



20th Annual

Georgia Undergraduate
Research in Psychology
Conference

Conference Program

April 13, 2024



KENNESAW STATE
UNIVERSITY

Department of Psychological Science

Schedule

Location: Academic Learning Center (ALC), Kennesaw State University, Kennesaw, GA

8:45-9:15 am	Registration and Continental Breakfast: ALC Lobby
9:15-10:00 am	Poster Session I: ALC Room 1201
10:00-10:15 am	Break
10:15-10:30 am	Opening Remarks: ALC Room 1100 Dr. Dan Niederjohn, GURP Co-Coordinator
10:30-11:30 am	Keynote Address: ALC Room 1100 <i>A Personal and Methodological Progression of Research on Treatments of Harmful Behavior in Children on the Autism Spectrum</i> Dr. Nate Call, Professor of Pediatrics and Associate Chief of the Division of Autism & Related Disorders in the Emory University School of Medicine Vice President, Marcus Autism Center, Children's Healthcare of Atlanta
11:30-11:45 am	Break
11:45-12:15 pm	Paper Session I: ALC Room 1100 Moderator: Dr. Sidni Justus
12:15-1:15 pm	Lunch: The KSU Commons
1:15-2:00 pm	Poster Session II: ALC Room 1201
2:00-2:30 pm	Paper Session II: ALC Room 1100 Moderator: Dr. Paul Story
2:30-2:45 pm	Break
2:45-3:30 pm	Diversity in Research Panel: ALC Room 1100 <i>What is Diversity Science? A Conversation about Diversity in Student Research and How Diversity Impacts Student Research Experience</i> Panelists: Haley Anthony, Caitlin Callahan, Carolyne Halfon, and Joann William
3:30-3:45 pm	Awards Presentation and Closing Remarks: ALC Room 1100 Dr. Adrienne Williamson, GURP Co-Coordinator

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Keynote Address

A Personal and Methodological Progression of Research on Treatments of Harmful Behavior in Children on the Autism Spectrum

**Dr. Nate Call, Professor of Pediatrics and Associate Chief of the Division of Autism & Related Disorders in the Emory University School of Medicine
Vice President, Marcus Autism Center, Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta**

Developing perspective as a researcher begins early in one’s academic career, even in undergraduate training. This talk will present an example of one researcher’s journey and the relation between the breadth research skills one acquires and the types of research questions one is able to address. This journey will be depicted against a backdrop of research into treatments for harmful behavior, such as aggression or self-injury, exhibited by individuals on the autism spectrum.



Dr. Nate Call is a Professor of Pediatrics and Associate Chief of the Division of Autism & Related Disorders in the Emory University School of Medicine. He has worked at Marcus Autism Center since 2006, where he has held many positions as a researcher, clinician, and leader of clinical programs. He currently serves as the Vice President of Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta responsible for the center. In this role he oversees all clinical activities and works with providers and other center leaders to develop new clinical innovations. Dr. Call has an active research agenda and has published over seventy papers and book chapters on the treatment of harmful behavior exhibited by neurodiverse individuals.

Diversity Panel

What is Diversity Science? A Conversation about Diversity in Student Research and How Diversity Impacts Student Research Experience

Diversity science is broad and often hard for students to define or conceptualize. This panel will discuss what diversity and inclusion looks like in Psychological Science. Panelists will provide their own experience with diversity research while in higher education and provide insight to how diversity science can impact the undergraduate experience.

Panelist Biographies:



Haley Anthony (They/Them/She/Her): As a child growing up in metro Atlanta, Haley Anthony was instilled with the importance of racial/gender representation and equality. While earning her a B.S. in Psychology from Kennesaw State University, they became inspired to create the Psychology Research Collective to facilitate novel conversations and ideas. This group aims to explore underrepresented minorities in the field of psychology and the issues brought forth by these communities. In addition to researching and volunteering, she also practices as a Registered Behavioral Technician specializing in children with autism spectrum disorder. Her goal is to aid as many people as possible as only what you do for others will last.



