ways before crossing, waiting for traffic, staying in the crosswalk, and view during crossing. We will be scoring these behaviors from 0 to 5. Zero meaning no safe behaviors were observed and five meaning that all behaviors were observed. Planned analyses include an independent samples t-test to investigate whether males engage in more of the observed safety behaviors while crossing the street, compared to females.
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Title: *Experienced Prejudice and Implicit Attitudes Among College Students*

Authors: Anna DiPietro, Joseph Mayo, & Lisa Abrams, PhD

Student Presenters: Anna DiPietro & Joseph Mayo

Program: BS in Psychological Science
Advisor: Dr. Lisa Abrams
IRB#: Pro2017002081

Abstract: The purpose of this study was to better understand the relationship between the perception of experiencing prejudice and implicit attitudes in college students. Researchers predicted a significant difference in implicit attitudes between participants who have experienced prejudice and participants who have not experienced prejudice. The group of participants who have experienced prejudice will also show a significant difference in implicit attitudes compared to the general population, as reported by the Implicit Association Test website. A sample of Rowan University students completed a paper-format questionnaire and three separate implicit association tests: race, sexuality, and disability. The questionnaire included questions regarding demographics (e.g., age, race) and experiences of prejudice. The computerized Implicit Association Test measured response times between concepts (e.g., white people, able people) and evaluations (e.g., good, bad), determining the strength of each participant's implicit preference. Researchers ran multiple chi square tests to determine the relationship between implicit attitudes from the results of the three different implicit association tests and the experience of prejudice, with a $p<.01$. Results from this study will expand existing knowledge of implicit attitudes and experiences of prejudice in college students, making this relationship

clearer. Future studies could examine the relationship between implicit attitudes in college professors and the academic performance of their students.

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Title: *Interpersonal Factors Related to Attitudes toward Interracial Dating Among College Students*

Authors: Nicole Bongiovanni, Brianna Beulah, & Lisa Abrams, PhD

Student Presenters: Nicole Bongiovanni & Brianna Beulah

Program: BS in Psychological Science
Advisor: Dr. Lisa Abrams
IRB#: Pro2017002071

Abstract: The purpose of the current study evaluates the relationship between interpersonal factors, such as propinquity to diversity, religious/cultural beliefs and perceived reactions towards interracial dating from family and friends, and attitudes towards interracial dating. Researchers predicted that these interpersonal factors would be related to an individual's attitude toward interracial relationships, as well as the likelihood of involvement in an interracial romantic partnership. College students, ages 18 or older, at Rowan University participated in an online Qualtrics survey examining the constructs of interest, propinquity to diversity, attachment to religions and perceived reactions toward interracial dating from family and friends, as well as demographic information. Researchers conducted a multiple regression analysis using SPSS statistical software. Results will be discussed. Beneficial to the scientific community through their contribution to the understanding of racial relations among the college population, the results will further research towards other racial relationships.

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Title: *What Variables Predict Quitting Among Current and Former Smokers?*

Authors: Nefertiti Victor, B.S. & Bethany R. Raiff, PhD, BCBA-D

Student Presenters: Nefertiti Victor, B.S.

Program: MA in Applied Behavior Analysis
Advisor: Dr. Bethany Raiff
IRB#: Pro2017001861

Abstract: Cigarette smoking is known as one of the top causes for preventable diseases in the US, and disproportionately affects individuals with low income. Individuals with low income are less likely to attempt to quit smoking, are less likely to use evidence-based interventions when they do try to quit and are more likely to relapse if they successfully quit. Thus, the purpose of the current study is to assess the relationship between income, access to extraneous reinforcers, unmet needs, and willingness to quit smoking with current and former smokers. A survey was administered to participants (n = 147), comprised of 72 questions (multiple choice, Likert scale, and fill in the blank) administered via Amazon's Mechanical Turk, Craigslist or Facebook. This study will use correlational analyses to assess the relationship between income, unmet needs, readiness to change, and extraneous reinforcers. Additionally, a multiple linear regression will be conducted to determine whether unmet needs and access to extraneous reinforcement predict readiness to change. It is predicted that there will be positive correlation between extraneous reinforcers and willingness to quit. It is also predicted that there will be a negative correlation between unmet needs and willingness to quit. Unmet needs and access to extraneous reinforcers are also expected to be moderated by income and predict readiness to quit smoking. The information from this survey will be used to identify challenges faced by low-income smokers so that more inclusive interventions addressing the challenges of low-income smokers can be addressed in smoking cessation interventions.

