Current Works in Clinical Syllabus 2015-2016

Location: Kirtland 207
Time: Thursdays 11:35-12:50

Student Committee: Michael Vanderlind, Ema Tanovic, Libby Lewis, and Dana Allswede

Faculty Advisor: Arielle Baskin-Sommers

Fall 2015

September 3: Welcome and Faculty Blitz Talks
Welcome to Current Works Clinical 2015-2016! Area group faculty (Alan Kazdin, Jutta Joormann, Ty Cannon, Avram Holmes, Arielle Baskin-Sommers, and Mary O'Brien) will give brief presentations (8min talks, 2 min questions) about their work. Announcements about the series and area group business will also be discussed briefly.

September 10: David Zald
Dr. Zald is a Professor at Vanderbilt University. He studies the neural basis of emotional processing. In particular, his work examines the functions of the orbitofrontal cortex and amygdala. In recent years these interests have led him into the study of a wide range of topics related to mapping the different functional areas of the orbitofrontal cortex using PET imaging and fMRI techniques. This includes studies of sensory functioning (particularly olfaction and taste), cognitive functions (particularly working memory), and reward learning.

September 17: Carl Lejuez
Dr. Lejuez is a Professor and the Director of Clinical Training in the Clinical Psychology Program at the University of Maryland. His research is translational in nature applying laboratory methods to understand real world clinical problems, with the goal of using this understanding to develop novel assessment and treatment strategies. His research spans the clinical domains of addictions, personality pathology, and mood disorders, and he is most interested in the common processes across these conditions.

September 24: Naomi Sadeh
Dr. Sadeh is an Assistant Professor at the National Center Boston VA/Boston University. Her research focuses on understanding why people engage in risky, impulsive, and self-destructive behavior, with a special emphasis on elucidating how trauma exposure and posttraumatic stress confer risk for these harmful behaviors. She uses a range of methodological approaches in her research, including neuroscience, molecular genetics, laboratory tasks, and clinical surveys. The ultimate goal of her research is to use the knowledge gained from basic research on the causes of stress-related dysregulation and impulsivity to inform and improve prevention and treatment efforts for groups of individuals with high rates of trauma exposure (e.g., veterans, psychiatric patients, criminal offenders).
October 1: How to give a good presentation: From content to questions (Greg McCarthy, Marcia Johnson, Ty Cannon, Brian Scholl)
“If you have an important point to make, don't try to be subtle or clever. Use a pile driver. Hit the point once. Then come back and hit it again. Then hit it a third time - a tremendous whack.” — Winston S. Churchill. Learning how to give a good presentation is an essential skill in academia. Drs. McCarthy, Johnson, Cannon, and Scholl will discuss guidelines for good presentations (e.g., conferences, job talks, etc.) and provide tips for how to handle audience questions.

October 8: Kevin Ochsner
Dr. Ochsner is an Associate Professor and Director of Graduate Studies in the Department of Psychology at Columbia University. His research interests include the psychological and neural processes involved in emotion, self-control, and person perception. All of his work employs a social cognitive neuroscience approach that seeks to integrate the theories and methods of social psychology on the one hand, and cognitive neuroscience on the other.

October 15: No Current Works (SRP)

October 22: No Current Works (October Recess)

October 29: Robin Nusslock
Dr. Nusslock is an Assistant Professor at Northwestern University. His research program examines the relationship between core-brain behavior dimensions and psychiatric symptoms of depression, bipolar disorder, and anxiety. Two dimensions he is particularly focused on pertain to how the brain processes threatening and rewarding events in the environment. He uses a multimodal perspective to his research, incorporating neurophysiology (electroencephalography, event-related potentials) and both structural and functional neuroimaging.

November 5: Luke Hyde
Dr. Hyde is an Assistant Professor of Psychology at Michigan University. He is interested in understanding psychopathology and personality, particularly child psychopathology and antisocial behaviors, from a developmental psychopathology standpoint. His research focuses on mechanisms linking early risk to adolescent antisocial behavior, interactions between these risk factors, and subgrouping approaches to identify youth that have similar developmental trajectories.