Caitlin Callahan: Caitlin Callahan is a current senior psychology student with a minor in data science and analytics at Kennesaw State University. She has experience in working with diverse populations, notably in her current research project entitled “Pregnancy Behind Bars: Exploring the Impact of Incarceration on Prenatal and Postnatal Care for Female Inmates”. This fall, Caitlin will continue her time here at Kennesaw State University by pursuing her Master’s in Data Science and Analytics and working full-time for the Office of Research.



Carlyne Halfon (She/Her): Carlyne Halfon ([pronounce](#)) has a BS in psychology UGA '23 graduate and current RA for the SPAIR lab (Social Perception and Intergroup Relations Lab at KSU). She plans to pursue a PhD in Clinical Psychology or Mental Health Counseling. For her graduate studies, she is particularly interested in investigating more into racial minorities and LGBT+ mental health disparities and relationship issues, personality traits effect on anxiety disorder expression, and creative and physical activities impacts on mental health. Outside of her educational pursuits, she spends time with her 3 dogs and enjoys painting, basketball, and photography.



Joann William: Joann William is senior KSU student majoring in psychology. She strives to become a marriage and family therapist (MFT) in the future. Due to her interest in feminist theories and gender and women's studies, she plans to use a feminist therapy approach in her career. This isn't the easiest approach to therapy, so in order to broaden her knowledge on gender, she is currently doing research on how humans make gendered social attributes based on their perception of behavior on cats and dogs.

Paper Presentations

Paper Session I: ALC Room 1100

1. Patterns of Violence Exposure Before and After COVID: Connections with Externalizing Behaviors

Author: Maya Maqousi
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Chanler Hilley
Affiliation: Kennesaw State University

Adolescent exposure to violence (ETV) is related to poorer mental/physical health, desensitization to violence, and increased externalizing. The COVID-19 pandemic had a substantial impact on adolescents' lives and social contexts (Loades et al., 2020). Despite concerns about ETV during COVID restrictions (Ragavan et al., 2020), research on differences in ETV remains limited. We used data from Arizona Youth Survey (AYS) to examine ETV patterns pre and post-COVID and whether ETV patterns related differentially to externalizing. AYS is a statewide, biennial survey of 8th, 10th, and 12th graders. Measures included demographics, behavior, and family, school, and community risk and protective factors. We used latent class analysis to identify 6 classes of ETV and their relations with externalizing, which were similar pre- and post-COVID. Classes were differentiated by extent and type of ETV. One class with higher ETV had moderate externalizing. ETV during critical developmental periods can have a lasting impact on wellbeing and development (Mueller & Tronick, 2019). We did not find substantial differences in patterns of ETV before and after the COVID pandemic. Current prevention and intervention efforts may benefit from understanding the unique psychosocial factors of youth who exhibit low externalizing despite high ETV.

2. The Effects of Music Listening versus Performance on Alpha, Beta, and Gamma Activity

Author: Alyssa Godwin
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Robert G. Franklin
Affiliation: Anderson University

The effects of music listening and performance on participants' alpha, beta, and gamma activity were tested in an exploratory study. The participants listened to and played the same song on the piano. The research hypothesis was that playing a song on the piano would involve greater gamma and beta activity than listening to the same song, and alpha activity would be greater during listening than playing portions of the procedures since listening is more passive than playing. There were six participants in the within-subjects study, and all were experienced musicians. The study used a Muse electroencephalographic headset and the Mind Monitor iPad application to gather results. The results did not fully support the hypothesis, but interesting connections were made between movements in the song and alpha, beta, and gamma activity spikes. Additionally, greater overall variation in alpha activity was found during the playing condition than in the listening condition, which might indicate fluctuations in focus and relaxation during music performance.

3. The Influence of Social Support on the Relationship Between Neuroticism and Perceived Injustice: A Moderation Analysis

Authors: Kaysn Irby, Ethan Leopard, Macie Johnston, Lawren Cochran, and Annaliese Weiss
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Shana Southard-Dobbs
Affiliation: Lander University

