



April 25, 2019

DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY

RESEARCH POSTER PRESENTATION

(65 posters, 122 presenters, 17 advisors)

- * Psychology or NS&B BA student – thesis presentation
- ** Psychology or NS&B BA/MA or MA student – thesis presentation
- ^ Research Associates & Research Assistants
- ^^ Post Doctorates

#	Presenters	Advisors
1	Daisy Banda, Denny Yu	Lisa Dierker
2	Carina Flaherty, Francesca Fagnani-Coor	Lisa Dierker
3	Ahmed Aldarmaki, Kellen O'Brien	Lisa Dierker
4	Jordan James, Nina Isenstein	Lisa Dierker
5	Patrick Grahling, Luca LaFayette	Lisa Dierker
6	Andrea Aware, Emma Roush	Lisa Dierker
7	Nicolas Moran	Lisa Dierker
8	* Amabel Youngbin Jeon	Kyungmi Kim
9	* Danielle Rothschild	Kyungmi Kim
10	^^ Marcus Leppanen	Kyungmi Kim
11	^^ Marcus Leppanen, Anaya Navangul, Gabriella Feder, * Dominoe Jones	Kyungmi Kim
12	* Dominoe Jones	Karl Scheibe
13	* Han Tay	Psyche Loui
14	* Anna Krotinger	Psyche Loui
15	** Tedra James	Psyche Loui
16	** Alexander Belden	Psyche Loui
17	John Cote	Mike Robinson
18	Kian Caplan, Anna Knes, Callie Clibanoff, Hely Rodriguez-Cruz	Mike Robinson
19	Maryyam Mian, Danielle Vaamonde, Hannah Xu	Mike Robinson
20	Tara Peng, Nita Rome, Jules Chabot	Mike Robinson
21	* Jenny Chelmow	Hilary Barth
22	Katie Vasquez	Hilary Barth
23	** Kerry Brew	Hilary Barth
24	Taylor Clark	Hilary Barth
25	^ Katherine Williams, ^^ Chenmu (Julia) Xing, Taylor Clark, Esha Bhandari	Hilary Barth
26	Chenmu (Julia) Xing, ^ Katherine Williams	Hilary Barth
27	Esha Bhandari, ^^ Julia Kahn, Roshni Patel, Neha Srinivas	Alexis May
28	Alexa Code, Ruth Chartoff, * Shani Erdman, Jewelia Ferguson	Alexis May
29	Julia Kahn	Sarah Kamens
30	Neha Srinivas, Taylor Dillon	Sarah Kamens
31	Angie Soto, Jahnavi Mehta	Sarah Kamens
32	Greg Fischer, Michelle Lei, Olivia Osborn	Sarah Kamens



#	Presenters	Advisors
33	Shakira Fortson, Katie Danziger Wenger, Emerson Sarni, Will Ratner	Sarah Kamens
34	* Alexandra Riedel	Sarah Kamens
35	SeArah Smith, Joel Groves, Mackenzie Corcoran, Alexander Blaylock	Sarah Kamens
36	Annemarie Bell, Lucas Kimball, Alex Ramsden, Christy Wong	Sarah Kamens
37	Ori Cantwell, Kimberly Lopez Vasquez, Carolina Mahedy, Katherine Orozco-Hernandez	Sarah Kamens
38	Tommy Alpert, Cobey Arenal, Sam Libberton, Jiner Zheng	Sarah Kamens
39	Kayla Zentmaier, Xiangyi Guo, Ari Westreich, Gaelin	Sarah Kamens
40	Charlotte Curnin	Sarah Kamens
41	Rachel Pomeranz	Sarah Kamens
42	Bryan Chong	Sarah Kamens
43	* Hannah Bolotin	Steven Stemler
44	* Gabriella Castorena	Chuck Sanislow
45	Saakshi Kakar, Mubarak Sanni, Paul Willems	Shellae Versey
46	Isobel McPhee, Willa Schwarz	Shellae Versey
47	Isabella Greco, Aleena Imran, Yoo-Jung Eunice Lee, Ezra Levy, * Coey Li, Justin McIntosh, * Emma Ritter, Campbell Silverstein	Shellae Versey
48	* Emma Ritter	Shellae Versey
49	* Coey Li	Robert Steele
50	** Tatum Leclair	Robert Steele
51	* Shani Erdman	Robert Steele
52	Medha Swaminathan, Allison Galante, Meghan Jain, ** Samantha Schreiber, Kelsey Tam	Barbara Juhasz
53	* Christina Arlia	Matthew Kurtz
54	* Mika Braun	Andrea Patalano
55	* Julia Kirsch	Andrea Patalano
56	* John Neil	Andrea Patalano
57	* Kaila Scott	Anna Shusterman
58	Matiza Sacotingo	Royette Tavernier
59	** Jhanelle Thomas	Royette Tavernier
60	Tamare Adrien	Royette Tavernier
61	Helena Sanchez, Sammi Diep	Royette Tavernier
62	Andrea Aware, Gita Ganti	Royette Tavernier
63	Maggie Polk, Varuth Leeswadtrakul	Royette Tavernier
64	Lauren Conte, Grant Hill, Charlotte Curnin	Royette Tavernier
65	Thao Phan, Denny Yu	Royette Tavernier



Poster # 1

The Association between Race, Mental Health Service Utilization, and Onset of Depression due to the Recent Death of a Loved One

Presenter/s: Daisy Banda and Denny Yu

Advisor/s: Lisa Dierker

Past research indicates a relationship between mental health service utilization and race. However, little research has focused on drivers of disparities among race groups in mental health service utilization or how race moderates the relationship between death of a loved one and individuals' depression history. The purpose of this study is to reaffirm the relationship between mental health service utilization and race, discover what moderates this relationship, and examine if race acts as a moderator between recent death of a loved one and participants' depression history. Participants were 13,304 from the NHS dataset and 43,093 from the NESARC dataset, who completed interviews involving questions of demographics, mental health service use, depression history, and death of a loved one. Results indicate that a higher percentage of white participants used mental health services compared to other races and that there is no statistical difference in the utilization of mental health services between racial minorities. Race was a predictor of the use of mental health services, but did not explain the association between depression history and death of a loved one. These results suggest that race is an important factor to consider in creating equal access to mental health services.

Poster # 2

The Association between Mental Health and Tobacco Use

Presenter/s: Carina Flaherty and Francesca Fagnani-Coor

Advisor/s: Lisa Dierker

This project evaluates the associations between lifetime psychiatric disorders and lifetime nicotine dependence and the associations between mental health, depression and e-cigarette use. Data was drawn from two different samples from the The National Epidemiologic Survey on Alcohol and Related Conditions (NESARC) and the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS). From the NESARC data, all psychiatric disorders remained significantly and positively associated with nicotine dependence even after adjusting for potential confounding factors. A logistic regression analysis found that among psychiatric disorders, major depression had the strongest association with nicotine dependence. People who had depression were, on average, 2.14 times more likely to have nicotine dependence than people without depression. From the BRFSS data, lifetime incidence of depression and poor mental health were significantly associated with e-cigarette use. A logistic regression analysis revealed that depression was found to independently predict daily e-cigarette use even after controlling for possible confounding factors. People with a lifetime incidence of depression were, on average, 1.8 times more likely than people without a lifetime incidence of depression to use an e-cigarette daily. This project suggests that people with depression are more susceptible to tobacco use and interventions should be tailored accordingly.

Poster # 3

The Associations between Smoking Status and Mental Health Issues among Adults

Presenter/s: Ahmed Aldarmaki & Kellen O'Brien

Advisor/s: Lisa Dierker

This study set out to evaluate the association between smoking status and mental health issues. Drawing on the sample of adults (over the age of 18) from the National Epidemiologic Survey of Alcohol Related Conditions (NESARC), chi-square and logistic regression analyses were conducted to determine whether smoking exposure may signal greater risk for suicide. Further analyses were performed on a subset of current smokers to determine whether social phobia was associated with higher rates of nicotine dependence. It was found that current smokers were more likely to have suicidal ideation and attempt suicide than both non-smokers and ex-smokers. Additionally, current smokers with social phobia had higher rates of nicotine dependence than smokers without social phobia. The fact that there are higher rates of suicidal ideation among current smokers suggests some mental health benefits to quitting cigarettes that could be further explored. These findings add to the accumulating literature documenting



smoking exposure and mental health risks and demonstrate that suicidal thoughts and attempts are more prevalent among people currently smoking.

Poster # 4

The Effect of Gender and Alcohol Dependence on Anxiety

Presenter/s: Jordan James and Nina Isenstein

Advisor/s: Lisa Dierker

Generally, women appear to have consistently higher prevalence rates of anxiety disorders (23.4%) than men (14.3%) and are more likely than men to meet criteria for anxiety disorder (Vesga-López et al., 2008;McLean et al., 2011). While it's known that alcohol dependence and anxiety disorders have a high rate of comorbidity (Kessler et al., 2005), and that gender has a significant role in the risk of getting an anxiety disorder, it's unclear if gender affects the age of onset. Data were from the first wave of the National Epidemiologic Survey on Alcohol and Related Conditions (NESARC). The NESARC was conducted to provide information from 43,093 American adults on the common mental substance and psychiatric disorders as defined in DSM-IV. Anxiety sum was significantly associated with sex and females had a higher mean number of disorders. Anxiety sum was also significantly associated with race and minorities had a lower mean number of disorders than whites. After adjusting for potential confounding factors, both presence and age of onset for anxiety disorders were significantly correlated with alcohol dependence.

Poster # 5

Substance Use and Familial Risk Factors as a Predictors of Alcohol Dependence Presenter/s:

Patrick Grahling and Luca LaFayette

Advisor/s: Lisa Dierker

Alcohol dependence has been linked to both marijuana use and marijuana dependence as well as familial alcoholism. This connection has shown these as significant risk factors. For this study, data was drawn from the NESARC and the NSDUH. The results of prior research were replicated as both marijuana use and familial alcohol use were found to be independent predictors of alcohol dependence. Implications of this study show that exposure to substances alone does not give a complete picture of the result of alcohol dependence.