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Poster Session II Abstracts

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Title: *Preliminary Testing and Further Development of Inspired: A Mobile Game for Smoking Cessation*

Authors: Jessica Nastasi, Bethany R. Raiff, PhD, Nicholas Fortugno, Daniel R. Scherlis, & Darion Rapoza

Student Presenter: Jessica Nastasi

Program: MA in Applied Behavior Analysis
Advisor: Dr. Bethany Raiff
IRB#: ProG0520140170

Abstract: Cigarette smoking remains the number one cause of preventable morbidity and mortality in the U.S. One third to one half of smokers attempt to quit at least once; however, approximately 94% of quit attempts result in relapse. Inspired is a mobile videogame-based contingency management intervention for smoking cessation. The intervention is a mobile application using in-game "virtual rewards", delivered contingent on smoking abstinence, and will be used to meet game objectives and interact with other players. The prototype was tested with treatment seeking-smokers (N=28) who reported that the intervention would be helpful if used for quit attempts, but also that the game lacked variety. The prototype testing was used to develop a full version of the game, specifically designed to compete with smoking. In the "core" game, players work to protect their "mother tree" from enemies by powering up weapons and defense buildings. Researchers addressed the prototype feedback by designing levels with different enemy types, graphical design, level structure, and weapons depending on the level played. In the "meta" game players gain access to cosmetic points to upgrade structures (i.e. cannons, bulwarks, windmills) and help other players (i.e. sending "power-ups" or sharing resources) by submitting CO samples with a portable CO monitor. These points are multiplied if the player submits consecutive negative samples to reinforce continuous smoking abstinence. A clinical trial with 114 treatment-seeking smokers will be conducted to provide support for Inspired as a rigorous, yet enjoyable, intervention for smoking cessation and abstinence.

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Title: *Walk on the Wild Side: An Observational Study of Pedestrian Safety Behavior & Type of Crosswalk Signal*

Authors: Mark A. Ziegler-Thayer, Caitlin Johnson, & Bonnie Angelone, Ph.D.

Student Presenters: Mark A. Ziegler-Thayer & Caitlin Johnson

Program: BA in Psychology
Advisor: Dr. Bonnie Angelone
IRB#: Pro2017001850

Abstract: The purpose of this observational research study was to investigate how certain variables affected a pedestrian‚Äôs use of safety behaviors. Safety behaviors, such as looking both ways prior to crossing or utilizing a push-to-walk button if present, serves a pedestrian in a positive manner (Bungum, Day, & Henry, 2005). The study staff examined pedestrians, who were mostly students, on Rowan University‚Äôs main campus. In order to collect the data, the study staff recorded said data on an observational chart. Pedestrians were observed at three crosswalks: Rowan Boulevard crosswalk (immediate push-to-walk button), Savitz crosswalk (immediate push-to-walk button), and the Hawthorn crosswalk (traffic light with delayed signal). Interestingly, previous research shows that those who crossed while talking on a mobile phone were less likely to wait for traffic to stop at unsignalized crossings (Hatfield & Murphy, 2006). We hypothesized that there will be more individuals engaging in safe behaviors at immediate push-to-walk crossings compared to delayed

signals. Three Chi-Square Tests will be used to analyze three separate safety behaviors for immediate and delayed crossing signals.

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Title: *Parental Perspectives of Children's Sleep and Their Behaviors*

Authors: Samantha C. Weiss, Teresa Figueiras, & Lisa Abrams, PhD

Student Presenters: Samantha C. Weiss & Teresa Figueiras

Program: BS in Psychological Science
Advisor: Dr. Lisa Abrams
IRB#: Pro2017002076

Abstract: The purpose of this study was to investigate the relationship between sleep patterns and hyperactivity, irritability, and anxiety in children from ages two to thirteen. A significant negative relationship between the hours slept and hyperactivity, irritability, and anxiety was expected. The children who received less than the recommended sleep were expected to express significantly more hyperactive, irritable, and anxious behaviors than the children who met sleep recommendations. Participants included parents over 18 years old, who completed an online questionnaire, which measured demographics, the hours of sleep that their children typically obtain, and their behaviors. To measure the level of hyperactivity, anxiety, and irritability, the survey compiled items from the Hyperactivity Rating Scale (HRS; Spring, Blunden, Greenberg, & Yellin 1977), Anxiety Scale for Children and Adolescents (LAOM; Kozina, 2012), and the Irritability Scale (Irritability Scale; Caprara, Cinanni, D'Imperio, Passerini, Renzi, & Travaglia, 1985). Simple linear regression identified the direction and strength of the relationship between the variables and a two-tailed independent samples t-test to determine if the behaviors in the group of children who regularly obtain recommended amounts of sleep significantly differed from the group of children who regularly do not. Results will be discussed. Further research is necessary for understanding the recommended hours of sleep and their relation to hyperactivity, irritability, and anxiety.

