



April  
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THE UNIVERSITY  
of NORTH CAROLINA  
at CHAPEL HILL



# Department of Psychology Undergraduate Newsletter

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## THIS ISSUE

Dept News:	Page 1
Commencement:	Page 2
Diversity Awards:	Page 2
Jobs:	Page 3

## EVENTS

*Study Abroad for  
Psychology Majors  
April 16 at 6:30 pm  
Davie 112*

*Spring Psychology  
Commencement:  
Sunday, May 10 at 1 pm  
Carmichael Arena*



## Student Spotlight

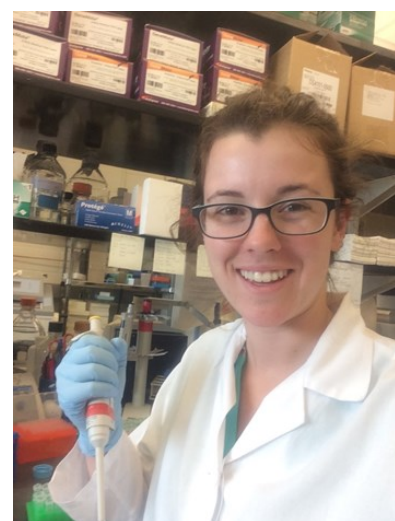
Meet **Caitlin Schirmer**, a Junior Psychology major with minors in Chemistry and Neuroscience. Caitlin is currently conducting research in the Dr. William Snider Lab at the UNC Neuroscience Center.

**Tell us about your research.** The Snider lab investigates the effects of knocking out certain proteins that are part of important signaling cascades in the brain and nervous system. The proteins that are investigated are known to be responsible for many human nervous system disorders when they are malformed or just don't function properly. My job is to slice brain tissue for staining, and to genotype the mice for the gene being studied. My role in genotyping involves DNA extraction, DNA replication(PCR), and then gel electrophoresis.

### **What encouraged you to get involved in research?**

A neuroscience minor wasn't enough! I wanted to gain research skills and learn more outside the classroom. Seeing an actual brain is much different than a textbook's cartoon!

**What do you like most about research?** It is satisfying to know I play an important role in work that is going to help people one day. The Snider Lab is also a really great lab to work for, they are all nice and easy-going people.





## Commencement 2015

The UNC Psychology Department's Undergraduate Commencement Ceremony will be held in Carmichael Arena at 1:00 pm on Sunday, May 10, 2015.



Graduates should arrive by 12:30 pm in order to line up for the processional. Formal invitations have already been mailed. If you already graduated last December or will not graduate until August and want to participate, please contact our department via [email](#) or by phone at (919) 843-5467. (Even if you do not receive an invitation, you are still welcome to participate.)

Guests do not require a ticket and the ceremony is open to the public. The ceremony will last approximately 1.5 hours. Special parking will be available to all guests with disabilities and there will be signs clearly marked around campus. All parking is first-come, first-served. If you plan to attend the main ceremony at 9

am, we recommend that guests walk, or take a shuttle bus, from Kenan Stadium to Carmichael Arena instead of trying to re-park. The two facilities are within a 5 minute walking distance of each other.

During the ceremony, you will not receive a diploma as your official diploma will be mailed at a later date.

The Department of Psychology faculty look forward to celebrating your graduation day at UNC Chapel Hill! Visit the [UNC Commencement website](#) for information regarding the UNC main ceremony at Kenan Stadium or read more about the [Psychology Commencement Ceremony](#) online.

## Diversity Enhancement Awards

Nominate someone (or self-nominate yourself!) for a Diversity Enhancement in Psychology Award!

Faculty, staff, graduate students, and undergraduates can make nominations or self-nominations. Two awards will be given from the following categories:

### Psychological Research with Diverse/Underrepresented Populations:

- A psychology undergraduate student will be recognized who has conducted excellent psychological research contributing to knowledge about diverse populations. This individual might or might not be a member of an underrepresented group.

### Psychology Researchers from Underrepresented Groups:

- A psychology undergraduate student will be recognized who has conducted excellent psychology research and who is a member of one or more groups that has been traditionally underrepresented in psychology by virtue of race/ethnicity, sexual orientation, disability, socioeconomic status, etc. This student's research might or might not address issues of diversity.

**Please nominate by April 17** one or more individuals through this [Qualtrics Survey](#). You may complete the survey multiple times if you wish to nominate more than one person or a person for more than one award.





## Psychology FIRSTS!

The April meeting of Psychology FIRSTS will be hosted on Wednesday, April 22 from 5 pm—6 pm in Davie Hall, room 347.

We will host a panel of faculty members in the Department of Psychology who were also first-generation college students.

Faculty will share their experiences as first-generation college students and the decisions and experiences that led to their academic and career trajectories in both clinical work and research. The panel will welcome questions from attendees!

Presenters include Dr. Andrea Hussong in Clinical Psychology, Dr. Charlotte Boettger in Behavioral Neuroscience, Dr. David Penn in Clinical Psychology, and Dr. Keith Payne in Social Psychology. Pizza and refreshments will be served!

**RSVP by Tuesday, April 21**  
**at 5:00 pm to**  
**[gmicHELL@email.unc.edu](mailto:gmicHELL@email.unc.edu).**

Want to “get ahead” in major requirements? Seats are still available in Psychology Summer School classes!

Upper-level courses offered include: PSYC 463, 467, 503, 504, and 566. Read more about our [summer course offerings!](#)

The Cognitive Development Lab at Wesleyan University is seeking a full-time Research Coordinator to start in September 2015.