Poster # 6

The Association between Mental Health Disorders, Optimism, and Weight among Young Adults

Presenter/s: Andrea Aware, Emma Roush

Advisor/s: Lisa Dierker

This study investigated whether optimism and weight group were associated with depression. Using data from the fourth wave of the National Longitudinal Study of Adolescent to Adult Health, Chi-Square Tests of Independence were conducted to determine how BMI group moderated the relationship between optimism and depression as well as how optimism level moderated the relationship between BMI group and depression. The results revealed that a high BMI or low optimism were risk factors for depression. This has implications for early detection and treatment of mental illness in individuals affected by weight problems.

Poster # 7

The Possible Role of Income and Health-Care Access on Opioid Misuse and other Drug Abuse Behaviors

Presenter/s: Nicolas Moran

Advisor/s: Lisa Dierker

Previous research has indicated that in the United States, the prevalence of opioid misuse has increased drastically in the last decade causing a growing number of opioid overdoses. Research shows that over 130 people in the United States die from opioid-related overdoses every-day. This study focuses on the possible role of income and health-care access on opioid misuse and other drug abuse behaviors. The sample of this study (n=56897) was drawn from the 2016 National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH). Respondents answered the question, "Have you ever used any prescription pain reliever in any way a doctor did not direct you to use it?" Results of the logistic regression showed that income has a



point estimate of 0.956, the variable healthcare has a point estimate of 0.931, and the variable of similar drug usage has a point estimate of 8.749. The use of heroin, cocaine or crack has the most influence on whether a person uses non-prescribed opioids, since those individuals are about 8.7 times more likely to misuse non-prescribed opioids than people who do not use heroin, cocaine or crack.

Poster # 8

The Role of Social Group Membership on the Incidental Group-Reference Effect

Presenter/s: Amabel Youngbin Jeon

Advisor/s: Kyungmi Kim

Extending the self-reference effect (i.e., a memory advantage produced by self-referent encoding) to the level of social identities, previous research showed that processing information in reference to one's ingroup at encoding enhances memory for that information (i.e., the group-reference effect). Notably, recent work on the self-reference effect has shown that even simply co-presenting an item with self-relevant vs. other-relevant information (e.g., one's own or another person's name) at encoding can produce an "incidental" self-memory advantage in the absence of any task demand to evaluate the item's self-relevancy. The present study examined whether this "incidental" self-reference effect extends beyond the level of personal identity to the level of social identity using existing groups (Experiment 1; university affiliation) and newly-created, minimal groups (Experiment 2). In both experiments, during encoding, participants judged the location of each target word presented either above or below ingroup-relevant vs. outgroup-relevant information. In a subsequent memory test, we found an incidental group-reference effect under a minimal-group context (Experiment 2) but not under an existing group context (Experiment 1). Collectively, the present findings suggest that the emergence/magnitude of an incidental ingroup-memory advantage may depend on the salience of the ingroup vs. outgroup distinction at any given moment.

Poster # 9

Culture and the Incidental Self- and Mother-Reference Effects in Memory

Presenter/s: Danielle Rothschild

Advisor/s: Kyungmi Kim

Co-presenting an item with self-relevant vs. other-relevant information at encoding can produce a self-memory advantage in the absence of any task demand to process the item's self-relevancy. The present study examined whether this "incidental" self-memory advantage would extend beyond self-relevant information to include information relevant to one's mother, and if and to what extent individualistic vs. collectivistic cultures differentially affect the magnitude of this potential mother-memory advantage. During encoding, American and Moroccan participants were presented their own name, their mother's name, or another person's name simultaneously with the target words to which they made location judgments in relation to the name. In a subsequent memory test, we found that both Moroccan and American participants had a significant memory advantage for target words and their associated source feature (i.e., the name each word was presented) that were associated with their own name or their mother's name compared with those presented with another person's name. There was no significant effect of culture on the magnitude of a mother-memory advantage. Our findings provide evidence for the presence of an incidental mother-reference effect and suggest that future studies are necessary to fully determine the effect of culture on the emergence of this incidental mother-memory advantage.

Poster # 10

Absorption and Mindfulness Reflect Distinct Attentional Styles

Presenter/s: Marcus Leppanen

Advisor/s: Kyungmi Kim

Mindfulness and absorption may be considered two sides of the same coin of attentional control. Mindfulness reflects a propensity to attend to information in a nonjudgmental fashion and accept what is perceived. Absorption is instead a propensity to become deeply engaged with particular objects of attention. While both traits reflect forms of attentional control, they have been found to have different relationships with memory for prior remembering. The underlying processes that cause those differences are unknown. We surveyed 237 participants to examine how mindfulness and absorption relate to attentional control over internal stimuli and external stimuli, as well as self-directed introspection. We



found that all of the measured variables were significantly correlated, with the exception of absorption and internally-directed attention. Regression analyses revealed that mindfulness was significantly predicted by higher levels of top-down attentional control over external stimuli, self-reflection, and insight. In comparison, absorption was predicted by lower levels of top-down attentional control over external stimuli, higher levels of top-down control over internal thoughts, higher levels of self-reflection, and lower levels of insight. Mindfulness and absorption appear to reflect two distinct approaches to attending to stimuli in the external environment and our own mental world.

Poster # 11

Self-Referential Encoding Does Not Benefit Memory for Prior Remembering

Presenter/s: Marcus Leppanen, Anaya Navangul, Gabriella Feder, Dominoe Jones

Advisor/s: Kyungmi Kim

Remembering whether or not we have previously retrieved a memory before is important in everyday life. Past studies have shown that changes in context across instances of memory retrieval impairs memory for prior remembering. Given that self-referential encoding facilitates elaboration and organization of incoming information, we examined whether referring to-be-remembered cue-target word pairs to oneself (vs. another person) at encoding could act as a contextual anchor to protect memory for prior remembering from the effects of context change. Participants were asked to relate semantically-related cue-target word pairs (e.g., hand – palm, dog – bark) to themselves or a well-known celebrity. During Test 1, some targets were tested with the study cue (e.g., hand – p _ _ m) while others were tested with a new, related cue (e.g., birch – b _ _ k). During Test 2, all words were tested with the study cue and participants were asked whether they remembered retrieving each target during Test 1. We found that memory for prior remembering was impaired following a change in semantic context regardless of whether the referent was oneself or a famous celebrity, while performance was significantly better in a control condition in which word pairs were encoded alone.

Poster # 12

Spotlight on Memory: Memory Through Theater and Psychology

Presenter/s: Dominoe Jones

Advisor/s: Karl Scheibe

Memory is used in the creation of theater, and it is displayed in the plays performed on stage. This thesis aims to use the collaboration of theater and psychology to understand memory in everyday life better. The first approach is through a series of interviews with actors, directors, and designers in the Wesleyan community. The theater makers interviewed reported that knowing the meaning or emotional importance of what they were working on was important for recall. The second approach for examining the relationship between memory and theater is through an in-depth analysis of a collection of shows which I found to portray different types of memory on stage. Memory was found to be a pervasive theme throughout theater. By comparing the portrayal of memory by playwrights with presumably no background in psychology with psychological research, they were found to demonstrate nuanced theories of memory defined by psychology. Based on these findings, it is clear that theater and psychology can work together to enhance the understanding of the experience of memory in everyday life.

Poster # 13

Network Analysis Comparing Structural and Functional Neuroimaging Data

Presenter/s: Han Tay

Advisor/s: Psyche Loui

The human brain is a complex structural and functional network, but the relationship between network structure and function is unclear. Using a network science approach, we directly compare properties of structural and functional networks obtained from diffusion tensor imaging (DTI) and resting state functional MRI (rsfMRI) data. We define nodes in the network as region of interests (ROIs) obtained from the Craddock atlas. In the structural network, an edge is quantified using probabilistic tractography from DTI. In the functional network, an edge is quantified as bivariate correlation between two ROIs from rsfMRI. While the structural network shows local patterns of connectivity between anatomically adjacent brain regions, the functional network shows presence of many cross-hemispheric links between ROIs and their contralateral homologues. We also observe Rich Clubs and Diverse Clubs along the midline brain



structures in the structural network, and along the cortical surface in the functional network. Rich Clubs comprise nodes with disproportionately high number of edges that are highly interconnected with each other, while Diverse Clubs comprise nodes which are diversely connected to different network communities. These differences between structural and functional networks may shed light on the relationship between structure and function in the brain.

Poster # 14

Dance Experience Predicts Improvement from Movement Therapy in Parkinson's Disease

Presenter/s: Anna Krotinger

Advisor/s: Psyche Loui

Parkinson's disease (PD) is associated with a loss of internal cueing systems, which affects rhythmic motor tasks such as walking. Rhythmic stimulation has been shown to improve motor deficits in some patients; these findings have inspired dance therapies for PD. It has also been shown that musical groove is related to ease of sensorimotor coupling in a simple tapping task. We tested the hypothesis that groove and sensorimotor experience, as quantified by music and dance experience, affect the therapeutic outcome of dance classes for PD. We found that dance experience (>1 year of training) was a predictor of enhanced sensorimotor coupling ability for both high [$F(1,118)=18.64$, $p<0.001$] and low [$F(1,118)=5.978$, $p=0.016$] groove songs. Variability in tapping performance was negatively correlated with improvement in disease severity from baseline to 4 months, again for both high ($r=-0.465$, $p<0.001$) and low ($r=-0.585$, $p<0.001$) groove songs, indicating that more accurate sensorimotor coupling is associated with better therapeutic outcome. Furthermore, the presence of dance experience was also associated with greater improvements in therapeutic outcome ($F(1,94)=73.4$, $p<0.001$). Together, our findings suggest that dance and sensorimotor experience act as predictors of improvement in PD individuals following four months of dance therapy.