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Title: *The Relationship Between Job Satisfaction and Hours Worked by College Students*
Authors: Zachary Levey, Nicole Schwartz, & Lisa Abrams, PhD

Student Presenters: Zachary Levey & Nicole Schwartz

Program: BS in Psychological Science
Advisor: Dr. Lisa Abrams
IRB#: Pro2018002197

Abstract: The present study evaluates the relationship between job satisfaction and the number of hours students work. Researchers hypothesized that participants who work between 1 and 19 hours per week will show significantly higher job satisfaction than students who work 20 hours per week or more. Participants were recruited from a population of undergraduate university students. Using an online survey, participants self-report the number of hours they work per week and responded to the Job Satisfaction Survey to measure job satisfaction. Researchers expect students who work between 1 and 19 hours per week will show significantly higher job satisfaction than students who work 20 hours or more per week. Data will be analyzed using a one-way ANOVA. If the ANOVA is significant, Tukey's HSD post hoc test will be used to determine which groups significantly differ from one another. The results of the study will be discussed, potentially informing students about the ideal number of hours they should be working.

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Title: *Mental Load and Dissociation*

Authors: Alyssa Bayley & Lisa Abrams, PhD

Student Presenter: Alyssa Bayley

Program: BS in Psychological Science
Advisor: Dr. Lisa Abrams
IRB#: Pro2017002082

Abstract: The purpose of this experimental study is to identify the relationship between cognitive load and the level of self-reported dissociation in college students at Rowan University. The sample of participants consisted of Rowan students, 18 years and older. In the study, participants in two different groups, Labor Relaxed and Labor Intensive, answered a survey on dissociative symptoms adapted from the State Scale of Dissociation by Kruger and Mace (2002). Then they went through three cognitive load assessments with breaks in between, and ended with recording their current dissociative symptoms. The intensity of the cognitive load assessments differed between the two groups, but the materials remained the same. The results of the surveys were interpreted by using a two-tailed, independent-samples t-test between the Labor Relaxed and Labor Intensive groups. It is expected that dissociative symptoms will have increased from the initial portion of the survey, and even more in the Labor Intensive group, thus supporting a causal relationship between increased cognitive load and dissociative symptoms.
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Title: *Depression, Anxiety & Cognitive Functioning in College Students*

Authors: Mikela Janal, Jared Richards, & Lisa Abrams, PhD

Student Presenters: Mikela Janal & Jared Richards

Program: BS in Psychological Science
Advisor: Dr. Lisa Abrams
IRB#: Pro2017002072

Abstract: College students are expected to balance academic achievement, work, a social life, and more all while potentially amassing thousands of dollars in debt. Unfortunately, juggling these demands can be extremely overwhelming, which could negatively impact one's mental health and ability to perform. Thus, the purpose of this study is to examine relationships between symptoms of Major Depressive Disorder (MDD), symptoms of Generalized Anxiety Disorder (GAD) and cognitive functioning in Rowan University undergraduate students. Researchers hypothesized that the presence of MDD and GAD symptoms independently and synergistically predict scores on measures of cognitive functioning. Participants included a sample of Rowan University undergraduates within the age of 18 and 25 years old which reflected the race, ethnicity and gender make-up of the Rowan undergraduate population. Participants completed an online Qualtrics survey that evaluated the presence of MDD and GAD symptoms using the Counseling Center Assessment of Psychological Symptoms Depression and Anxiety subscales and cognitive functioning using the National Institute of Health PROMIS Applied Cognition-Abilities and General Concerns short forms. Results will be discussed and analyzed using simple regression and multiple regression to examine correlations between variables. Although there is a known comorbidity between MDD and GAD symptoms, researchers typically do not examine relationships between depression, anxiety and cognitive functioning simultaneously, especially in the context of a specific population such as college students. Thus, this study aims to fill this gap by using self-report measures to examine how anxiety and depression are potentially related to cognitive functioning in college students.
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Title: *Big Five Personality Traits, Anxiety and Depression, and Academic Performance in College Students: A Mediation Analysis*

Authors: Kristina Handy, Tiffany Esdaile, & Lisa Abrams, PhD

Student Presenters: Kristina Handy & Tiffany Esdaile

Program: BS in Psychological Science
Advisor: Dr. Lisa Abrams
IRB#: 2017002086

Abstract: The purpose of this study was to identify the relationship between the Big Five personality traits, anxiety and depression, and academic performance in undergraduate college students. Researchers hypothesized that anxiety and depression would mediate the relationship between personality and academic performance. Requirements of the study include participant's enrollment at Rowan University as undergraduate students and over the age of 18. Participants responded to an online survey, which included the Big Five Personality Trait Short Questionnaire as well as a modified version of the Depression Anxiety Stress Scale. Academic performance was measured by collecting self-reports of participants' cumulative GPA. Participants also self-reported gender, ethnicity, age, and education level. In order to evaluate the relationships between variables, researchers ran a mediation analysis, with anxiety and depression as the mediator between personality and academic performance. Results will be discussed. The implications for the results of this study will extend the literature on personality, mental illness, and academic success. The research may also extend the literature on education and curriculum plans.

