

PSYCHOLOGY

UC Riverside Psychology Newsletter | Issue 2 | Editors: Dr. Rachel Wu & Lilian Shin

New department roles

Dr. Sonja Lyubomirsky accepted the position of Vice Chair in the Department in late 2017 and will be working with the Chair, Dr. Chris Chiarello. Starting July 2018, **Dr. Kate Sweeny** will assume the role of Graduate Advisor.

Alumni feature

Drs. Ryne Sherman, Rachel Flynn, Philip Viera, Laura Halderman, Carly Dierkhising, and Joe Chancellor presented at the annual Psychology Department Workshop September 2017 that invited successful PhD alumni to speak about their experiences.

Jobs after PhD

Dr. Peter Ruberton: Postdoc with Dr. Jonathan Cook at Penn State. **Dr. Mike Dooley:** Tenure-track position at Washington College. **Dr. Elizabeth McDevitt:** Postdoc with Dr. Ken Norman at Princeton University.

Achievements and community engagement

UCR's Department of Psychology has had a number of major achievements in the past six months, including both academic achievements, as well as achievements in community engagement. Among the accomplishments, the Department has initiated Bilingualism Matters to address the importance of bilingualism in our society and received a number of research grants and teaching awards. This issue provides an overview of these accomplishments achieved in the past six months.



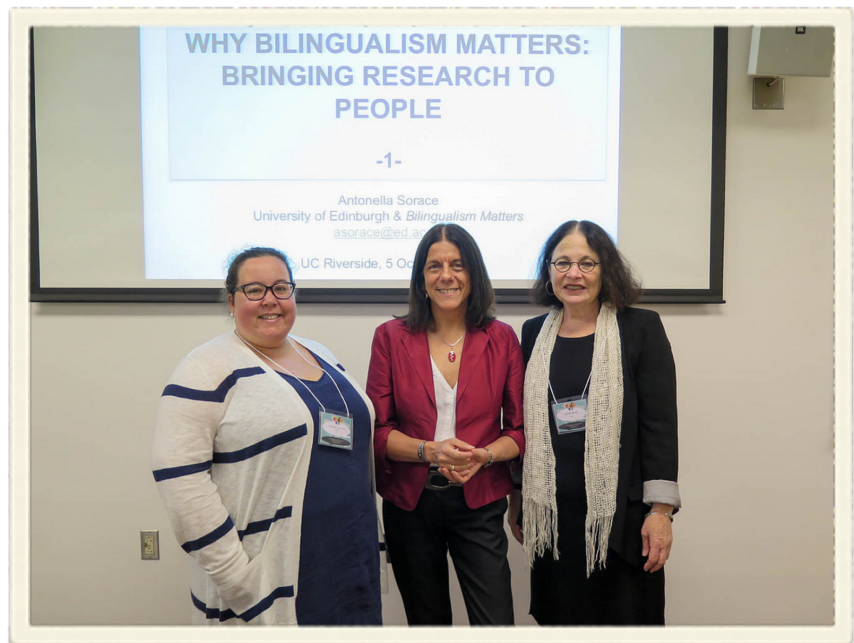
Bilingualism Matters

In October 2017, UCR launched Bilingualism Matters, a service organization based out of the University of Edinburgh to share research on bilingualism and to address bilingualism-related issues

Select grants

- **Dr. Ilana Bennett:** NIH-NIA R21: *Multicompartment diffusion imaging of hippocampal white and gray matter in aging*; UCR CAN Pilot Project Award: *Neural correlates of pattern separation using targeted memory reactivation during sleep*; Undergraduate Education Teaching and Learning Grant
- **Dr. Steve Clark:** NIH-NICHD large multicenter grant: *Facilitating completeness in children's maltreatment disclosures*
- **Dr. Elizabeth Davis and Emily Shih:** Life and Mind Institute Grant
- **Dr. Larry Rosenblum:** NSF: *The multisensory training benefit for speech and speaker perception*
- **Dr. Aaron Seitz:** NIH-NIMH R01: *Understanding mediating and moderating factors that determine transfer of working memory training*; NIH-NICHD R03: *Brain training for central auditory dysfunction after traumatic brain injury*; NIH-NIH R61/R33: *Visual remediation in schizophrenia*
- **Dr. Khaleel Razak:** UC Multi-campus Grant: *Towards a nicotine therapy for age-related hearing disorders*
- **Dr. Eddie Zagha:** Whitehall Foundation: *Cortical cellular and circuit mechanisms of impulse control*

jointly with the community. Dr. Judith Kroll (Psychology) and Dr. Covadonga Lamar-Prieto (Hispanic Studies) will direct the new branch and Drs. Elizabeth Davis (Psychology), Christine Chiarello (Psychology), Vrinda Chidambaram (Linguistics), and Hyejin Nah (Anthropology) serve as members of the advisory group. With the support of the Center for Ideas and Society they hosted a series of events, including a colloquium given by Dr. Paola Dussias (Penn State), a training workshop with Dr. Antonella Sorace (University of Edinburgh), and a day-long conference highlighting multilingualism research in Southern California. More information about the program can be found at <http://bilingualismmatters.ucr.edu>.