Poster # 15

Acoustic Cues Used for Perceiving Race in the Human Voice

Presenter/s: Tedra James

Advisor/s: Psyche Loui

The acoustic cues used to discern a person's racial identity from their voice were investigated in a series of three experiments. Two identical read sentences from 17 Black and 17 White speakers were selected from the TIMIT Corpus and analyzed using Tandem-STRAIGHT (Kawahara et al., 2008). Acoustic features were kept the same (Experiment 1), modified to be 1, 2, and 3 semitones higher and lower in fundamental frequency (F0; Experiment 2), or modified to be 5, 10, and 15% larger or smaller in vocal tract length (VTL; Experiment 3). Amazon Mechanical Turk listeners ($N = 211$) rated speech on the following scale: 1-most likely, 2-probably, or 3-possibly Black, or 4-possibly, 5-probably, or 6-most likely White. Listeners rated White voices higher (closer to 6) than Black voices (T-Test, $p<.001$), indicating that listeners could reliably differentiate Black and White speakers. Ratings for speech with modified F0 did not differ across manipulations (linear contrast ANOVA $p >.05$); however, speech produced by smaller vocal tracts were rated higher than speech produced by larger vocal tracts (linear contrast ANOVA $p<.001$). These results show that VTL, and not F0, is a cue used to identify the race of a speaker.

Poster # 16

Differentiating Effects of Improvisational And Non-Improvisational Musical Training on Functional Connectivity

Presenter/s: Alexander Belden

Advisor/s: Psyche Loui

Jazz improvisation offers a model for creative cognition, as it involves the real-time creation of a novel, information-rich product. Previous research has shown that when jazz musicians improvise, they recruit Default Mode (DMN) regions including the medial prefrontal cortex and Executive Control (ECN) areas including the lateral prefrontal cortex. Here, we ask whether these task-fMRI findings might arise from intrinsic differences in resting state functional connectivity. We performed a combination of seed-based analysis and Independent component analysis (ICA) comparing groups of improvisationally trained musicians, classically trained musicians, and the minimally musically trained. We also compared the relative contributions of improvisational and non-improvisational musical training to connectivity patterns.



Seed-based analysis consistently indicated higher connectivity in DMN and ECN regions in musically trained individuals as compared to MMT controls. This included higher connectivity (cluster threshold $p < 0.05$, p -FDR corrected) in the classical group between the mPFC and the frontal orbital cortex, precuneal cortex, and pars triangularis of the left inferior frontal gyrus, as well as greater connections in the improvisational group between the left lateral prefrontal cortex and bilateral lingual gyrus, cuneal cortex, and intracalcarine cortex. Meanwhile, ICA revealed differential contributions of improvisational and non-improvisational musical training to intrinsic DMN connectivity.

Poster # 17

Optogenetic Stimulation of the Central Amygdala Prolongs Internal Consequences of Sodium Depletion

Presenter/s: John Cote

Advisor/s: Mike Robinson

Addictions persist despite adverse consequences. This study investigated whether optogenetic stimulation of the CeA could generate an addiction-like preference that persists despite sodium depletion. Rats were trained to choose between drinking either salt water, or sugar water paired with CeA-laser stimulation. When sodium depleted, the experimental rats drank less sodium and had more sucrose responses than controls. These results suggest stimulation of the CeA can generate addiction-like preferences despite internal consequences.

Poster # 18

Amphetamine Sensitization under Reward Uncertainty Decreases Conditioned Approach While Increasing Conditioned Reinforcement to an Incentive Cue

Presenter/s: Kian Caplan, Anna Knes, Callie Clibanoff, and Hely Rodriguez-Cruz

Advisor/s: Mike Robinson

Reward uncertainty is a prominent feature of gambling, and slot machines offer a myriad of light and sound cues. We have previously demonstrated that rats, under uncertain reward conditions, develop a greater attraction to the incentive cues most proximal to reward delivery. In the present study, we sought to investigate the effects of both reward uncertainty and amphetamine sensitization on the attribution of incentive and predictive value by rats in a Pavlovian autoshaping task. Our findings demonstrate that reward uncertainty increases the incentive value attributed to reward-proximal cues, making them more attractive. However, reward uncertainty in rats that underwent prior amphetamine sensitization shifts attraction back from the incentive reward-proximal cue to the predictive reward-distal cue. Notably, however, these rats interacted significantly more with the incentive lever during conditioned reinforcement, suggesting that it had gained excessively high levels of value to them, despite their attention having been primarily focused on the predictive lever during autoshaping. This discrepancy in cue attraction observed in the autoshaping task and the rewarding value observed under conditioned reinforcement suggests that the attractiveness of a cue and the degree to which an animal is willing to work for it may be dissociated.

Poster # 19

Dissecting the Addiction-Like Preference Created By Optogenetic Stimulation of the Central Amygdala

Presenter/s: Maryyam Mian, Danielle Vaamonde, Hannah Xu

Advisor/s: Mike Robinson

We have recently shown that optogenetic stimulation of the Central Amygdala (CeA) creates an addiction-like preference for a stimulation-paired reward (Tom et al., 2018). However, little is known about the psychological mechanisms that help generate this persistent and compulsive preference. We utilized a risky decision making paradigm in which we examined whether CeA stimulation can produce a preference for an uncertain and suboptimal reward (Risky Win) or whether laser stimulation paired with the response and cues associated with a suboptimal reward could produce a preference (Risky Loss). The ability of CeA stimulation to promote habit formation of a particular instrumental response was further examined in a task where laser stimulation accompanied an 8 second timeout period following reward delivery, during which animals were either allowed or not allowed to repetitively respond on the reward-paired lever. Our results suggest that laser stimulation of the CeA appears to create a narrow



preference for one particular reward by enhancing the motivational value of reward outcomes. However this preference appears to display compulsive-like traits, and shows resistance to devaluation, only after the preference is initially acquired free of challenges. Future experiments will examine which parameters are crucial in the development of a CeA preference for it to persist under suboptimal conditions.

Poster # 20

Reward Uncertainty Elicits Cue-Triggered Craving for Predictive and Incentive Cues

Presenter/s: Tara Peng, Nita Rome, Jules Chabot

Advisor/s: Mike Robinson

Cues preceding rewards contain both predictive and incentive value, and reward uncertainty, as seen in gambling, is believed to increase incentive value while simultaneously decreasing predictive value. Here we assigned predictive and incentive value to two distinct cues and used Pavlovian-to-Instrumental Transfer to examine how reward uncertainty affects cue-elicited craving in rats. We found that uncertain, but not certain, reward conditions lead to cue-induced craving in response to both predictive and incentive cues.

Poster # 21

How Do Preschoolers Replicate Proportions?

Presenter/s: Jenny Chelmos

Advisor/s: Hilary Barth

Nearly all previous research exploring early proportional reasoning has used choice tasks that involve picking proportionally equivalent matches from a fixed set of options. While these tasks help determine whether young children recognize proportional relationships, they do not reveal precise information about accuracy or strategy use. With two novel proportional reasoning tasks, we explored preschoolers' ability to reproduce equivalent proportions when presented with relative quantities. Preschool children (ages 3-5 years) and adults were asked to estimate proportional matches from given stimuli using an adjustable apparatus. The same proportional relationships were presented in two different formats: pairs of separate red and blue circles (Experiment 1) and single circles divided into red and blue parts (Experiment 2). Preschoolers showed a remarkable ability to replicate proportions across formats. Though many 3-year-olds did not understand the task and failed to make estimates correlated with true proportions, a small number of 3-year-olds were able to make estimates with reasonable accuracy. The large majority of 4- and 5-year-olds made accurate, correlated estimates, demonstrating that even very young children with no formal knowledge of proportions are capable of proportional estimation given simple, intuitive tasks.

Poster # 22

Partition Dependence in Preschool Years: Evidence from a Single Choice Task

Presenter/s: Katie Vasquez

Advisor/s: Hilary Barth

Both children's and adults' decisions are subject to the influence of the way options are arbitrarily partitioned. This phenomenon is called *partition dependence*. Previous studies have found that even adults' preference based choices are influenced by the way options are presented. In the current study we ask whether children's preference based choices are also influenced by the partitioning of options in a single-choice task. Eighty-six children (ages 3-6) were asked to select an activity from a board displaying four total options organized across three columns and two conceptual groupings: art or games. Two columns each contained one single activity, and one column contained two activities. If participants selected an activity from either one of the single "packed" columns or the double "unpacked" column significantly more than 50 percent of the time, this would indicate that children's choices are influenced by the partitioning of the activities in this task. However, inconsistent with partition dependence, children selected activities from the "packed" and "unpacked" columns equally across conditions.



Poster # 23

The Minimal Group/No-Group Study: Exploring Demand Characteristics in the Child Minimal Group Paradigm

Presenter/s: Kerry Brew

Advisor/s: Hilary Barth

Minimal groups are groups that are novel, randomly assigned, and have no social significance. Children prefer individuals with whom they share minimal group membership over those who belong to other groups. Are these preferences caused by mere membership in a group, or can the design of minimal group studies (demand characteristics) drive participants to favor ingroup members, even when they do not really have these preferences? In the present minimal group study, we assign participants to either a “group” condition, where they are put into a color-based minimal group, or a nearly identical “no-group” condition, where they are given a box of a certain color. All participants then complete tasks that assess their preferences for children wearing the same or a different color than the one they were assigned. Preferences for color-match children even in the no-group condition would suggest that the design of minimal group studies is sufficient to induce the appearance of ingroup bias. We find no evidence that demand characteristics contribute to the formation of ingroup bias in the minimal group paradigm.