Title: *Sequencing for Maximizing Acquisition and Response to Treatment (SMART) Research Grant*

Authors: Macy Kemble, Fatimah Frans, Ashley Thompson, Hailee Perez, **Madeleine Spencer**, Andinase Rubertone, B.A., Jodie Justice, M.A., BCBA, Michelle Ennis Soreth, Ph.D., BCBA-D, & MaryLouise E. Kerwin, Ph.D., BCBA-D

Student Presenters: Macy Kemble, Fatimah Frans, Ashley Thompson, & Madeleine Spencer

Program: BA in Psychology
Advisor: Dr. MaryLou Kerwin
IRB#: Pro2015000352

Abstract: Sequencing for Maximizing Acquisition and Response to Treatment (SMART) is a research grant that evaluates two different ABA interventions for preschool children diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). Children accepted into this program are between the ages of 2-5 years and must have a confirmed diagnosis of ASD. Children will participate in 4 assessments over the span of 5 months (i.e., screening, intake assessment, 2-month assessment, and 4-month assessment). Parents will be compensated for their time and effort in completing these assessments, but not for the therapy sessions. The screening assessment consists of the Research Assistants administering the Mullen Scales of Early Learning (MSEL) and the Project Coordinator administering the Autism Diagnostic Observation Scale 2nd Edition (ADOS-2). If a child is determined eligible based off the screening assessments, they are then enrolled into the program and randomly assigned to receive one of two ABA interventions. Once enrolled, the child partakes in additional assessments that consist of the Language Sample and Early Social Communication Scales (ESCS) at intake, 2-month, and 4-month assessments administered by the Research Assistants. Children will receive 90-

minute treatment sessions 3 times each week for about 5 months. All sessions are held on Rowan University's main campus in the Center for Behavior Analysis located in Robinson Hall.

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Title: *Effects of Mindfulness Meditation on Public Speaking Anxiety*

Authors: Sarah Derdock, Alisha Vincent, & Lisa Abrams, PhD

Student Presenters: Sarah Derdock & Alisha Vincent,

Program: BS in Psychological Science
Advisor: Dr. Lisa Abrams
IRB#: Pro2017002073

Abstract: This study investigated the effects of mindfulness meditation on public speaking anxiety. Researchers hypothesized that participants would not only have heightened anxiety directly after a public speaking task compared to baseline, but that participants that participated in a mindfulness meditation session before the public speaking task would experience lower levels of anxiety than those who did not. In this in-person study, participants who were sampled from Rowan University undergraduate students 18 years or older rated their current level of anxiety to determine a baseline, read a brief article, and then participated in a pre-task condition of either a short session of mindfulness meditation or in a control condition in which they sat and did nothing for the same amount of time. After participating in the pre-task condition, participants engaged in a public speaking task in which they summarized the article they read, and then rated their anxiety levels again. Both anxiety questionnaires were identical, researcher-created, one-item questionnaires asking participants to rate their current anxiety level on a scale of 0-100. Two-tailed related-samples t-tests compared participants' post-test anxiety scores with their baseline scores, while two-tailed independent-samples t-tests compared participants' post-test anxiety scores between conditions. Researchers will discuss the results and implications for this study, which will provide insight as to how mindfulness meditation affects college-age students' self-perception of anxiety during a public speaking task.

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Title: *Activity Tracker Validation as a Function of Weight Class*

Authors: Kyle Chudzinski, Athanasia Moore, Natalie Chambers, Connor Burrows, & Bethany Raiff, PhD

Student Presenter: Kyle Chudzinski

Program: BA in Psychology
Advisor: Dr. Bethany Raiff
IRB#: Pro2016001392

Abstract: Although a number of studies have been conducted to validate popular activity trackers, such as the Fitbit, those studies have focused on normal weight participants. Differences in weight may be related to differences in how a person walks, which may affect the validity of the activity tracking devices. Therefore, the purpose of this study is to validate three activity: Fitbit Charge HR, Fitbit Zip, and Actigraph. Each participant will complete a Psychosocial History Survey to verify that they do not have any health complications that would prevent them from participating. Participants who qualify will be walking 1,000 steps on a treadmill at a 2.0 mile per hour pace while wearing all three of the trackers. The goal is to recruit 20 participants for each of the 4 weight categories: underweight, healthy weight, overweight, and obese, as assessed with an InBody 770 body composition analyzer. To date, 30 participants have completed the study. Direct observation of steps taken will be used as the ground truth against which the activity tracker data will be compared. If there are changes in validity as a function of weight class, then it could have implications for the use of these devices in clinical research or for making recommendations about minimum levels of physical activity as assessed via the activity trackers.