November 12: Sarah Fineberg
Dr. Sarah Fineberg is the chief resident of Yale School of Medicine’s Neuroscience Research Training Program. Dr. Fineberg uses cognitive neuroscience methods to explore phenomenon related to psychiatric illness. For example, she uses psychological tasks to quantify social learning and embodied cognition in people with psychiatric illnesses characterized in part by social dysfunction, such as Borderline Personality Disorder and psychosis. She also seeks to combine this approach with pharmacological models and neuroimaging to better define timecourse and circuitry relevant to these dysfunctions. Dr. Fineberg has already received
several prestigious awards and grants such as a Young Investigator Grant from the Brain and Behavior Research Foundation, one of the Society of Biological Psychiatry’s 2014 Chairman Choice Awards, and a National Institutes of Health Outstanding Resident Award, as well as a Resident Teaching Award from YSM.

**November 19: Diego Pizzagalli**
Dr. Pizzagalli is a Professor of Psychiatry at Harvard Medical School/McLean Hospital. The goal of his research is to advance our understanding of the psychological, environmental, and neurobiological factors implicated in depression and related disorders (e.g., anxiety). Dr. Pizzagalli takes a multidisciplinary approach to investigating the causes, consequences, and pathophysiology of depression and related disorders, including imaging, genetics, pharmacological approaches, and interviews.

**November 26: No Current Works (Thanksgiving)**

**December 3: Student Blitz Talks**
This year Current Works Clinical is trying a new format for student presentations. Each student, across two semesters, will present for 8 minutes during a Blitz talk. The content can vary from the presentation of a really interesting finding to a problem with data/a method that can use some discussion among colleagues. Today we have Clinical 4th and 5th years presenting: Hilary Devlin, Aleena Hay, Victoria Webb, Rebecca Boswell, Becky Fortgang, Hannah Raila, and Liz Kneeland. *Lunch will also be provided during these talks.*

**December 10: Kristin Javaras**
Dr. Javaras is an Assistant Professor at Harvard Medical School based at McLean Hospital, where she researches and treats eating-related problems. Her research combines psychology, epidemiology, and neuroscience to better understand the development and maintenance of eating disorders, overeating, and obesity, with a particular focus on the role of effortful control. She has also developed novel statistical methodology for analyzing psychiatric and psychological data.

**Spring 2016**
**January 21: Dan Foti**
Dr. Foti is an Assistant Professor of Clinical Psychology at Purdue University. His research seeks to refine the phenotypic definitions of psychopathology by applying findings from basic neuroscience, with a particular emphasis on mood disorders and psychotic disorders. Much of his research focuses on how motivationally salient stimuli, such as monetary rewards and emotional images, are processed in the brain in healthy populations, as well as examining the relevant environmental contexts which shape this processing.

**January 28: Linda Mayes**
Dr. Linda Mayes is the Arnold Gesell Professor of Child Psychiatry, Pediatrics, and Psychology in the Yale Child Study Center. Her laboratory focuses on how young children and adolescents
develop abilities to regulate their emotions especially under stressful or challenging circumstances. She is especially interested in how early adverse conditions such as severe poverty or parental substance use change developmental pathways and may render children more vulnerable to stress and later adversity. She uses behavioral, psychophysiological, and neuroimaging methods to study these relationships and are especially focused on developing neural circuits for emotional regulation and stress reactivity.

February 4: Rajita Sinha
Dr. Sinha is a Professor in the Department of Psychiatry at Yale University, Director of the Yale Stress Center and a licensed psychologist. She has expertise on the effects of stress on the brain, cognition, behavior and health. She is internationally known for her pioneering research on the mechanisms linking stress to maladaptive behaviors that affect health and reduce our ability to function optimally.