Poster # 24

Minimal Group/ No-Group Bias: The Effects of In-Group Bias and Demand Characteristics in Adults

Presenter/s: Taylor Clark

Advisor/s: Hilary Barth

People prefer members of their ingroup in many situations, even when group membership is only defined by qualities that have no pre-existing real world meaning, like t-shirt colors assigned arbitrarily in a lab setting. This type of group is called a minimal group. But, are minimal group effects really due to group membership? In this pre-registered study, we ask whether ingroup bias in minimal group experiments could be due in part to demand characteristics. Demand characteristics are cues embedded in an experimental setting that may lead the participant to respond in a particular manner. In one condition, we assigned participants to a minimal group by shirt color and then assessed their preferences for ingroup members. In a novel condition, we preserved potential demand characteristics (the experimenter introduced a colored object) but did not assign participants to color-based groups. If demand characteristics contribute to the preferences people show in minimal group studies, then color-based preferences may be seen in both group and no-group conditions. If demand characteristics do not play a role, then we should see color-based preferences only in the group condition. The findings were more complex than either of these possibilities, but generally support the second possibility.

Poster # 25

Gender Differences in Digit Dependence in Numerical Estimation

Presenter/s: Katherine Williams, Julia Xing, Taylor Clark, Esha Bhandari

Advisor/s: Hilary Barth

A rich body of research has explored gender differences in numerical and mathematical abilities. While the findings have been mixed, a male advantage in overall accuracy has been observed on some symbolic numerical tasks such as number line estimation (NLE), which are widely used to explore numerical competence over development (e.g., Hutchison, Lyons, & Ansari, 2018). The present study used existing data from two tasks in which participants were given Arabic numerals and had to mark their place on a 0-1000 number line. We asked whether children aged 7-11 and adults exhibited gender differences in overall estimation accuracy and in the degree of reliance on leftmost digits (e.g., placing numbers like 799 far to the left of numbers like 803). This Left Digit Effect (LDE) is one source of error in NLE tasks. No gender differences were found when collapsing across age groups. Preregistered analyses did reveal gender differences in overall accuracy in some age groups, though we suggest these may prove unreliable. No gender differences emerged for the left digit effect in any age groups.



Poster # 26

Partition Dependence in Financial Aid Resource Allocations

Presenter/s: Chenmu (Julia) Xing, Katherine Williams

Advisor/s: Hilary Barth

The present work replicated and extended prior work on partition dependence in decision making, an effect in which different groupings of options lead to different choices by decision makers. Adults allocated university financial aid to arbitrarily partitioned income brackets. Income bracket partitions greatly influenced the amount of aid allocated to lower income households, even when the arbitrariness of the partitions was made salient. Strong partitioning effects remained for adults currently receiving university aid. The findings of the present work offer important insights that may inform choice architecture aimed at nudging better decisions.

Poster # 27

Relationship between Interest in Violence and Capability for Suicide

Presenter/s: Esha Bhandari, Julia Kahn, Roshni Patel, Neha Srinivas

Advisor/s: Alexis May

Research has determined that an individual's habituation to pain, fear, and death through exposure to life experiences, interests or personality traits can affect their capability to die by suicide. A relatively new body of research has explored the relationship between interest in violence and capability to die by suicide. Previous findings indicate that interest in violent media (e.g., films, video games) is associated with suicide capability (Mitchell et al., 2015; Till et al., 2014). The present study sought to expand this work by examining the relationship between self-reported interest in violence more generally and suicide capability. Participants included 1205 adults (48.5% female, 50.6% male) who responded to questions assessing their interest in violence and suicide capability. Results suggest a statistically significant relationship between interest in violence and capability ($r = 0.27$, $p < 0.001$). This relationship was tested for moderation independently by gender, sleep quality, past suicide ideation, and history of suicide attempt. No evidence of moderation was detected, which suggests that gender, sleep, past suicide ideation, and history of suicide attempts do not influence the relationship between interest in violence and capability. Future research should investigate whether unintentional exposure to violence such as trauma also increases capability.

Poster # 28

Perceptive Dissonance: The Relationship between Perceived Lethality and the Severity of Suicide Attempt Outcomes

Presenter/s: Alexa Code, Ruth Chartoff, Shani Erdman, & Jewelia Ferguson

Advisor/s: Alexis May

We identified a gap in research addressing suicidal individuals' perception of how lethal their method is versus the severity of the medical outcome. We examined the relationship between perceived lethality of attempters and the severity of the medical outcome of the attempt. Participants included 103 adults with a suicide attempt. Attempts by overdose were analyzed separately from other methods. Independent samples *t*-tests and chi-square tests were used to determine a relationship between perceived lethality and the severity of the outcome. Outcome variables included medical severity, medical attention, and hospitalization. Among those who attempted via overdose, perceived lethality was related to the severity of the medical outcome; those who were certain of lethality were more likely to report needing medical attention and overnight hospitalization post-attempt compared to those who were uncertain of lethality. For other methods, there was no significant relationship between attempters' perceived lethality and the severity of the medical outcome; medical attention and need for hospitalization post-attempt did not differ based on perceived lethality. Thus, perceived lethality may predict medical severity for attempts using overdose. More research should compare perceived lethality and outcome severity of other methods and differences in perceived lethality and outcome severity for single- and multiple-attempters.



Poster # 29

Relation of Parental Physical Illness to College Students' Levels of Depressive Experiences

Presenter/s: Julia Kahn

Advisor/s: Sarah Kamens

Past studies have examined the effects of familial factors on the mental health of children, including parental mental illness as well as parental physical illness such as cancer (Möller et al. 2014). The present study aimed to see if there was any relationship between college-aged students' reported depressive experiences and their parents' physical health. Thirty participants completed online surveys that included questions about depressive experiences and parental physical and mental illness. Data analyses failed to show a statistically significant relationship between the variables. High numbers of participants answered "yes" to having a past depressive experience, and a small number of participants had a parent with a physical illness or medical condition. Future work should be conducted with larger, randomly selected samples, as well as with different age groups. Additionally, research going forward should look at other types of mental illness such as anxiety disorders and eating disorders to see if there is any relationship to parental physical illness.

Poster # 30

Cultural Variations in College Students' Experiences with Mental Health Challenges

Presenter/s: Neha Srinivas and Taylor Dillon

Advisor/s: Sarah Kamens

There is little research specifically focused on the cultural aspects of young-adult college students' experiences with mental health challenges and services. The aim of the present qualitative study is to explore the relationships between young adults' cultural experiences and their mental health challenges, including their beliefs about mental health services and their pathways to care. Twelve college students with particularly rich and salient cultural experiences were selected for the present project from a larger study of 24 participants interviewed at Wesleyan University. Qualitative interviews focused on participants' experiences with mental health challenges and thoughts about whether to enter mental health services. The interviews were audio-recorded, transcribed, and then analyzed using phenomenology (Wertz et al., 2011). Preliminary findings indicated cultural differences in the relationships between young adults' mental health challenges, beliefs about mental health services, and pathways to care. These findings support past research suggesting that familial pressure and familial support are particularly meaningful for individuals from collectivistic cultures (Kagitcibasi et al., 2010; Khallad & Jabr, 2016) and further suggest that this is the case regardless of perceived closeness to family members. Future studies might examine cultural influences on the development of biomedical versus psychosocial explanatory models for psychological distress.

Poster # 31

Observations in Migrant Detention Centers

Presenter/s: Angie Soto and Jahnvi Mehta

Advisor/s: Sarah Kamens

As of January 2019, Immigration and Customs Enforcement reported that the average daily detainee population in U.S. detention centers rose to 48,000 people (Barnard, 2019). Immigrant detainees are often kept in inhumane conditions that only exacerbate the traumatic and other distressing experiences that they have endured. The purpose of this qualitative study, which was part of a larger American Psychological Association interdivisional grant project, was to explore conditions at detention centers through the eyes of professionals who have visited them. Two participants in the legal professions were interviewed about their experiences and observations when visiting detention centers. The interviews were semi-structured and allowed for an in-depth exploration of the participants' first-person observations and reflections. Preliminary findings indicated that interviewees viewed the conditions and amenities in the detention centers as subpar, and they reported that mistreatment of detainees was common. While these preliminary findings are helpful for learning more about conditions at migrant detention centers, there is still more work to be done. Future research should delve into the lives of immigrants, refugees, and asylum seekers post-detention in order to track the long-term effects of traumatic events and other difficult circumstances on both adults and children.



Poster # 32

Relationship between Mental Distress and Streaming Habits

Presenter/s: Greg Fischer, Michelle Lei, and Olivia Osborn

Advisor/s: Sarah Kamens

Past research suggests that there is relationship between elevated television watching habits and depressive symptoms (e.g., Gardner, Iliffe, Fox, Jefferis, & Hamer, 2014). Inspired by the recent phenomenon called “binging,” the present ongoing study was developed to examine the relationship between video streaming habits and mental distress in college students. We expect to find a positive correlation between time spent watching streaming services and levels of reported emotional distress. Thus far, 40 participants, all Wesleyan University students, have taken part in this study by completing an online Qualtrics survey. The survey contains questions addressing the relationship between participants’ personal streaming habits (more specifically, the duration and frequency of streaming) and their emotional states both prior to and following streaming service use. The findings from this study will contribute to our understanding of the potential correlation between streaming services and emotional distress in college students. Future studies might look at the ways in which screen time might specifically relate to anxiety, depression, and poor sleep quality. In addition, future research might investigate the emotional effects of different kinds of shows. Finally, research is needed on the population-level effects of the accessibility of streaming services.