In this secondary data analysis project, we examine personality, social, and cognitive factors that influence how people respond to traumatic events. Specifically, we investigate the influence of neuroticism and social support (SS) on perceived injustice, with SS as a moderator. Neuroticism is a personality trait defined by chronic emotional instability and psychological distress (John et al., 2008). Perceived Injustice is defined as appraisals of blame and loss after traumatic events (Sullivan et al., 2008). We conceptualized and measured SS in two different ways, quantity and quality. The Multidimensional Scale of Perceived Social Support represents quantity and includes three subscales: significant other, family, and friends (Zimet et al., 1988). The Unsupportive Social Interactions Inventory represents quality and has four subscales: bumbling, minimizing, distancing, and blaming (Ingram et al., 2001). No previous studies have examined these exact variables, in this combination. We hypothesized that SS would moderate the relationship between neuroticism and perceived injustice. Using data from 472 participants recruited via Amazon's Mechanical Turk, our analysis showed that the quantity of SS moderates the relationship between neuroticism and perceived injustice, while the quality of SS does not. In our presentation, we will discuss potential implications like developing therapeutic practices for cognitive processes.

4. Unpacking Discrimination Attributions in Hiring Contexts: How do People Understand Preferential Treatment?

Authors: J'Lyn Wilson, Maria Casteigne, and Yvette M. Bivins-Sanchez
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Laurie T. O'Brien
Affiliation: Tulane University

How do people make judgments of hiring discrimination in racially diverse contexts? Whereas past research has primarily focused on how the race of a rejected applicant influences discrimination judgments, the present research examined how a selected applicant's race influences discrimination judgments. Participants (N = 464) evaluated scenarios where a White hiring manager selected one of two applicants. To isolate the effect of the selected applicant's race, the rejected (Black) applicant's race was held constant across conditions. When a White applicant was selected (over a Black applicant), attributions to discrimination were higher than when a Latinx applicant was selected (over a Black applicant). In turn, when a Latinx applicant was selected, attributions to discrimination were higher than when a Black applicant was selected (over another Black applicant). The present experiment suggests that people are attentive to nuanced dynamics in the hiring process including not only the race of the perpetrator and the target, but also the beneficiary of discrimination. This research offers insights for addressing biases, promoting fairness in employment, and advancing societal equity.

Poster Presentations

Clinical/Counseling

1. The Extension: Experiences and Voices Matter to Adjust Programming at a Community-Based Recovery Support and Transitional Housing Service
Authors: Lily Blaier, Takia Thomas, Brenda Wagner, and Erica Holliday
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Erica Holliday
Affiliation: Kennesaw State University

Cognitive

2. Perceptions of Professionalism and Physiological Arousal in the Presence of Kinky/Curly vs. Straight Hairstyles
Authors: Elise Brown and Ebony Glover
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Ebony Glover
Affiliation: Kennesaw State University
3. The Effects of Background Music on Episodic Memory in Adults
Authors: Savannah Cato, Tiana Lawton, and Sidni Justus
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Sidni Justus
Affiliation: Kennesaw State University
4. The Relationship Between Testosterone Levels and Depression Morbidity
Authors: Emily Clarke, James Kitchens, Laura Wilkinson, Sharon Pearcey, Doreen Wagner, and Ebony Glover
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Sharon Pearcey
Affiliation: Kennesaw State University
5. Exploring the Influence of Color Valence on Startle Responses
Author: Faith Garrett
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Ebony Glover
Affiliation: Kennesaw State University

Developmental

6. Controlling Parenting & Parental Autonomy and its Effects on Self-Determination Theory, Emotion-Focused Coping, and Problem-Focused Coping Styles in Young Adults
Author: Carson Creel
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Paul Story
Affiliation: Kennesaw State University

7. Exploring Stigma and Social Isolation Among Normative and Non-Normative Emerging Adults
 Author: Will Hodges
 Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Chanler Hilley
 Affiliation: Kennesaw State University
8. Extratextual Language in Latine Mothers during Narrative and Expository Book Sharing
 Authors: Catherine Palacios Bermudez, Laura March, and Natalia Hernandez Pardo
 Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Gigliana Melzi
 Affiliation: New York University
9. Promoting Parent-Child Mutuality through a New Positive Empathy Program: SHAPE JOY
 Authors: Ruhab Ramish, Tamira Whitaker, Laura McKee, and Erin Tully
 Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Erin Tully
 Affiliation: Georgia State University