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Title: *Social Skills Computer Games: ASD Mall and Feedback from Stakeholders*

Authors: Nicholas Ma, BA, Ying Tang, PhD & Bethany Raiff, PhD

Student Presenter: Nicholas Ma, BA

Program: MA in Applied Behavior Analysis
Advisor: Dr. Bethany Raiff & Dr. Ying Tang
IRB#: Pro2017001867

Abstract: Social skill deficits among individuals diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) can become barriers in social and academic development. Rowan University's engineering department developed a video game attempting to increase social skills in adolescents diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder. The game has not yet been tested with the targeted population. The purpose of the current study is to conduct focus groups with stakeholders in the field of special education and applied behavior analysis (ABA), soliciting their feedback on the game. Two focus groups (n = 5-8/group) will be conducted at organizations whose employees implement ABA principles working with individuals with ASD for feedback on the game. Each focus group will be 1 hour long and will consist of a presentation, demonstration of the game, a survey, and an audio recorded discussion session. The data analysis will involve coding the recorded discussions and survey responses, looking for common themes across participants. This information will be used to make adjustments to improve the external validity of the game before testing it with the target population, young adults diagnosed with ASD.
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Title: *Identifying Factors Contributing to Poor Accuracy and Reliability in Data Collection of Verbal Behavior*

Authors: Jacqueline Logan, MA, Victor Chin, MA, BCBA, Michelle Ennis Soreth, Ph.D, BCBA-D, & Mary-Louise Kerwin, Ph.D, BCBA-D

Student Presenter: Jacqueline Logan, MA

Program: MA in Applied Behavior Analysis
Advisor: Dr. Michelle Soreth
IRB#: Pro2015000352

Abstract: Among the interventions developed for children with autism spectrum disorder, many focus on increasing rates and diversity of verbal behavior. Verbal behavior presents a unique challenge for data collection because differences between categories can be nuanced and challenging to identify while observing in real time. Video recording sessions has become a common and affordable solution to studying complex behavior. Observers can rewatch video to verify data or ensure that instances of behavior were not missed during previous passes. Though this solves many logistical issues in data collection of complex behavior, challenges remain. University settings often utilize inexperienced undergraduate data collectors who may produce inaccurate or unreliable data. The present study seeks to shed light on what components of data collection are the most responsible for poor accuracy and reliability. During baseline, participants were instructed to identify occurrences of verbal behavior and identify categorical features of each utterance (e.g., modality, function, content) with no aid. During the test condition, participants were given a list of timestamps when the verbal utterances occurred in a given video, and were only responsible for identifying the categorical features of the behavior. Results suggest that poor data collection of complex verbal behavior may be due to inability to identify when a verbal utterance has occurred. Implications toward training and data collection systems will be discussed.
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Faculty Research Descriptions

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Dr. Bonnie Angelone

Generally, it has been thought that we retain an accurate portrayal of our visual world simply by using our sense of vision. However, people are often poor at detecting large changes in their visual environment, a phenomenon known as change blindness. Our research focuses on examining factors that influence people's ability to see changes and provide insight into the visual attention system. There are many image properties that can affect visual attention, such as salience, scene context, and complexity. In addition, there may be factors within the individual that influence visual attention abilities, such as expertise and even distraction.

Undergraduate Students	
Megan Brown	Caitlin Johnson
Joe McKnight	Kristina Shepherd
Danielle Tanelli	Mark Ziegler-Thayer
Post Undergraduate Student	
Emily Diana	

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Dr. D.J. Angelone & Dr. Meredith Joppa

ASSeRT (Aggression, Substance, and Sexuality Research Team) is a collaborative research laboratory of undergraduate and graduate students. Our students benefit from having two faculty mentors with overlapping interests.

Dr. Angelone's primary work involves the empirical study of sexually violence and sexually risky behaviors. We have recently focused on understanding the person and situational factors that affect sexual assault risk recognition, as well as potential influences that can increase STI risk in certain subgroups.   We have also focused on the development and implementation of laboratory analogues (including vignette studies) to examine the variables associated with sexual violence. Finally, we are interested in examining factors related to success in twelve-step groups for addictions.

Dr. Joppa's primary work centers on promoting healthy romantic relationships and sexual behavior among at-risk adolescents and young adults. We use attachment theory to examine the links between romantic relationship skills and risk for dating violence, sexually transmitted infections, unintended pregnancy and HIV. Dr. Joppa is interested in developing interventions to prevent these relationship risk behaviors, and we are currently channeling these research interests into developing an intervention for young (16-22) mothers aimed at preventing rapid repeat pregnancy, STIs and HIV with an emphasis on fostering healthy relationship skills.