Promoting happiness and well-being

Dr. Sonja Lyubomirsky is serving on the Global Happiness Council, a UN-affiliated group that provides evidence and policy advice to world governments on best practices to promote well-being. The Council is launching an annual Global Happiness Report at the World Government Summit that will convene in February 2018 in Dubai, where Lyubomirsky will be giving a keynote talk at the Global Dialogue for Happiness meeting beforehand.

Select grants

- **Dr. Rebekah Richert:**
Templeton Foundation:
Cognitive and cultural foundations of religion and morality
- **Dr. Tom Sy:** Army Research Institute
- **Dr. Rachel Wu:** American Psychological Foundation:
Inducing cognitive development in older adults
- **Dr. Sonja Lyubomirsky, Dr. Dan Ozer, Dr. Eric Schwitzgebel, Seth Margolis:** Templeton Foundation: *Folk psychology of well being*
- **Dr. Sonja Lyubomirsky, Megan Fritz, Julia Revord:** HopeLab:
Coding kindness: An analysis of 6,324 prosocial acts; Prosocial behavior and telomere length; UCR Healthy Campus Initiative: Kindness online and in-person: More than skin deep
- **Dr. Kelly Huffman:** McDonnell Foundation

Blogs

Bilingualism matters blog:
<https://bilingualismmattersucr.wordpress.com/>

Dr. David Rosenbaum:
Psychology Today (<https://www.psychologytoday.com/blog/perception-and-performance/201712/>)

Learning and Memory Conference

Faculty from the UCR Psychology department hosted a Southern California Learning and Memory Conference on May 16, 2017 (<http://korzuslab.ucr.edu/2017SCLM.html>). This packed one-day event included 12 speakers (from UCR, UCLA, UCSD, and UCI) in 4 sessions on topics related to the neural basis of learning, memory, and plasticity.



Society for the Psychology of Religion and Spirituality Conference

Dr. Rebekah Richert will host the Annual Conference of APA Division 36 at UCR on March 9 & 10, 2018 (<http://ccl.ucr.edu/sprs-2018/>).

Awards

Dr. Khaleel Razak was awarded an Innovative Teaching Award. In addition, he received a Teaming Grant from UCR, entitled “Workshop to develop constellation pharmacology approach at UC Riverside”.

Dr. Carolyn Murray was inducted into Academy of Distinguished Teachers.

Dr. Kate Sweeny is Faculty of the Year for the psychology department.

Dr. Larry Rosenblum became a Fellow of the Association for Psychological Science.

PhD and Postdoc awards

- **Dr. Eve Higby:** NSF SBE Postdoctoral Fellowship: *Neural and cognitive changes in aging and bilingualism: Implications for language production and executive function*
- **Dr. Natsuki Atagi:** NSF SBE Postdoctoral Fellowship: *The consequences of early language experience and literacy for adult learning and brain structure*
- **Ben Miller and Kieu Nguyen:** UCONNECT Fellowships
- **Josh Dorsi:** Psychonomic Travel Award
- **Laura Quinones-Camacho:** Dr. Judy Kuriansky scholarship; APF/COGDOP
- **Christina Nicolaides:** Robert Solso Research Award, WPA
- **Erica Baranski:** Leamer-Rosenthal Prize for Open Science; Society for Improvement of Social Sciences Travel grant
- **Gwendolyn Gardiner:** Erasmus Fellowship for research at Freie Universitaet, Berlin, travel grant International Congress of Psychology
- **Kirsten Lesage:** Psychology of Religion Early Career Seed Grant: *Magic, religion, and trust across cultures*
- **Anondah Saide:** American Psychological Association seed grant
- **Dietlinde Heilmayr:** Graduate Student Teaching Award from UCR Grad Division
- **Zane Xie:** Chinese Government Award for Outstanding Self-Financed Students Abroad; Vision Sciences Society Travel Award
- **Anu Venkatesh:** Department of Defense: Science, Mathematics & Research for Transformation (SMART) scholarship; Trainee Professional Development Award (TPDA) from the Society for Neuroscience