Experimental

10. Comparing Acoustic Startle Responses to Arthropod vs. Scenic Images with Insect Audio Probes
 Authors: Jasmine Cooper and Ebony Glover
 Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Ebony Glover
 Affiliation: Kennesaw State University
11. Spatial Strategies Used by Betta splendens
 Authors: Britney McKenzie and Noah Gibson
 Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Elizabeth Dunaway
 Affiliation: Dalton State College
12. Responses to Selfish Behavior
 Authors: Sofia Villanueva, Lauren Robbins, Olivia Alintoff, Danielle Cruz, Sarah Jenkins, and Jose Martinez
 Faculty Sponsor: Mr. Jose Martinez
 Affiliation: Florida State University

Other

13. Adoptonomics: Financial Decision-Making in Adoption
 Authors: Chloe Cordell, Nikki Wendt, L'Rae Bell, Sierra Mullins, Aleysha Ildefonso Mendez, and Stella Steinman
 Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Nicole G. Martin
 Affiliation: Kennesaw State University

14. The Relationship Between Perceived Dog Adoption Profile Accuracy and Perceived Difficulty and Expectations of Dog Ownership
 Authors: Hailey Fussell, Allison Martin, and Suma Mallavarapu
 Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Allison Martin
 Affiliation: Kennesaw State University
15. Dog Problem Behavior's Relationship with Owner Expectations and Attachment
 Authors: Mia Hardy, Allison Martin, and Suma Mallavarapu
 Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Allison Martin
 Affiliation: Kennesaw State University
16. Man's Best Friend: The Relationship Between Training and the Human-Canine Bond
 Authors: Rae Scott, Allison Martin, and Suma Mallavarapu
 Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Allison Martin
 Affiliation: Kennesaw State University

Physiological

17. The Relationship Among Hormones and Affective Mood Disorders in Men and Women
 Authors: Wesley Dieudonne, Sharon Pearcey, Doreen Wagner, and Ebony Glover
 Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Sharon Pearcey
 Affiliation: Kennesaw State University
18. The Relationship Between Testosterone and Anxiety
 Authors: James Kitchens, Laura Wilkinson, Emily Clarke, Sharon Pearcey, Doreen Wagner, and Ebony Glover
 Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Sharon Pearcey
 Affiliation: Kennesaw State University
19. Long-Term Effects of Postnatal Clomipramine Exposure on Aminergic Systems in a Sprague-Dawley Rat Model of Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder
 Authors: Harika Kosaraju, Mia Bechara, and Christina M. Ragan
 Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Christina M. Ragan
 Affiliation: Georgia Institute of Technology
20. Examining Empathy and Arousal Levels While Watching Emotional Content
 Author: Sara Maduro
 Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Ebony Glover
 Affiliation: Kennesaw State University
21. Neuroticism as a Modulator of Physiological and Behavioral Response to Differentially Emotionally Valanced Imagery
 Author: Aidan McColligan
 Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Ebony Glover
 Affiliation: Kennesaw State University

22. The Link Between Testosterone Levels and High-Risk Behavior Including Alcohol
Authors: Laura Wilkinson, Emily Clarke, James Griffin, Sharon Pearcey,
Doreen Wagner, and Ebony Glover
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Sharon Pearcy
Affiliation: Kennesaw State University

23. Analysis of Baseline Oxytocin Levels Within and Between Foster and Biological Family Units
Authors: Grace Williams, Rachel Bond, Aneesah Shaikh, Mia
Bechara, and Christina Ragan
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Christina Ragan
Affiliation: Georgia Institute of Technology

Social and Personality

24. Attachment, Traits, and Reward Processing
Author: Danica Barron
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Diane Cook
Affiliation: University of North Georgia

25. How Does Collective Narcissism Impact Perceptions of Political Deviants?
Authors: Kadidja M Diaby, Devyn Woodard, and Mason Lawson
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Danica Kulibert
Affiliation: Kennesaw State University

26. Applying Attribution Theory to Understand Perceptions of Sexual Harassment
Authors: Abigail Dingess, Courtney Everett, Malena Amador, Hiba
Rana, and Danica Kulibert
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Danica Kulibert
Affiliation: Kennesaw State University

27. Does Perspective-Taking Impact Negative Stereotypes and Negative Meta-Stereotypes White
Americans Hold?
Authors: Chloe Duckworth and Abigail Dingess
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Danica Kulibert
Affiliation: Kennesaw State University