Graduate Students	*Undergraduate and Post-Bac Students*	
Nicole Cantor	Brianna Beulah	Gabrielle Longo
Ebru Yucel	Tristan Cassar	Gabrielle Maschiocchi
Joanna Della-Peruta	Tianna Carter	Brianna Ortega
	Grace Van Cleef	Marlena Richael
	Mariah Duphiney	Jacob Krause

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Dr. Tom Dinzeo

Our lab consists of students with a shared interest in the schizophrenia-spectrum disorders. Our research focuses on the identification and assessments of risk factors related to the development, or exacerbation, of psychosis and functional impairment. My lab has examined phenomenon such as neurocognitive functioning, personality factors, cognitive processes underlying delusional development, social functioning, the impact of negative life events, and lifestyle behaviors. Our research participants range from college students who endorse varying levels of psychotic-like experiences (i.e., schizotypy) to outpatients diagnosed with schizophrenia. We have become increasingly interested in the relationship between health behaviors (e.g., stress management, exercise & nutrition) and physical/mental health outcomes.

Graduate Students	*Undergraduate Students*	
Devin Massaro	Emmanuel Alvarez	Allison Niemiec
Sherry Pujji	Casey Belgio	Tom O'Kane
	Megan Cartier	Erin Ryan
	Kaitlyn Dibsie	Chad Shire
	Griffin Fountain	Angela Spadafino
	Carly Murphy	Allison Niemiec

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Dr. Georita Frierson

The mission of the ARCH 1 (Addressing Race/Ethnicity, Culture, and Health for 1) lab is to address the causes and correlates of health behaviors in majority, minority, and underserved populations. Within our lab, we are interested in the biopsychosocial model that addresses the biological, psychological, and social underpinnings of any person's health behaviors and possible disease processes. By addressing these factors, our lab can prevent, control and treat various chronic conditions within a multidisciplinary paradigm.

The research from ARCH 1 will focus on quality of life, and biomarker domains for persons who are interested in improving or maintaining their health through physical activity interventions or longitudinal studies. These studies are designed for persons with chronic conditions, sedentary, free-living, and/or underserved populations.

We are housed in a department of psychology, but understand that it is critical to work with researchers or incorporate studies from nutrition, kinesiology, epidemiology or public health, and medicine among others. Thus, our research and training is transdisciplinary.

Graduate Students	*Undergraduate Students*
Alex Jaffe, B.A.	Rebecca Ashmore
Pierre A. Leon, M.A.	Larissa Thiele
Anthony Eldridge, B.A.	Samantha Weiss
	Breanna Willis

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Dr. Jeffrey Greeson

The Mindfulness, Stress & Health (MSH) lab conducts interdisciplinary research that brings together psychology, medicine, and basic science (chemistry, immunology, 'omics') to study the health benefits of mindfulness, meditation, and yoga. There are many core qualities of mindfulness, including attention, awareness, acceptance, compassion, nonjudgment, and the ability to *respond* versus *react* to stress. Our lab aims to better understand the relationship between being mindful and being healthy. To do that, we use different types of studies, including survey questionnaires; psychophysiology experiments to measure stress responses and meditation; wearables to measure heart rate, blood pressure and sleep/wake patterns; clinical trials to test mindfulness training programs; and correlational studies to look for relationships between mindfulness and various measures of stress, health & psychological well-being. To learn more, visit: www.mindfulnesslab.org

Doctoral Student	*Undergraduate Students*	
Gabrielle Chin	Emily Barbera	Mikela Janal
	Amanda Colangelo	Carly Johnson
	Tyler Henderson	Jared Richards

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Dr. Jim A. Haugh

The R.O.A.D. (Research on Anxiety and Depression)
The team combines the analytical efforts of undergraduate and graduate, both Master of Arts and Doctoral, students under the mentorship of Dr. Jim A Haugh. The focus of the lab's research is to comprehensively understand the etiologies and treatments of depressive and anxious disorders in order to better existing knowledge and clinical practice. Over the past year, we have been working on five major lines of research that have led to a number of various projects. First, we have been exploring the overall acceptability and knowledge of the Stepped-Care Model for depression treatment. Projects within this line of research have included sampling oncology patients from the MD Anderson Cancer Center, and both physicians and patients from a number of primary care sites, including Rowan's School of Osteopathic Medicine. Second, we continue to examine the benefits of self-help approaches for depressive symptoms by examining the effectiveness and the use of mobile applications through consumer self-report and structured interview. Third, we continue to examine the relationship between mindfulness and social problem solving, specifically the predictive value of the facets of mindfulness on adaptive and maladaptive approaches to social problem solving and the relationship to depressive symptoms. Fourth, we have begun examining depression and early maladaptive schemas in relation to health and engagement in negative health behaviors. Finally, we have collaborated with developers of a cognitive behavioral, and acceptance and commitment therapies-based peer treatment group to examine the efficacy of reducing social anxiety symptomatology of group members.