Poster # 33

Relationship between Coping Strategies and Self-Esteem

Presenter/s: Shakira Fortson, Katie Danziger Wenger, Emerson Sarni, Will Ratner

Advisor/s: Sarah Kamens

Previous research has shown that high self-esteem can buffer anxiety, whereas threats to self-esteem can induce anxiety and to activate defensive strategies (Henriksen, Ranoyen, Indredavik, & Stenseng, 2017). The present study was designed to investigate the relationship between (1) “positive” and “negative” coping strategies and (2) self-esteem in the Wesleyan student population. We predicted that negative coping strategies would be associated with lower self-esteem, whereas positive coping strategies would be associated with higher self-esteem. Thus far, this study used a convenience sample of 34 college students over the age of 18 who participated in an online survey. The survey consists of a demographics section, a “select all that apply” section on coping mechanisms, a ranking section on stressors from “most stressful” to “least stressful,” the Rosenberg Self-Esteem scale (Rosenberg, 1965; University of Maryland Sociology Department, 2019), and qualitative free-response questions linking coping habits to self-esteem. SPSS will be utilized to look for statistical relationships between (1) positive and negative coping strategies and (2) self-esteem. Limitations of our study include the small sample size and use of convenience sampling. Future research should account for potential mediating and moderating variables such as past mental health history, exposure to previous therapies, and lived experiences of adversity.

Poster # 34

Insight and Opioid Use Disorder: A Person-Centered and Recovery-Oriented Reconceptualization

Presenter/s: Alexandra Riedel

Advisor/s: Sarah Kamens

The United States is experiencing an “opioid epidemic” in which individuals are overdosing and experiencing opioid use disorder (OUD) at high rates (Lyden & Binswanger, 2019). Despite these mortality and morbidity rates, people with OUD have low service utilization rates. The present theoretical thesis aimed to explore reasons why people aren’t seeking services by examining psychosocial and structural factors associated with insight, often defined as problem recognition and motivation to seek help. Literature on clinical insight and general mental health is first reviewed, highlighting the consistency of findings indicating that clinical insight can lead to depression and demoralization through increased stigma (e.g., Cavelti et al., 2012). Research on insight and substance use disorder (SUD) is then reviewed, which indicated that people with SUD face unique structural and social circumstances that can impact insight. Finally, this thesis proposes a person-centered, recovery-oriented reconceptualization of insight in OUD that broadens the scope of factors understood to impact insight. This reconceptualization also focuses on how opportunities for personal growth and perceptions of a fulfilling life and recovery



might be inherent to insight, with a recommendation for clinicians to focus on facilitating growth and perceptions of a fulfilling future, rather than insight as classically defined.

Poster # 35

Marginalized Identities and Academic Support

Presenter/s: SeArah Smith, Joel Groves, Mackenzie Corcoran, and
Alexander Blaylock

Advisor/s: Sarah Kamens

Among all degree-granting colleges that received financial aid from the U.S. Department of Education in the year 2015, only 17% of full-time undergraduate students were black, with only 9% of professors being black as well (Time Labs, 2016). Similar percentages of students and professors with marginalized identities can be found across colleges in the U.S. These low representations of students and professors with marginalized identities may limit the students' opportunities to engage with their professors. The present ongoing research project was designed to investigate whether or not students who self-identify as non-marginalized have stronger relationships with professors in comparison to students who self-identify as marginalized. In this study, a marginalized identity is defined as a minority with regards to race, nationality, gender, sexual orientation, socioeconomic status, and/or disability. We are conducting an anonymous online survey in which participants complete questions pertaining to their self-identifications and attitudes towards interactions with professors. We predict that marginalized students will be less likely to form strong relationships with their professors than non-marginalized students. The findings of this study may lead to a better understanding of how to improve the academic support offered to students with marginalized identities.

Poster # 36

Intimacy and Belonging at Wesleyan University

Presenter/s: Annemarie Bell, Lucas Kimball, Alex Ramsden, Christy Wong

Advisor/s: Sarah Kamens

Recent research suggests that entering university is a developmentally important and highly stressful transition for emerging adults (e.g., Mackinnon et al., 2014). Making meaningful friendships can help students make it through this transition, but it can also be one of the hardest times to form meaningful connections. The objective of the present ongoing study is to determine if there is a relationship between (1) the reported quantity and quality of social interactions and (2) feelings of belonging at Wesleyan. Participants are recruited through flyers distributed at an information table in Usdan and also by posting in a Wesleyan Facebook group online. Using an online survey, we have thus far collected data from 99 students about their social interactions on campus, their social interactions back home, and their feelings of belonging on campus. Limitations of the study include the fact that the sample size is fairly small and only consists of Wesleyan students who respond to our flyers or Facebook posts. Furthermore, all participants are recruited using convenience sampling due to time and resource constraints. Therefore, the results may not be applicable to the broader Wesleyan population or to students at other college campuses.

Poster # 37

Detention Centers and Migrants' Mental Health

Presenter/s: Ori Cantwell, Kimberly Lopez Vasquez, Carolina Mahedy,
Katherine Orozco-Hernandez

Advisor/s: Sarah Kamens

The United States has long been a destination for immigrants, refugees, and asylum-seekers. Detention centers have existed for many years in the United States and have been the subject of concerns about how immigrants, refugees, and asylum-seekers are treated. The purpose of this ongoing qualitative interview study is to learn about the experiences and observations of multidisciplinary professionals (psychologists, lawyers, journalists, and others) who have visited migrant detention centers, including their reflections on (a) the conditions at the migrant detention centers and (b) the mental health impact of detainment on asylum-seeking migrants. Based on previous psychological literature, it is expected that findings will indicate ways in which detention centers negatively affect the mental health of both migrants and the professionals who work with them. We conducted semi-structured, person-centered interviews



with four multidisciplinary professionals who were interviewed about their experiences with detention centers and/or experience with migrants who have been previously detained. The interview data are being analyzed using a narrative approach. Through this approach, recurring themes are identified, and their interrelationships are explored. The findings will contribute to the nascent research into mental health and detention centers and will help build a foundation for future research. This study is part of a larger American Psychological Association (APA) interdivisional grant project titled "On the shoulders of activist scholars: building healthy environments for immigrants, refugees and asylum-seekers."

Poster # 38

Experiences and Interpretations of Mental Distress among College Students

Presenter/s: Tommy Alpert, Cobey Arenal, Sam Libberton, Jiner Zheng

Advisor/s: Sarah Kamens

The purpose of this ongoing study is to learn more about the ways in which college students experiencing depression and anxiety understand themselves and their experiences. Explanatory frameworks may include how students understand the causes of their emotional distress, how they evaluate their coping mechanisms in response to particular stressors, and how they expect to view themselves in the future. This archival study will use a minimum of 10 first-person narratives of experiences with depression and anxiety written by college students that were published online between 2013 and 2019. Preliminary results based on the analysis of two narratives indicated that both students had negative encounters with their college health care services. In addition, these two students understood their experience with depression differently: one described their depression as something that needed treatment, while the other regarded it as meaningful experience and more than just a "disorder." These diverse explanations reflect some of the myriad ways in which students experience anxiety and depression. Future work analyzing depression and anxiety in college students could be conducted through qualitative interview studies to better understand how students perceive their emotional distress and thus help design future counseling and care based on their self-reported experiences.

Poster # 39

Relationship between Cultural Background and Romantic Experiences

Presenter/s: Kayla Zentmaier, Xiangyi Guo, Ari Westreich, Gaelin Kingston

Advisor/s: Sarah Kamens

Romantic experiences play a significant role in human experience. Much research has been devoted to the impact of culture on romantic experiences (e.g., Kamp, Dush, & Amato, 2005), but there is a gap when it comes to studying differing perceptions of and experiences with romantic relationships among persons from collectivistic and individualistic cultural backgrounds. In the present ongoing study, we are evaluating how the cultural backgrounds of Wesleyan University students relate to their expectations and past experiences of romantic relationships. Participants are recruited at a table in Usdan University Center where flyers were distributed, through recruitment flyers posted around campus, and through a post we created in the Facebook page, WesAdmits. Thus far we have 50 participants. Participants complete a 10- to 20-minute online Qualtrics survey. Participants are asked to identify themselves as coming from an individualistic or collectivistic cultural background. Questions also assess whether the participant wishes to be married, how many romantic relationships they have previously experienced, their interests in pursuing relationships, and their present perceptions of relationships. Our preliminary discussion addresses expectations about our findings, the limitations of our study, and potential directions for future research.

Poster # 40

The Importance of Social Support for Undergraduates with Chronic Illness

Presenter/s: Charlotte Curnin

Advisor/s: Sarah Kamens

Objective: This study aimed to explore the chronic illness experience of Wesleyan undergraduates, focusing on their perception of available social support. *Method:* Prospective participants were recruited using flyers posted around campus and displayed at a class recruitment table. Four females, 19 years or older with chronic illness were each interviewed once. Interview duration ranged from 17 to 67 minutes. *Results:* Participants felt that the Wesleyan community did not provide ingrained social support and



forced students to build their support networks independently. As many of the participants were sick with debilitating symptoms early in their Wesleyan career, they struggled to create said networks as they often could not engage with Wesleyan's active community. As a result of perceived deficiencies in understanding and empathy from peers, Wesleyan faculty, and medical staff, most participants felt unsupported. *Discussion:* The participant's various journeys testify to the diversity of experiences with chronic illness. The physical symptoms and the community's limited understanding of chronic illness inhibited the participants' integration into Wesleyan society, which restricted available companionship, emotional support, instrumental support, and informational support. More studies should be conducted to investigate methods of increasing the availability of social support for chronically ill students.

Poster # 41

Gender Differences in Views of Reflected Self-Appraisals and Self-Esteem Presenter/s: Rachel Pomeranz

Advisor/s: Sarah Kamens

This study assessed the relationship between self-esteem, reflected self-appraisals, and gender. It was hypothesized that participants who identified as male would rate their self-esteem as higher and have more positive reflected self-appraisals than other participants. There were 34 participants: 22 who identified as female, 10 as male, one as gender non-binary, and one as other. Participants completed an online survey with questions about how they view themselves, how they think others view them, their self-esteem, and their gender. Difference scores between how people view themselves and how they think others view them were calculated to represent the relative positivity or negativity of the reflected self-appraisals. Results were analyzed using Kruskal Wallis tests. Because two groups had only one participant, the tests were run twice, once with only the male and female groups and once with the gender non-binary and other participants grouped together. There were no statistically significant differences in self-esteem or reflected self-appraisals among the genders. These results suggest that people's reflected self-appraisals and self-appraisals are similar. People often think that others think about them similarly to how they view themselves. Future research could include greater focus on people who do not identify within the gender binary.