Requires a BA or BS in psychology or cognitive science. For more information about the position, contact [Anna Shusterman via email](#).



A full-time Research Assistant position is available at the Developmental Cognitive Neuroscience Lab at the University of Texas Austin.

Strong candidates can make a two-year commitment and have fluency in Spanish. [Apply online](#).



The Lab for Development Studies in Harvard's Psychology Department has an open position for a part-time Research Assistant on projects concerning music, temperament, and social cognition in infants.

Applications and questions can be directed to Samuel Mehr at [sam@wjh.harvard.edu](mailto:sam@wjh.harvard.edu).



A Research Assistant position is available in Edinburgh, Scotland. Strong candidates have a degree in cognitive science and research experience with children. Apply [online](#) by April 28th.



## Job Opportunities

The Cognitive Development Laboratory at Ohio State University is looking a full-time lab manager. The lab conducts research on conceptual development, category learning, and interactions between language and cognition. Submit a CV and cover letter to [Greta Gran-Rubenstein](#).



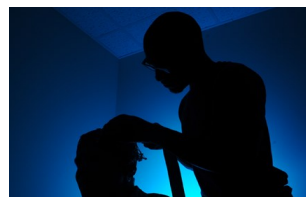
The UNC Peer Relations Lab is accepting applications to start this Fall. The lab is interested in understanding adolescents' peer experiences, peer influence, and stress responses to peer stressors that may predict depression and self-harm.

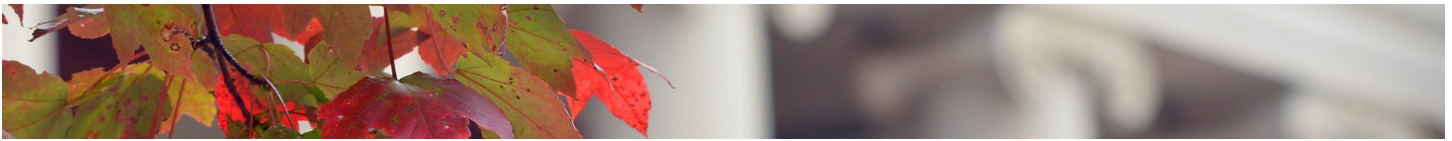
There are many opportunities to learn about clinical and development psychology. [Learn more about the lab online](#).



The FPG Child Development Institute at UNC Chapel Hill is hiring a full-time entry-level Research Assistant to start July 1, 2015. This position will be part of a research team including developmental and clinical psychologists.

This RA will have the opportunity to gain research experience for future graduate school applications. Questions may be directed to [Dr. Desiree Murray via email](#).





## *Job Opportunities, cont.*

The Arts and Mind Lab at Boston College is looking to hire a full-time lab manager to begin mid-June. This position entails helping to develop new studies, write IRB applications, recruit participants, test children at the Boston Museum of Science and in schools, and to supervise undergraduates in the lab.

For more information and to submit your application, email Jenny Nissel at [nissel@bc.edu](mailto:nissel@bc.edu).



The Research Lab of Dr. Sarah Keim in the Center for Biobehavioral Health at Nationwide Children's Hospital in Columbus, Ohio is currently accepting applications for multiple research positions. This research lab is focused on studying the role of maternal psychosocial and nutritional factors on the development of children from infancy through preschool.

The Research Aide position is perfect for undergraduates still pursuing their BA or BS in psychology and applications may be [submitted online](#). The Research Assistant position is geared towards recent graduates and also may be [submitted online](#).



A one-year full-time Research Assistant is needed for the John F. Templeton Foundation-funded research project at Yale University's Mind and Development Lab. The project is dedicated to exploring the psychology of religious beliefs in children and adults.

Bachelor's degree in psychology or cognitive science is required. Two years prior research experience in a psychology research lab desired. Position will begin mid-June. Questions and applications should be submitted via email to Konika Banerjee at [konika.banerjee@yale.edu](mailto:konika.banerjee@yale.edu).

### **Department of Psychology**

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[Email your submissions](#) for the next Undergraduate Newsletter!

Visit our [Undergraduate Newsletter Archive](#) for past newsletters.

The Kuperberg Lab at Tufts University is seeking a full-time Research Assistant to assist with all aspects of cognitive neuroscience and psycholinguistic research. This lab is interested in where and when the brain is activated during language processing

Applicants will have a BS or BA in experimental psychology, linguistics, computer science, or closely-related field. Some research experience with statistics and familiarity of statistic analysis software such as SPSS or R is required. Applications and questions may be submitted to Dr. Gina Kuperberg at [kuperberg@nmr.mgh.harvard.edu](mailto:kuperberg@nmr.mgh.harvard.edu)



A full-time lab manager is needed to oversee ongoing research at the Brain and Cognitive Development Lab at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. Research in the lab investigates the neural basis of quantitative, spatial, and social cognition in infants, young children, and adults.

Preferred qualifications include a Bachelor's degree in psychology, neuroscience, or related field, experience working in a professional setting with parents and children, and some basic research experience. Start date is negotiable between May and August 2015. For more information about the lab, visit the [lab website](#).



The Concepts, Actions, and Objects Lab at the University of Rochester is seeking a part-time or full-time lab manager. This position will focus on the organization of concepts and categories in humans.

Position starts in June 2015 at approximately \$32K. To apply, please send a resume to [caoslaboratory@gmail.com](mailto:caoslaboratory@gmail.com).