Research in the spotlight

National Science Foundation (NSF) Partnerships for International Research and Education (PIRE) Project

The UCR NSF PIRE grant (“Translating cognitive and brain science in the laboratory and field to language learning environments”) sent its first group of students abroad and within the US to do research on language and learning. The students spent 8 weeks conducting research at the PIRE partner site. Undergraduate students who have participated include: Mildred Rangel (UCR) to Nijmegen, the Netherlands (Dr. Judith Kroll, advisor), Megan Nakamura (Cal Poly Pomona — Dr. Eleonora Rossi, UCR Affiliate), to Nijmegen, the Netherlands, Cloe Zeidan (Cal Poly Pomona — Dr. Eleonora Rossi, UCR Affiliate), to Granada, Spain, Dalia Garcia (UCR) to Edinburgh, UK (Dr. Vrinda Chidabaram, Dr. Judith Kroll, and Christian Navarro-Torres), Karen Jaranilla (UCR) to Beijing, China (Drs. Judith Kroll and Megan Zirnstein), Sanna Tahir (UCR) to Groningen, the Netherlands (Dr. Chris Chiarello). Graduate student Danielle Delany (UCR) participated at the University of South Carolina (Dr. Cecilia Cheung).

Graduate review

From January 18-19, 2018, three distinguished faculty members from other universities reviewed our graduate program: Dr. Elizabeth Bjork (UCLA), Dr. Nancy Eisenberg (Arizona State University), and Dr. Harry Reis (University of Rochester). The reviewers noted a number of strengths in the faculty, graduate students, graduate curriculum, as well as the department in general. They noted a few areas of improvement to help make our department even better.

New staff

- **Ivan Kong** (Financial Administrative Officer)
- **Kirsten Alonso** (Graduate Student Advisor)
- **Lorena Roman** (Undergraduate Advisor - shared with Economics and Political Science)

In the media

Dr. Khaleel Razak: Echolocation behaviors in the pallid bat featured in a PBS/KQED video (<https://ww2.kqed.org/science/2017/10/10/these-whispering-walking-bats-are-onto-something/>)

Dr. Judith Kroll: interview on benefits of bilingualism (<https://www.wbez.org/shows/worldview/what-do-you-call-someone-whos-monolingual-american/4e7cc049-c8fa-45af-ac6a-6be0b0acd410>); (<http://www.scpr.org/news/2017/05/09/71517/la-unified-dual-language-classes-for-early-learner/>)

Dr. Cecilia Cheung: NPR article (with audio) on the differences in the prevalence of learning-related values in Chinese and U.S. storybooks (<https://www.npr.org/sections/goatsandsoda/2018/01/06/573869099/whats-the-difference-between-childrens-books-in-china-and-the-u-s>)

Dr. Kate Sweeny and Mike Dooley: Op-ed in the Chronicle of Higher Education on the stress of academic publishing (http://www.chronicle.com/article/The-Stress-of-Academic/241156?cid=wcontentgrid_hp_9)

Dr. Kalina Michalska: Press Enterprise feature on making or avoiding eye contact to scary images (<https://www.pe.com/2017/08/25/heres-what-eye-contact-tells-us-about-dealing-with-fear/>)

Most cited faculty

Dr. Sonja Lyubomirsky is among the most cited faculty on our campus! Link to the story: <https://ucrtoday.ucr.edu/50473>

Videos

Drs. Sonja Lyubomirsky, Kate Sweeny, Rachel Wu: UCR filmed “Experts on Demand” 60- to 90-second videos <http://www.ucr.edu/media>

Upcoming events

Ross Parke Lecture:

Dr. Tama Leventhal (Tufts University)
March 15, 2018, 3:30 - 5:00PM, (Refreshment at 3:00)
Venue: INTS III3

Colloquium speaker series:

PSYC 3210 (Goldman Library), 3:30 - 5:00 PM
May 17, 2018: Dr. Richard Lucas (Michigan State University)
May 24, 2018: Dr. Jean Twenge (SDSU)

Donate to UCR Psychology!

Donate to one of the existing funds to promote and sustain excellence in Psychological Science and well-being.

Austin & Helen Riesen Senior Psychobiology Award, UCR Psychology Department (workshops, infrastructure, etc.), UCR Psychology Research, Ross D. Parke Annual Lecture on Children's Social-Emotional Development Fund, Stella R. Arambel Memorial Award (excellence in Psychological Science), University STEM Academy-USA Program. <https://advancementservices.ucr.edu/AdvanceOnlineGiving/Search?key=dept%3Apsychology#> | Guardian Scholars (helping emancipated foster youth in higher education) <http://guardianscholars.ucr.edu/>