Poster # 42

Attitudes towards Disclosing and Discussing MHCs at Wesleyan

Presenter/s: Bryan Chong

Advisor/s: Sarah Kamens

This purpose of this study was to investigate potential differences in attitudes toward disclosing and discussing mental health challenges (MHCs) among students of different demographics at Wesleyan University. Past research has suggested between-gender differences in attitudes (Brown et al., 2017), but no studies have compared attitudes among college students of different demographics. This study proposed two hypotheses: (1) between-demographic variation exists in attitudes towards disclosing and discussing MHCs, and (2) between-demographic variation exists in the self-perception of openness versus how others perceive the openness of one's demographic. An anonymous online survey was used to collect responses from a convenience sample of 24 undergraduate students. The survey assessed participants' self-reported attitudes and perceptions of how open others of different demographics are to disclosing and discussing MHCs. Three participant demographic dichotomies were established to facilitate data analysis and comparison (male vs. female participants, LGBTQ+ vs. non-LGBTQ+ participants, athletes vs. non-athletes). Results partially supported both hypotheses, with the highest number of significant differences found between LGBTQ+ and non-LGBTQ+ participants' responses. Potential explanations of these findings can be found in past research, suggesting that factors such as different perceptions of campus climate, or the level of faculty training, can impact the extent to which LGBTQ+ students disclose and discuss MHCs. Further research should inquire directly into the causes of between-demographic variation in attitudes.

**Poster # 43****Mitigating Implicit Racial Bias among Criminal Court Jurors: Intervention through Instruction**

Presenter/s: Hannah Bolotin

Advisor/s: Steven Stemler

The construct of implicit bias is well documented but has only recently gained attention for its potential role in perpetuating racial disparities in judicial outcomes. Some efforts have been made to mitigate the effects of implicit bias on juries' decision-making through specialized jury instructions. However, empirical investigation evaluating the effect of the jury instruction amendment is lacking. The present study sought to fill this gap. Participants acting as mock jurors ($N = 203$) received either the new instruction that included the implicit bias commentary or the original instruction. Participants responded to three separate cases, in which defendant and victim race were randomized, offering a verdict and sentencing recommendation, along with responses to additional measures assessing participants' perceptions of defendant culpability. Contrary to hypotheses, though in line with the only other known study investigating an implicit bias jury instruction amendment (Elek and Hannaford-Agor, 2014), the present study found no evidence of an influence of the new instruction on verdict, sentencing, or any additional outcomes. However, evidence was found for differences in case judgments based on participant race. Reasons for the lack of effect of instruction are discussed, along with suggestion for future interventions.

Poster # 44**Caption This: Distracting Negative Emotions**

Presenter/s: Gabriella Castorena

Advisor/s: Chuck Sanislow

The educational impact of having captions or not having captions present in visual stimuli have been studied in hearing impaired individuals, and the initial intent of the present study was to understand the relation of captions and emotional eliciting film clips within the hearing-impaired community. An initial pilot study to compare captioning and emotion elicitation comparison was among hearing undergraduate students. The use of segmented film clips – their emotional scenes – as visual stimuli in order to elicit certain emotions offers many advantageous observations and a chance to measure a participant's level of arousal, whereas using just surveys with hypothetical-emotional-eliciting situations would not have the same impact. A question of interest is whether captions might serve as a healthy distraction from negative emotional material, thereby positively impacting their mood. Specifically, I predict that emotional reactions will be dampened when captions are present. The results suggest that majority of the high scores on the clinical scales are correlated with whether a film clip contains captions or no captions. In addition, results suggest that there is a preference in brain hemispheres in regard to the presence of captions in a film clip.

Poster # 45**Influences of Altruism in Millennials & Gen Z**

Presenter/s: Saakshi Kakar, Mubarak Sanni, Paul Willems

Advisor/s: Shellae Versey

Altruistic behaviors are influenced by the interaction between one's intrinsic motivations and their environment (Chudek & Henrich, 2011). The aim of this study was to investigate the relationship between family orientation and religious/spiritual importance on altruistic tendencies among Millennials and Gen Z. The researchers hypothesized that greater attachment to family and higher levels of religious/spiritual importance would directly correlate with higher levels of altruism, across race and gender. Data was collected through the Health and Activism Survey via an Amazon Mechanical Turk (MTurk) online survey between Fall 2016 and Spring 2017 ($n = 722$, aged 18 - 25). The researchers scored the data into composite variables and conducted regression analyses to test the null hypothesis. The findings suggest that family orientation significantly influenced altruistic tendencies ($p < .05$) while religious/spiritual importance did not. In addition, the findings also suggest that Asian participants had a slight, but significantly negative relationship with altruistic tendencies ($p < .01$). Connection to past research and future directions are discussed.



Poster # 46

A Bridging-Community Dinner Project: Building Community among Resettled Refugees in Boston

Presenter/s: Isobel McPhee and Willa Schwarz

Advisor/s: Shellae Versey

Recently resettled refugees often face enormous obstacles when trying to develop new networks and communities in the United States: obstacles include long work hours, lack of English skills, cultural barriers, and lack of opportunity (Bose, 2014; Vinokurova, Edison, Trickett, & Birmanc). An important issue facing immigrants and those who work on immigration policy is to what extent resettled individuals and families integrate into their local communities. Being part of a community can influence opportunities for employment, education, language competence, social connection, and good health. A Bridging-Community Dinner Project (AB-CD) aimed to foster connections between recently resettled refugees through sharing meals and participating in community events. Using a three-phase approach, AB-CD Project hosted weekly events over a four-month period (ten events) for refugees in Boston to join together, develop new relationships, gather informational resources through community connections, and participate in community-engagement activities. The team conducted pre- and post-impact evaluations of the AB-CD Project. We collected both quantitative (surveys) and qualitative (interviews) data. Data was catalogued using narrative coding following the intro and exit surveys.

Poster # 47

Who Takes More Risks? The Stakes and Consequences of Activism

Presenter/s: Isabella Greco, Aleena Imran, Yoo-Jung Eunice Lee, Ezra Levy, Coey Li, Justin McIntosh, Emma Ritter, & Campbell Silverstein

Advisor/s: Shellae Versey

Race has historically had, and continues to have, an important role in political and social activism. Racial categories create social, economic and political disadvantages that can affect individual's activism behaviors. In this study, we examined the effect of race on the level of engagement in social and political activism and the physical and mental health consequences. The level of engagement in activism was further measured by the amount of risk the individual endured when participating in activism and the amount of effort it requires for the individual to engage in activism. Data for the present study were collected via Amazon Mechanical Turk (MTurk) online survey between the fall of 2016 and the spring of 2017. Findings indicate that race plays an important role in social and political activism. Activism risk and effort were not significant predictors of depression and self-rated overall health. Connection to previous research and future directions are discussed.

Poster # 48

Climate Change and Mental Health: Repercussions of Disruption and Loss

Presenter/s: Emma Ritter

Advisor/s: Shellae Versey

Despite the fact that climate change is one of the most critical issues facing the global population, the implications of climate change on mental health are not widely considered. Through a comprehensive review of current publications and conversations with clinical psychologists, I summarized and critiqued current literature and current interventions used to mitigate the negative impacts of climate change on mental health. I reviewed how environmental disasters often lead to feelings of disruption and loss and can cause pathological emotional and stress reactions. I investigated the psychological impacts of environmental change in general: how the threat of climate change is leading to feelings of uncertainty and apathy, and how environmental changes are affecting individuals' physical health (both of which link to mental health issues). I further explored how vulnerable communities will be disproportionately impacted by climate change and the resulting mental health outcomes. Looking to how resilience can be built against negative mental health, I analyzed the role of media in shaping public appraisals of climate change and disasters. As a result, I proposed areas of improvement for clinicians, the media, disaster preparedness policies, and researchers, for effective mitigation of the negative mental health outcomes of climate change.

**Poster # 49****Asian Americans' Leadership Experiences**

Presenter/s: Coey Li

Advisor/s: Robert Steele

Statistics show that Asian Americans are underrepresented in many leadership spaces. In the present study, 12 Asian and Asian American leaders in academia, business, NGO, and politics were interviewed about their leadership experiences, leadership ideals, self-perceptions as leaders, understandings of other Asian American leaders' experiences, and sources of support. Similar to previous research (e.g. Kawahara, Pal, & Chin, 2013), the present study shows that participants shared a collaborative leadership style with an emphasis on communication. They also viewed support from their communities and mentors as important in their achievement. Additionally, participants indicated both interest and initiative in pursuing leadership roles. They also actively worked toward building a pipeline of opportunities and resources for aspiring Asian American leaders. While they viewed racial stereotypes and biases as major challenges Asian American leaders must overcome, they also acknowledged that factors such as gender, age, and socioeconomic status play an important role in shaping their experiences. Lastly, participants were empathetic toward other racial minorities' struggles in rising into leadership spaces. Overall, findings from the present study show that the "docile Asian" stereotype is inaccurate and more resources are needed for Asian Americans who are interested in developing leadership.