Doctoral Students	*Undergraduate Students*
Krista Herbert, MA	Jane Akeret
Juliana D'Onofrio, MA	Kara Webb
	Sean Martin
	Michael Huchler
	Rumaysa Asim

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Dr. Gerald Hough

My lab investigates two phenomena using bird species models: age-related declines in memory, and geographic variation in language. Learning and memory requires a key brain area, the hippocampus (Hp), which deteriorates with age. We have found that birds perceive the world in a primate-like fashion, and are investigating age-related changes in spatial and working memory using a homing pigeon model. In addition, my lab investigates dialect formation in bird language and well as the effects of human disturbance on an environmentally-sensitive songbird species (seaside sparrow).

Undergraduate Students
Caroline Otto
Marina Mikic
Kimberly Gaull

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Dr. MaryLouise Kerwin & Dr. Michelle Ennis Soreth

Center for Behavior Analysis
At the Center for Behavior Analysis at Rowan University, Drs. Kerwin and Soreth conduct a variety of collaborative research projects that have in common the use of behavioral principles as the basis for understanding and managing/treating behavior. Research projects focus on parent-implemented interventions, behavioral interventions for children with autism, and assessment and treatment of gastrointestinal and feeding problems in children.

Graduate Students		*Undergraduate Students*	
Victor Chin	Natalie Torres	Madeleine Spencer	Nicole Schwartz
Jodie Justice	Sarah Springer	Ashley Thompson	Aiden Sutkin
Julie Weiss	Jessica Donlan	Macy Kemble	Lorraine Molano
Alexis Strube	Samantha Weinstein	Fatimah Frans	Jennilee Bradley
Jacqueline Logan	Kacy Jubanyik	Hailee Perez	Imani Phillips
Jessica Flaherty	Katie Walls	Jonathon Barrios	Joseph David Mayo
Nefertiti Victor		Mariam Abdel-Fattah	

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Dr. Kimberly C. Kirby

This lab focuses on research developing and disseminating efficacious treatments for substance use disorders based on the principles of behavior analysis. Current projects focus evaluating a training program for parents of youth with substance use disorders that is based on the Community Reinforcement and Family Training (CRAFT) approach, evaluating a mobile application to motivate and assist patients in treatment for substance use disorders, exploring the acceptability of behavioral treatments using incentives for recovery, and empirically assessing the relative reinforcing functions of stimulant use among college students.

Doctoral Student	Graduate Students	Undergraduate Students
Matthew Dwyer	Jovanna Beardsworth	Autumn Paz
	Alicia Burke	Trina Ganguly
	Jessica Donlan	
	Sarah Springer	
	Kelly Sullivan	
	Natalie Torres	
	Samantha Weinstein	
	Julie Weiss	
Research Coordinators		
Elena Bresani & Matthew Dwyer		

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Dr. Valerie LaMastro

GROW (Growth, Resilience, and Optimism at Work) Lab
There are two major research areas currently active within the GROW laboratory. One focuses on Perceived Organizational Support (POS), which is defined as the degree to which an individual feels valued and supported by and within their organization. We will be examining the formation of POS in different occupational groups, and the degree to which certain variables impact upon its development. Additionally, we will be examining POS within a higher education context, exploring the factors that contribute to a feeling of being supported by one's educational institution and how that might relate to school and workplace behaviors and GRIT, which is defined as passion and perseverance.

Undergraduate Students	
Alaina Giovanni	Kevin-Scott van Vlijmen
Gabrielle LaMastro	Daniel Wolf
Zachary Levey	Caitlin Wrege
Thomas O'Kane	

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Dr. Bethany Raiff

The aim of this lab is to use technology to overcome barriers to implementing powerful, evidence-based interventions, such as contingency management, to promote healthy behavior, such as smoking abstinence, diabetes management, weight control, and physical activity. Contingency management consists of delivering incentives (e.g., money) to individuals contingent on objective evidence of meeting behavior change goals. We are currently in the process of developing two videogames where smokers will be able to earn videogame-based incentives, rather than monetary incentives, contingent on objective evidence of smoking abstinence to address the issue of cost, acceptability, and sustainability. We also have a number of studies currently underway to identify ways to increase physical activity in otherwise sedentary adults.

Doctoral Students	Master's Students		Undergraduate Students
Connor Burrows	Nicholas Ma	Samantha Sterner	Natalie Chambers
	Jessica Natasi	Nefertiti Victor	Kyle Chudzkinski
	Heather Leung-VanHassel	Dionne Batts	Athanasia Moore
	Ashley Fox		Samantha Beckett

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Student Recognition Awards

Excellence in Psychology (Medallion)
This medallion, sponsored by the Psychology Department, is presented to an outstanding Psychology major who exhibits excellence in academics, scholarly achievement, service and leadership. This year's award recipient is **Jeraca Marsh**.

Dean's Senior Recognition Award
The Dean's Senior Recognition Award (Psychology) goes to one graduating senior psychology major who exemplifies the best and brightest of our department. This year's award recipient is **Autumn Paz**.

