DEPARTMENT NEWS

WINTER 2016 DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY SEMINAR SERIES

Wednesday March 16, 3:30 pm, AD 247
Speaker: Rob Sutherland, PhD, University of Lethbridge
Title: Changing role for the hippocampus in long-term memory

Wednesday, April 20, 3:30 pm, AD 247
Speaker: Jeff Temple, PhD, University of Texas Medical Branch
Title: Teen sexting, cyberbullying, and emerging trends in social media

COGNITIVE SCIENCE SEMINAR

On March 16th from 12:00-1:00, the weekly Cognitive Science Seminar will be held in Administration 247. This week Susan Geffen will give a talk entitled “Types Of Information Infants Use To Make Categorical Distinctions”. All are welcome to attend!

CONGRATULATIONS!

Congratulations to Ulric Wong who successfully defended his PhD dissertation on March 2nd entitled *Longitudinal analysis and modeling of video game play and addiction behaviours*. Thanks go to Ulric’s examining committee – David Hodgins, Christopher Sears, Tak Fung (Management), David Nordstokke (Educational Psychology) and Paul Delfabbro. Thanks also goes to Kibeom Lee who served as Neutral Chair. Congrats Dr. Wong

RICHARD TEES DISTINGUISHED LEADERSHIP AWARD

Congratulations to Dr. Penny Pexman on winning the Richard Tees Distinguished Leadership Award. This award is reserved to outstanding researchers who demonstrate extraordinary leadership and service to the Canadian Society for Brain, Behavior and Cognitive Science community. She will receive the award in Ottawa in June. Congratulations Dr. Pexman!
Professional Development Seminar: Working with Transgender & Gender Nonconforming Clients

Presented By Carolyn Claire M.Sc., R.Psych.

March 22, 2016
4:00-6:00pm
EDT 450

As a psychologist, Carolyn supports her transgender clients in addressing issues such as gender dysphoria, stressors related to social and/or medical transitioning, challenges that arise in intimate relationships, access to medical transitioning services, and the development of a healthy sense of worth and positive identity. In addition to facilitating trainings on working with transgender clients, Carolyn is a member of the World Professional Association for Transgender Health and has completed formal training to work with transgender and gender nonconforming people.

In this two-hour workshop you will be engaged in considering best practices when working with transgender and gender nonconforming people across the life span. This presentation will be interactive, using case stories, group discussions, video clips and scholarly literature to engage participants. This presentation will assume that participants have a basic working knowledge of gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, and assigned sex, therefore people planning to attend are requested to watch this 20-minute video prior to the presentation. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UXI9w0PbBXY&list=PL9B3630951F9F48EF

Light Refreshments will be provided.
EMPLOYMENT AND VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR “BABY SIBS PROJECT” AUTISM STUDY

We are looking for dedicated research assistants to help with testing of participants and data coding starting mid-March 2016. Our research participants are infants aged 6 months to 3 years, some of whom are at risk for being diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder. These positions will require a minimum of 5 hours per week of work in the Speech Development Lab at the University of Calgary, which will include attendance to team meetings. These hours can generally be completed at any time during the week, including evenings and weekends. Come summer 2016, we will be looking to fill paid Research Assistant positions with this project and will strongly consider excellent applicants for these.

If you are planning on doing an honours degree or applying to graduate school, this is a great opportunity to round out your CV, and gain a deeper understanding of how research is conducted in psychology.

Our ideal candidates will have completed PSYC 312, be a psychology major in their 3rd or 4th year, and can commit to this position for at least 1 year or more of work in the lab.

Experience with babies/toddlers and their parents, and/or experience with children who have Autism Spectrum Disorder is an asset.

See our website for more information about our Autism research: http://psychology.ucalgary.ca/speechlab/

To apply, please email your CV (including current GPA) and cover letter to Jennifer Ference at jferenc@ucalgary.ca

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Are you interested in gaining some volunteer experience working for a Private Psychology Practice?

We are looking for undergraduate psychology students interested in doing 4-5 hours of volunteer work per week for our practices, for a 1 year commitment. We are a group of psychologists who specialize in career counselling and industrial/organizational psychology.

Our firms are:

Calgary Career Counselling ( www.calgarycareercounselling.com )
Leadership Success Group ( www.leadershipsuccessgroup.com )

We are located in the heart of Kensington, and offer the opportunity to assist with psychology office administration, assessment, editing, research and marketing for our firms. We are looking for a motivated, professional and detail oriented student who has some office and research experience.

If interested, please send your cover letter and resume by email to:
Tanya Murphy, Office Administrator
(403) 261-5085
admin@calgarycareercounselling.com

POST DOC RESEARCH POSITION

The Department of Psychology at the University of Maryland invites applicants for a post-doctoral research position, working under Dr. Michele J Gelfand in the Social Decision Making and Organizational Processes (SDOS) group (www.gelfand.umd.edu). Applicants should have a recent PhD degree in psychology or related discipline, and should have a research interest in culture and psychology and strong methodological, quantitative, and writing skills.