Poster # 50**Ethnic Identity in Chinese and Korean Adoptees: Exploration, Components, Expression**

Presenter/s: Tatum Leclair

Advisor/s: Robert Steele

In the context of ethnic identity, Chinese and Korean adoptees with White, American families are an understudied population. Yet this group is of interest given their unique cultural positioning in relation to America, China or Korea, and Asian America. In this study, 20 Chinese and Korean adoptees (17 women, 3 men; 17 Chinese, 3 Korean; 20-25 years) were interviewed in a semi-structured format to gauge their experiences exploring, defining, and expressing their ethnic identity. Findings indicated that while there were some universals among adoptees such as a) parents that discussed racism in an indirect and reactionary way, b) being provided with opportunities to learn about their birth culture, c) thinking that returning to China or Korea was a valuable experience, and d) viewing their ethnic identity as enriching, experiences, opinions, and attitudes varied considerably. Despite this variation, adoptees have a distinct experience from White Americans, Chinese or Koreans, and Asian Americans because they are Asians brought up by White, American parents and negotiate their relationship with their birth country while lacking direct cultural ties. Future research will track how ethnic identity, exploration, and expression may shift as adoptees reach later, various developmental stages.

Poster # 51**Women Transforming Peace**

Presenter/s: Shani Erdman

Advisor/s: Robert Steele

Women comprise roughly half of the world's population. Notwithstanding, in major peace processes from 1990-2019, women have served as 2% of mediators, 5% of witnesses and signatories, and 8% of negotiators.¹ This underrepresentation of women is not only an affront to the moral principle of equality, but it is also counterproductive given the body of evidence demonstrating that women's participation in peace processes makes a resolution more durable. This project synthesizes various sources to offer an integrative case as to why women's involvement in peace talks makes a resolution more enduring. At the heart of the argument is that women's collaborative tendencies and distinct life experiences are invaluable assets in conciliatory talks. They allow women to expand the conversation at the table, so that peace resolutions have the potential to refashion the social fabric of a society, instead of merely ending violence and changing a nation's leadership. Addressing a wider array of social and political issues gives



way to more robust solutions that touch upon larger segments of society. This, in turn, promises longer-lasting harmony.

Poster # 52

An Exploration into Factors that Affect the Recognition of Morphologically Complex Suffixed Words

Presenter/s: Medha Swaminathan, Allison Galante, Meghan Jain, Samantha Schreiber, & Kelsey Tam

Advisor/s: Barbara Juhasz

The present study collected sensory experience (SER) and familiarity ratings on English suffixed words to assess whether these factors, among others, impact word recognition for morphologically complex words. Sensory experience ratings (SERs) measure the degree that words evoke a sensory or perceptual experience when read. Familiarity ratings index how familiar an individual is with a given word. Participants rated 240-item SER and familiarity questionnaires on a 1-7. Positive significant correlations were found for both familiarity and SER for suffixed and base words; when base words are more familiar or evoke a stronger sensory experience, then their suffixed equivalent also receive higher ratings on these variables. These ratings extend work by Davies, Izura, Socas, and Dominguez (2016) who previously assessed both age-of-acquisition and imageability for suffixed words. Additional analyses assessed the predictive power of rating variables on lexical decision times, extending the work of both Balota et al. (2007) and Juhasz, Lai, and Woodcock (2015). Age of acquisition, familiarity, and imageability were all found to be significant predictors of response time for the lexical decision task. The results highlight the importance of these variables in word processing and understanding.

Poster # 53

Pilot Study Comparing the Effectiveness and Durability of Two Therapeutic Models of Cognitive Remediation in Psychosis-Spectrum Disorders

Presenter/s: Christina Arlia

Advisor/s: Matthew Kurtz

Schizophrenia is known for its multitude of symptoms that impair every-day functioning, such as interpersonal relationships or vocational life. Symptoms and features include positive (hallucinations, delusions, etc.), negative (anhedonia, alogia, etc.), and cognitive features (poor memory/concentration, etc.). Cognitive features manifest independently of the clinical impairments presented by positive and negative symptoms, while also not being well treated by antipsychotic medications. Alternative treatment methods for schizophrenia that specifically target cognitive deficits are needed. Prior research shows the effectiveness of cognitive remediation (CR) to treat cognitive impairments. The present study aims to compare the effectiveness and analyze the durability of two therapeutic models: a computerized drill-and-practice approach and practice strategy-based compensatory cognitive training group. It was hypothesized that participants in both conditions will demonstrate improvements in cognitive features in comparison to the control group; however, participants in the CCT condition will show larger improvements in functional outcome. Furthermore, assessing the durability of CR at RVS will demonstrate significant results. Participants were recruited from River Valley Services in Middletown, CT and randomly assigned to either one of two CR groups or treatment as usual (control). Effectiveness of the CR approaches was assessed by multimodal evaluation of symptoms and functioning, collected at baseline, immediately after the intervention, and after 3-months. The results demonstrate mostly non-significant differences between the treatment and control; however, effect sizes are demonstrating promising improvements amongst the treatment groups compared to the control. Furthermore, the study is currently not indicating strong durable effects. The lack of significance is mostly caused by the small sample size.

Poster # 54

Exploring Contributors to Partition Dependence In The Consumer Choice Domain Presenter/s:

Mika Braun

Advisor/s: Andrea Patalano

Partition dependence is the phenomenon whereby arbitrary grouping of options influences one's distributions of choices over the options. Despite contextually diverse findings, partition dependence has not been replicated in the "candy bowl task," which involves choosing candies partitioned over bowls. We



considered two possible reasons why partition dependence might not be reliably observed in this task: perceptual partitions might be insufficient to elicit partition dependence, and strong choice preferences might reduce the influence of partitions. In Study 1, we introduced conceptual labels for the grouped candies to emphasize the conceptual meaning of the partitions, but found no evidence of partition dependence. In Study 2, we reduced the likelihood of strong preferences by using unfamiliar candies (Chinese candy not widely consumed in the United States) and found evidence of partition dependence. In Study 3, we developed hypothetical-choice versions of the candy bowl task using digital images of either the familiar or unfamiliar candy. Participants exhibited partition dependent behavior when selecting unfamiliar but not familiar candies, replicating the findings of Studies 1 and 2. Overall, the findings demonstrate that partition dependence can be elicited in a perceptual task with physical partitions, provided that individuals are sufficiently unfamiliar with the choice options.

Poster # 55

How Indecisive Individuals Make Decisions: Indecisiveness, Decision Representations, and Decision Perspectives

Presenter/s: Julia Kirsch

Advisor/s: Andrea Patalano

It has been proposed that indecisive individuals take more considerations into account during decision making than more decisive individuals, that is, that indecisive individuals have larger *decision representations*. In the present study, we tested this proposal. A total of 107 undergraduate participants were administered Frost and Show's Indecisiveness Scale prior to coming to the lab. In the lab, half of participants were instructed to take the perspective of giving advice to a friend about five hypothetical decision scenarios, while the other half were instructed to imagine that they themselves were in each scenario. Participants listed all considerations one should take into account in making each decision.

Contrary to predictions, indecisiveness was not associated with generating a larger number of decision considerations for oneself or for a friend. We did find that indecisiveness was associated with taking longer to generate considerations for a friend than for oneself. However, we found no evidence that the size of the decision representation is related to indecisiveness-related choice difficulty.

Poster # 56

Mindful Decision-Making: Influence of Mindfulness on Coherence Shifting

Presenter/s: John Neil

Advisor/s: Andrea Patalano

Coherence shifting is the phenomenon whereby one's values change during decision making to more closely align with the ultimately selected choice. In the present study, we tested whether individuals in a heightened state of mindfulness engage in a greater degree of coherence shifting. Adult participants were recruited from Amazon Mechanical Turk and given an online survey in which they were asked to rate job attributes both before and after making a choice between two hypothetical job opportunities. Coherence shifting was operationalized a change in ratings over time towards the ultimately selected choice. Before the choice task, participants performed either a mindfulness or mind-wandering induction task with a manipulation check. We found that we replicated the coherence shifting effect; participants in both groups shifting their values towards the attributes of the preferred choice. However, the mindfulness induction, though successful in influencing mental state, had no effect on the degree of coherence shifting. We conclude that coherence shifting exists, but that mindfulness may not facilitate coherence shifting.

Poster # 57

The Intergenerational Transmission of Racial Attitudes: The Effects of Colorblind Parenting

Presenter/s: Kaila Scott

Advisor/s: Anna Shusterman

Research reveals the prevalence of pro-White bias in children, making it important to uncover the mechanisms driving this bias. Literature shows that parents play a crucial role in children's racial and ethnic socialization. White parents speak significantly less about race with their children and often engage in colorblind socialization. However, little research exists on how parents' endorsement of colorblindness contributes to the development of children's intergroup biases. We used a sample of 22 White and non-



White mothers and 28 children to propose that higher colorblind endorsement in mothers would be correlated with higher implicit and explicit pro-White bias in children. Additionally, we aimed to replicate previous findings regarding correlates of mothers' and children's racial attitudes, including the influence of interracial contact. We also recruited 48 Wesleyan students to validate previous findings on the relationship between colorblind endorsement, racial bias, and interracial contact. We did not find a correlation between higher colorblind endorsement in mothers and higher racial bias in children. However, we replicated the positive relationship between adults' colorblind endorsement and explicit and implicit pro-White bias. Further research includes testing a hypothesis regarding the importance of mother's implicit bias in the relationship between mothers' colorblind endorsement and children's racial bias.

Poster # 58

Got Friends? How Do Parental Relationship Quality and Social Ties at University Relate to Students' Psychosocial Functioning?

Presenter/s: Matiza Sacotingo

Advisor/s: Royette Tavernier

The establishment and maintenance of healthy interpersonal relationships is a basic, universal human need, but few studies have examined both parental relationship quality and social ties in relation to a comprehensive set of psychosocial indices among university students. The present study, therefore, assessed the role of parental relationship quality and social ties on several aspects of university adjustment. Participants were 187 university students (66.3% female; *Mean* age = 20.40, *SD* = 1.80), who completed validated scales of various psychological constructs via an online survey. Results of *Independent Samples T-Tests* indicated that students who reported having 'excellent' parental relationship quality had more frequent high-intensity physical activity; better mental health; higher self-esteem, mindfulness, basic psychological needs and grit; and lower procrastination, relative to students who rated their parental relationship quality as VeryGood/Good. Moreover, students who were more socially-engaged at university reported longer week sleep duration, lower daytime dysfunction and sleep disturbances; higher perceived physical health, high-intensity physical activity, self-esteem, and basic psychological needs; and lower depression, anxiety, and stress symptoms. Results have important implications for university administration and parents, in fostering opportunities for students to engage in social activities at university, while maintaining healthy ties with parents, respectively.