Outstanding Contribution by an Underclassman Award
This award is given to a psychology student who demonstrates outstanding promise in psychology. The award is based on the student's academic performance and contribution to service and research activities of the department. Individuals who receive the award are nominated by the faculty and selected based on the faculty's agreement that this student has the skills, motivation, and knowledge to be successful in the field. This year's award recipient is **Jared Richards**.

Eleanor Gaer Student Research Award
Dr. Gaer was a consummate researcher who prided herself on the advisement and mentorship of students, especially in the area of research. The Eleanor Gaer Student Research Award was created in 2014 to honor and recognize Dr. Gaer's 42 years of outstanding service and commitment to the students within the Department of Psychology. This $500 award is presented to an undergraduate or graduate student conducting independent research in the area of social psychology, cognitive psychology, psycholinguistics, or forensic psychology. These funds can be used to support a student research project either by assisting with travel funding, providing support for data collection or assisting with other aspects of the research process. This year's award recipient is **Emmanuel Alvarez**.

Concentration in Behavioral Services: Underclassman Student Achievement Award
This award is given to one freshman, sophomore, or junior Psychology student who has demonstrated exceptional achievement in the study of Behavior Analysis and was selected by the faculty in the Applied Behavior Analysis program. This year's award recipient is **Gianna Visceglia**.

Concentration in Behavioral Services: Graduating Student Achievement Award
This award is given to one senior Psychology student who has demonstrated exceptional achievement in the study of Behavior Analysis and was selected by the faculty in the Applied Behavior Analysis program. This year's award recipient is **Madeleine Spencer.**

MA in ABA First Year Graduate Student Achievement Award

This award is given to one first-year Master of Arts student in the ABA program who has demonstrated exceptional achievement in the field of Behavior Analysis and was selected by the faculty in the Applied Behavior Analysis program. This year's recipient is **Jessica Nastasi**.

MA in ABA Graduating Student Achievement Award

This award is given to one second-year Master of Arts student in the ABA program who has demonstrated exceptional achievement in the field of Behavior Analysis and was selected by the faculty in the Applied Behavior Analysis program. This year's recipient is **Julie Weiss**.

Professional Leadership Award in the Clinical Mental Health Counseling Program

This award is given to the second-year CMHC student who has exemplified professionalism and ethical conduct, both in and out of the classroom. This student has demonstrated strong clinical skills and sound clinical judgment and has served as a leader to peers in demonstrating the professional and ethical codes of the counseling community. This year's award recipient is **Nikonia Fanourgakis**.

Excellence in Research Award in the Clinical Mental Health Counseling Program

This award is given to the second-year CMHC student who has demonstrated excellence in the field of counseling research. This student has exhibited a strong working knowledge of the importance of research to the counseling community and has demonstrated advanced research skills either through involvement in a lab or through the development of a unique research project. This year's award recipient is **Sharanjit "Sherry" Pujji**.

2018 Psi Chi Inductees

Psi Chi is the National Honor Society in Psychology, founded in 1929 for the purposes of encouraging, stimulating, and maintaining excellence in scholarship, and advancing the science of psychology. Membership is open to graduate and undergraduate men and women who are making the study of psychology one of their major interests, and who meet the minimum qualifications. Psi Chi is a member of the Association of College Honor Societies and is an affiliate of the American Psychological Association (APA) and the Association for Psychological Science (APS).

Jane Akeret
Erik Bollendorf
Nicole Bongiovanni
Lexi Christian
Amanda Colangelo
Makenzi Cooper
Monica Crucitti
Sean Curry
Jillian Dunyak
Lily Enos
Trina Ganguly
Jessica Gant
Jenna Fisher
Jasmine Haynes
Krista Herbert
Ndidi Ihekuna
Alea Lemanowicz
Zachary Levey
June Lindsey
Claudia Mas Cabellero

Gabrielle Montanez
Victoria Nascati
Schuyler Newman
Ashley Palamone
Emily Pasi
Evelyn Pena
Hailee Perez
Emily Rafferty
Hannah Reeves
Frances Saulin
Taylor Shevlin
Rachel Simonetti
Jake Singer
Ashley Slimback
Angela Spadafino
Gianna Visceglia
Kara Webb
Samantha Weiss
Morgan White
Mark Ziegler-Thayer

President
Dr. Ali Houshmand

Provost
Dr. James Newell

Dean, College of Science and Mathematics
Dr. Karen Magee-Sauer

Department Head, Psychology Department
Dr. MaryLouise Kerwin

Conference Committee
Dr. Lisa Abrams, Chair
Dr. Lisa Farkas
Dr. Valerie LaMastro
Dr. Brittany Martinez
Dr. Helene Sisti

Special thanks to Brenda Harkins and Dan Dantinne for all that they do for the Psychology Department throughout the year!

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