Dr. Gelfand’s group focuses on cross cultural research on the strength of norms, conflict, negotiation, revenge, and forgiveness using experimental, field, qualitative, neuroscience, and computational methods, with a focus on the U.S., Middle East, Europe, and Asia. Responsibilities of the position include but are not limited to designing and running field and experimental studies, managing research assistants, analyzing data, writing manuscripts, preparing research grants, among other duties.

The position can begin as early as May 2016. The position is advertised as one year, but may be extended for two years depending on funding availability and performance.

To apply, please submit a CV, a cover letter, a personal statement, and the names and contact details of 3 references to migelfand@gmail.com. Applicants should submit materials before April 1st for best consideration.

University of Maryland is an equal opportunity employer and salary and benefits are competitive.
UNDERGRADUATE CORNER

SIOBHAN ISABELLA REID MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Scholarships are presented annually to a full-time student attending an Alberta University or College. This $1000 scholarship will be awarded to a student enrolled in a program which will lead to that individual being able to assist children and adults with learning disabilities. The student may be enrolled in any faculty of any university or college in Alberta that will lead to achievement of a degree.

The Awards Committee will consider the following in selecting a Recipient of the Reid Scholarship:

- Contribution to community life or campus
- Academic achievement/record
- Perception potential of applicant to contribute to support or research of people living with learning disabilities or ADHD
- Perceived need for proposed program of study
- Overall consideration of quality of applicant

Details and Award Applications at: LDAlberta.ca

WHAT TO DO WITH YOUR PSYCHOLOGY DEGREE

TUESDAY, MARCH 15th - 5-6PM - AD 248
VOLUNTEER RESEARCH ASSISTANTS NEEDED

Researchers at the Owerko Centre are currently recruiting undergraduate students to volunteer their time to enter data for the Neurotoxicant Study (See a description of the study below).

SKILLS, QUALITIES, EXPERIENCE REQUIRED:

1. Volunteer should have strong written, verbal, and organizational skills; a strong attention to details; good interpersonal skills and the ability to interact with staff and volunteers
2. A grade 12 education is required; some college/university would be an asset.
3. Experience with Microsoft Access is an asset.

TASKS REQUIRED OF VOLUNTEER:

1. Volunteers will enter data using the Access platform and file and organize participant files
2. Volunteers are asked to commit 3-10 hours per week during the term of the volunteer appointment

STUDY DESCRIPTION:

Evidence has recently emerged that increasing maternal exposure to the widespread environmental contaminants, Bisphenol A (BPA) and phthalates, is negatively associated with a broad range of neurodevelopmental and behavioural outcomes in young children. The effects in children beyond the age of two years have not been well studied, but animal models suggest that these deficits may be permanent. Maternal and infant nutrient status is also an important determinant of neurodevelopment, but this data has not been available in any previous human study of BPA or phthalate exposure. Using an established prospective pregnancy cohort (the Alberta Pregnancy Outcomes and Nutrition study; APrON), our research team is examining the associations between perinatal BPA and phthalate exposure on neurodevelopment while considering the likely interaction with key nutrients in mothers and their infants.

To apply, please email your CV or resume to Kayla Ten Eycke at k.teneycke@ucalgary.ca

IMAGINATION STUDY VOLUNTEER RECRUITMENT CALL

We are looking for undergraduate students to join our research team. The study involves an examination of the development of executive function and imagination in children with and without neurodevelopmental disorders.

Experience and/or Skills Required:

1. Volunteers should have strong written, verbal, and organizational skills; a strong attention to details; good interpersonal skills and the ability to interact with participants, staff, and volunteers
2. Experience with SPSS is an asset
3. An interest in the scientific exploration of child development

Volunteer Duties Include:

1. Entering data into SPSS or Excel
2. Help with recruiting participants, including posting advertisements
3. Reviewing child drawings and art
4. Coding videos of participant cognitive assessments

To apply, please email your CV or resume to Kayla Ten Eycke at k.teneycke@ucalgary.ca
RESEARCH NOTES AND ACTIVITIES

GRANTS AWARDED:

Congratulations to Sophia van Hees, Department of Psychology Postdoctoral Fellow supervised by Andrea Protzner and Penny Pexman, who won an Alberta Innovates Health Solutions Postdoctoral Fellowship, valued at $50,000/year (plus $5,000 research allowance) for 3 years.

RESEARCH PUBLISHED:


Do you have something you would like to include in the Monday Memo newsletter? Please send it to k.macklon@ucalgary.ca before Friday at noon.