Poster # 59

"All of a sudden, he like stopped responding to my Snapchats"

An Exploratory Study on the Definition and Perceived Psychological Ramifications of Social Media Ghosting

Presenter/s: Jhanelle Thomas

Advisor/s: Royette Tavernier

Ghosting has emerged at the intersection of *technology/social media* and *breaking up* in today's digital age. To date, there has been limited empirical investigation into the conceptualization of ghosting, and its perceived psychological ramifications have not been sufficiently studied. To address this gap, we conducted a qualitative, exploratory study to understand how emerging adults conceptualize and experience ghosting, as well as individuals' perceived psychological consequences of ghosting for both the 'ghoster' and the 'ghostee'. Participants were 76 university students (70% female, *Mean* age = 19.98 years old, *SD* = 1.28), who participated in one of 20 focus groups (60-90 minutes). Results of thematic analyses revealed that ghosting was conceptualized as a technologically-mediated relationship dissolution strategy, characterized by willfully ignoring someone's attempts at communicating, providing no closure for the ghostee. Moreover, the ghoster generally perceived ghosting as an effective relationship dissolution strategy, but some may experience guilt, while others have no emotive reactions. The ghostee, on the other hand, may experience relief ('dodging a bullet'), but may also experience feelings of devaluation. Future research is needed to further document the implications of ghosting in more diverse samples; as well as explore emerging related constructs—such as 'orbiting' and 'submarining'



Poster # 60

“The World Isn’t Our Own”: Subjective Experiences from Tropical Storm Erika among Youth from Dominica

Presenter/s: Tamare Adrien

Advisor/s: Royette Tavernier

Natural disasters can have detrimental effects on psychological well-being across all ages, and especially among youth. However, few studies have examined the *subjective* experiences of youth from the Caribbean – a region prone to natural disasters. The present study examined narratives from 278 high school and college students, who participated in a larger study assessing stress, coping, and resilience among Dominican youth, at six months after Tropical Storm Erika hit Dominica. Participants (60.1% female, *Mean* age = 18.06, *SD* = 1.69) responded to two open-ended questions: 1) “*In general, describe how Tropical Storm Erika has affected your life (and the life of your family)*”, and 2) “*Have you learned anything from your experiences of Tropical Storm Erika?*”. Results from thematic coding yielded 5 themes for the first question: posttraumatic growth, PTSD symptoms, loss and damage, adjusting to the new normal, and no effect. Narrative responses to the second question yielded 6 emergent themes: the value of life, spirituality, preparedness/infrastructural concerns, unity and valuing others, nothing learned, and other. Findings provide insight into the importance of mental health relief programs for youth following natural disasters and highlight the need to examine the subjective experiences of diverse youth.

Poster # 61

What’s Sexual Orientation and Race Got to Do With It? Examining Multiple Domains of Psychosocial Adjustment at University

Presenter/s: Helena Sanchez and Sammi Diep

Advisor/s: Royette Tavernier

Past research indicates that individuals from sexual- and racial- minority groups have poorer mental health, relative to their heterosexual and Caucasian counterparts, respectively. These individuals generally experience high levels of discrimination and emotional distress and may face unique challenges regarding their sense of identity within society. Few studies, however, have assessed differences in psychosocial functioning across a comprehensive set of psychosocial indices among these groups – particularly within a university setting. The present study, therefore, examined differences between non-White and White, as well as between heterosexuals and LGQTB students, on a wide range of psychosocial variables. The sample consisted of 177 university students (*Mean* age = 20.40, *SD* = 1.83; 67.2% female), who completed survey assessments online. Results of *Independent Samples T-tests* indicated that heterosexuals and LGBTQ students differed on drinking motives for coping, mental health, and daily hassles. Furthermore, there were significant differences between non-White and White students on sleep duration during the week, social adjustment at university, alcohol amount, and drinking motives for social reasons. Overall, our findings have important implications for university administration in implementing programs that support students from underrepresented communities in hopes of improving psychosocial functioning for diverse groups of students at university.

Poster # 62

Put Your Phone Down, Get Your Mood Up: Nomophobia, Mental Health, and Sleep Problems in University

Presenter/s: Andrea Aware and Gita Ganti

Advisor/s: Royette Tavernier

Smartphones are highly prevalent in our society, and particularly among emerging adults (18-29-year-olds). The implications of nomophobia (the fear of being without one’s Smartphone), is a growing concern in the digital age. Although past research has examined the possible implications of technology use on sleep, less is known about the relationship between nomophobia and sleep. Given the well-established associations among mental health, sleep, and technology use, the present study examined three indices of mental health as possible mediators of the relationship between nomophobia and sleep problems. Participants were 187 students (66.3% female; *Mean* age = 20.40 years old), who completed online assessments, including Pittsburgh Sleep Quality Index; Depression, Anxiety, and Stress Scale; Mindfulness Attention Awareness Scale; Hassles and Uplifts Scale; and the Nomophobia Questionnaire. Results of hierarchical linear regression models indicated that among the 3 proposed indices of mental



health, only the composite measure of depression, anxiety, and stress symptoms significantly mediated the relationship between nomophobia and sleep problems. Although daily hassles and mindfulness were significant concurrent predictors of sleep problems, their inclusion in the model did not change the significant positive relationship between nomophobia and sleep. Future longitudinal research is needed to determine the directionality of these associations.

Poster # 63

Stress Mediates the Relationship between High-Intensity Physical Activity and Sleep Problems among University Students

Presenter/s: Maggie Polk and Varuth Leeswadtrakul

Advisor/s: Royette Tavernier

Empirical evidence confirms a significant link between stress and sleep. Furthermore, physical activity has been linked to both stress and sleep, but few studies have investigated associations among these variables within the same study, and especially among university samples. The purpose of the present study, therefore, was to assess whether stress would mediate the relationship between high-intensity physical activity (HIPA) and subjective sleep problems. The sample comprised of 187 university students (*Mean* age = 20.40, *SD* = 1.80; 66.3% female), who completed an online survey that assessed several indices of psychosocial adjustment. Measures included demographics, sleep problems, frequency of high-intensity physical activity, and perceived stress. Results (controlling for age, gender, parent education, and family income) indicated that high-intensity physical activity was a significant negative concurrent predictor of sleep problems and a positive concurrent predictor of stress. In turn, higher stress was associated with more sleep problems. When controlling for stress, the relationship between high-intensity physical activity and sleep problems was no longer significant, indicating that stress significantly mediated the relationship between HIPA and perceived sleep problems. Findings have implications for both students and university administration in fostering opportunities for physical activity and devising effective stress-reduction programs.

Poster # 64

Know Your Sleep Status: Eveningness Chronotype and Sleep Problems Predict Larger Subjective-Objective Sleep Discrepancies

Presenter/s: Lauren Conte, Grant C. Hill, Charlotte Curnin

Advisor/s: Royette Tavernier

Sleep is crucial for optimal psychosocial adjustment. Though previous studies have measured sleep utilizing subjective measures, objective measures, or both, within the same study, discrepancies in sleep characteristics between these two approaches are seldom examined, especially among emerging adults. Past research on subjective-objective sleep discrepancies has reported inconsistent findings and most studies have been conducted with elderly or clinical samples (e.g., mental illness or sleep disorders). To address these limitations, the present study examined associations among psychosocial factors, habitual sleep characteristics, and subjective-objective sleep discrepancies among emerging adults. Participants were 102 university students (67.3% female; *M_{age}* = 20.40, *SD* = 2.17), who participated in a 2-wave longitudinal study examining objective (actigraphy) and subjective (daily diaries) sleep, as well as various indices of psychosocial adjustment (e.g., mental health, chronotype). Regression analyses revealed that evening-types and individuals with more sleep problems at baseline had larger subjective-objective discrepancies in sleep onset latency. These findings indicate that poor sleep hygiene may be associated with an increased risk for skewed perceptions of sleeping patterns among university students. Researchers should be aware that reported sleep problems may play a role in the occurrence of subjective-objective discrepancies among both healthy and clinical samples.

Poster # 65

Cash Moves Everything around Me: Neighborhood Income and Psychosocial Adjustment at University

Presenter/s: Thao Phan and Denny Yu

Advisor/s: Royette Tavernier

Past research indicates a significant link between income and sleep quality, and also points to the role that sleep plays in the psychosocial functioning of university students. However, very little research has



explored the intersections of income and a comprehensive set of psychosocial indices within a university setting. The purpose of this study, therefore, was to examine differences between students from low-income and high-income neighborhoods on various aspects of their psychosocial adjustment at university. Participants were 187 university students (65% female, *Mean* age 20.40 years old, *SD* = 1.80), who completed an online survey that included several validated scales of psychosocial constructs, including mental health (Depression, Anxiety, and Stress Scale; Lovibond & Lovibond, 1995), sleep problems (Pittsburgh Sleep Quality Index; Buysse et al., 1989) and grit (Grit Scale; Duckworth, 2007). Additionally, participants reported their zip code, which was used to determine their neighborhood income. Multiple *Independent Samples T-Tests* revealed significant differences between low-income and high-income students on several measures including sleep problems, mental health, physical activity, grit, and social adjustment. Overall, lower-income students' reported poorer psychosocial functioning across various domains of university adjustment. Findings have major implications for universities and more specifically, university programs engaging with lower-income students.