28. Does the Age of Victim Impact Perceptions of their Sexual Harassment Claim?
Authors: Carolyn Halfon, Hinal Patel, Katelyn Geist, Kari
Southerland, and Danica Kulibert
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Danica Kulibert
Affiliation: Kennesaw State University

29. In-Group and Out-Group Meta-Perceptions of Political Deviants
Authors: Mason Lawson, Devyn Woodard, Kadija Diaby, and Danica Kulibert
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Danica Kulibert
Affiliation: Kennesaw State University
30. How Does the Type of Job Impact How People View Sexual Harassment?
Authors: Destiny McCray, Carolyn Halfon, and Danica Kulibert
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Danica Kulibert
Affiliation: Kennesaw State University
31. Is that Sexual Harassment? The Role of Victim's Sexual Orientation on Perceptions of Sexual Harassment
Authors: Hinal Patel, Hiba Rana, and Danica Kulibert
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Danica Kulibert
Affiliation: Kennesaw State University
32. Authentic vs Idealistic: A Study on Social Media and Self-Esteem
Authors: Nandi Salahuddin and Jordan Gingrich
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Danica Kulibert
Affiliation: Kennesaw State University
33. Oh, Death Where is Thy Sting: Hopes for Immortality Moderate the Impact of Mortality Salience on Death Anxiety
Authors: Kristin Thomas, Kimyana Brown, and Jacob Maddox
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Jonathan Bassett
Affiliation: Lander University
34. How Does Caffeine Intake Impact the Effect of Ego Depletion on Procrastination?
Authors: Gale Wohlfarth, Carolina Chamorro, Cooper Mills, Deyon Lathan, and Laine Dyess
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Danica Kulibert
Affiliation: Kennesaw State University

Acknowledgements

Conference Coordinators

Dan Niederjohn, Kennesaw State University
Jennifer Willard, Kennesaw State University
Adrienne Williamson, Kennesaw State University

Conference Volunteers

Meghan Bankhead, Kennesaw State University
Abby DiMercurio, Kennesaw State University
Ordene Edwards, Kennesaw State University
Jeffrey Helms, Kennesaw State University
Sidni Justus, Kennesaw State University
Danica Kulibert, Kennesaw State University
Suma Mallavarapu, Kennesaw State University
Allison Martin, Kennesaw State University
Nicole Martin, Kennesaw State University
Sharon Pearcey, Kennesaw State University
Daniel Rogers, Kennesaw State University
Kayla Sargent, Kennesaw State University
Sandra Scheier, Kennesaw State University
Paul Story, Kennesaw State University
Lauren Taglialatela, Kennesaw State University
Amanda Wolfe, Kennesaw State University

Poster and Paper Judges

Meghan Bankhead, Kennesaw State University
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Elizabeth Dunaway, Dalton State University
Ordene Edwards, Kennesaw State University
Robert Franklin, Anderson University
Emily Griner, Kennesaw State University
Erica Holliday, Kennesaw State University
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Daniel Rogers, Kennesaw State University
Kayla Sargent, Kennesaw State University
Sandra Scheier, Kennesaw State University
Paul Story, Kennesaw State University
Jen Willard, Kennesaw State University
Ginny Zhan Kennesaw State University

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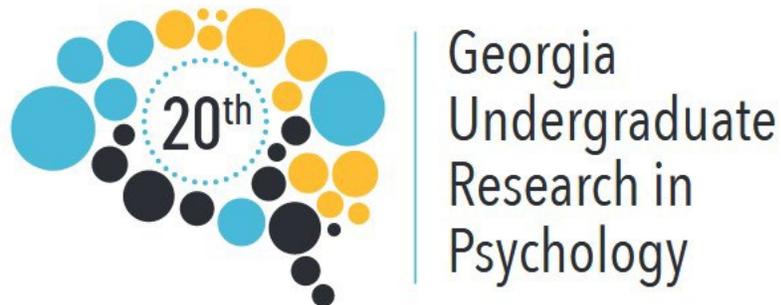
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Website: <http://gurp.kennesaw.edu>

Email: gurp@kennesaw.edu