February 11: Ayelet Ruscio
Dr. Ruscio is an Associate Professor of Psychology at the University of Pennsylvania. Her research focuses on the basic nature of anxiety and depression and on the mechanisms that contribute to their close relationship. Dr. Ruscio uses a diverse set of methods to probe the boundaries of emotional disorders, describe distinguishing features of these disorders, and identify mechanisms through which anxiety and depression emerge and co-occur.

February 18: CANCELED

February 25: Tom Tyler
Professor Tom Tyler is the Macklin Fleming Professor of Law and Professor of Psychology at Yale Law School. Professor Tyler’s research explores the role of justice in shaping people’s relationships with groups, organizations, communities, and societies. In particular, he examines the role of judgments about the justice or injustice of group procedures in shaping legitimacy, compliance, and cooperation.

March 3: Student Blitz Talks
This year Current Works Clinical is trying a new format for student presentations. Each student will present for 8 minutes during a Blitz talk. The content can vary from the presentation of a really interesting finding to a problem with data/a method that can use some discussion among colleagues. Today we have Clinical 2nd and 3rd years presenting: Ava Casados, Yoon Chung, Molly Crossman, Dana Allswede, Libby Lewis, Ema Tanovic, and Michael Vanderlind. Lunch will also be provided during these talks.

March 10: Matt Nock
Dr. Matthew K. Nock is a Professor of Psychology and Director of the Laboratory for Clinical and Developmental Research in the Department of Psychology at Harvard University. His research is aimed at advancing the understanding why people behave in ways that are harmful to themselves, with an emphasis on suicide and other forms of self-harm. His
research is multidisciplinary in nature and uses a range of methodological approaches (e.g., epidemiologic surveys, laboratory-based experiments, and clinic-based studies) to better understand how these behaviors develop, how to predict them, and how to prevent their occurrence.

March 17: No Current Works (Spring Break)

March 24: No Current Works (Spring Break)

March 31: Elizabeth Martin
Dr. Martin is an Assistant Professor at the University of California-Irvine. Her work focuses on how the way people feel and think affects their behaviors with an emphasis on underlying mechanisms. To do this, she employs a variety of techniques in order to gain a clearer understanding of the interplay between emotions and cognition in people with and without certain behavioral manifestations, personality characteristics (e.g., schizotypy, social anhedonia), and mental illnesses (e.g., schizophrenia, depression, bipolar disorder).

April 7: Christian Grillon
Dr. Christian Grillon is the Unit Chief of the Affective Psychophysiology Laboratory, National Institute of Mental Health. His investigates basic psychological and neural mechanisms underlying fear and anxiety to gain a better understanding of their dysfunction in anxiety disorders. He is interested in contrasting the fear-spectrum disorders, such as simple phobia and social anxiety disorder, and the anxiety-spectrum disorders, such as generalized anxiety disorder. Toward these goals, he examines defense mechanisms that mediate fear and anxiety in humans using a translational approach.

April 14: CANCELED

April 21: Gerard Sanacora
Dr. Sanacora is an Associate Professor and the Director of the Yale Depression Research Program. His work is concentrated largely on elucidating the pathophysiological mechanisms associated with mood and other neuropsychiatric disorders. Much of his recent research has focused on identifying the contributions of the amino acid neurotransmitter systems (GABA and Glutamate) to the neurobiology of mood disorders and the mechanism of antidepressant action. Specifically, his basic science laboratory employs rodent models to explore the effects of chronic stress on cellular and molecular biology, and examines the molecular, cellular and behavioral effects of novel treatment strategies targeting these affected systems. His clinical laboratory employs novel magnetic resonance spectroscopy methodologies and pharmacological challenge paradigms to identify abnormalities in the function of the amino acid neurotransmitter systems in individuals suffering from mood and anxiety disorders. In addition, he is involved in several early phase clinical trials designed to test the clinical efficacy of newly developed therapeutic agents.
April 28: Dost Ongur
Dr. Dost Ongur is an Associate Professor of Psychiatry at Harvard Medical School and Chief of the Psychotic Disorders Division at McLean Hospital. His research focuses on the neurobiology of bipolar disorder and schizophrenia.