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PSYCHOLOGY  
UNDERGRADUATE  
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CONFERENCE

MARCH 31- APRIL 1<sup>ST</sup>, 2017

THE PSYCHOLOGY STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION OF UBC

2016-2017



## Table of Contents

Greetings -----	2
Program Schedule -----	3
<i>Day 1 (Friday March 31<sup>st</sup>)</i>	
Oral Presentation Descriptions -----	4
Poster Presentation Descriptions -----	5
<i>Day 2 (Saturday April 1<sup>st</sup>)</i>	
Oral Presentation Descriptions -----	9
Poster Presentation Descriptions -----	12
Acknowledgements -----	17

Dear Presenters, Faculty, Alumni, Students and Guests,

Welcome to the 19th Annual UBC Psychology Undergraduate Research Conference. This conference is an important event for the psychological science community of UBC as it provides a professional environment for undergraduate researchers to showcase their work, gain experience in presenting at conferences, and contribute to the scientific community. The work that you will see in this conference is the culmination of the hard work and dedication of these students in furthering our knowledge of the many areas of psychology.

This event would be impossible without the generous support of the UBC Psychology Department and the Graduate Students Council. We would like to thank Dr. Larry Walker and the department for their continued support and partnership in hosting this conference. We would also like to thank Benjamin Cheung, the faculty advisor of the Psychology Students' Association of UBC for offering us his time, energy and support in organizing today's event.

It has been a pleasure planning this enriching and interactive event. We hope that this conference will contribute to the academic experience of those involved, and will inspire and enlighten everyone here today. We wish you all the best in your future endeavors.

Best regards,

Cindy Choi, Bowen Li and the Academics Team

## Program Schedule

### Day 1

4:00-4:30 – Registration

4:30-5:00 – Opening Keynote

5:00-6:35 – Oral Presentations

1. 5:00-5:15 – Dawson Born
2. 5:20-5:35 – Marisa Gagne
3. 5:40-5:55 – Yana Pertels
4. 6:00-6:15 – Wen Qian Zhang
5. 6:20-6:35 – George Molina

6:35-8:35 – Poster Presentation/ Food

### Day 2

9:30-10:00 – Registration

10:00-11:00 – Poster Presentation

11:00-1:00 – Oral Presentation

1. 11:00-11:15 – Emma Ward-Griffin
2. 11:20-11:35 – Mikayla Pachkowski
3. 11:40-11:55 – Giping Tomczyk
4. 12:00-12:15 – Natalie Wong
5. 12:20-12:35 – Kiki Jang
6. 12:40-12:55 – Iris Lok

1:00-1:30 – Lunch

1:30-3:45 – Oral Presentation

7. 1:30-1:45 – Sherry Guo
8. 1:50-2:05 – Emilie Ptak
9. 2:10-2:25 – Cindy Choi
10. 2:30-2:45 – Kyle Dadgar
11. 2:50-3:05 – Brandon Woo
12. 3:10-3:25 – Spencer Williams
13. 3:30-3:45 – Garricia Lee

3:45-4:45 – Poster Presentation

4:45-6:35 – Oral Presentation

14. 4:45-5:00 – Joseph Rootman
15. 5:00-5:15 – Hanne Collins
16. 5:20-5:35 – George Kachkovski
17. 5:40-5:55 - Kunashni Parikh
18. 6:00-6:15 - Manesh Girn
19. 6:20-6:35 - Tyler Chartier

6:35-7:00 – Best Presentation Awards/  
Raffle Prize Winners

## Day 1 - Friday, March 31st

### Oral Presentation Descriptions

#### *In the Order of Presentation*

Presenter: Dawson Born

Supervisor: Catharine Rankin

#### **Genetic Correlates of Chemosensory Deficits in Alzheimer's and Parkinson's disease in *C. elegans***

Olfactory deficiency is one of the first clinical symptoms in both AD and PD, but little is known about it. We employed targeted mutations and rescues of AD and PD implicated genes in *C. elegans* in order to better understand the genetic correlates of chemosensory deficits in neurodegenerative disorders.

Presenter: Marisa Gagne

Supervisor: Susan Birch

#### **Children's Developing Skepticism of Unjustified Confidence**

Humans prefer to learn from confident individuals. In our study, children and adults observed informants who varied in their knowledge (know vs. don't know) and confidence (confident vs. hesitant). Results suggest that as they age, children become increasingly skeptical of overconfident individuals (who are confident but don't know the correct answer).

Presenter: Yana Pertels

Supervisor: Ronald Rensink

#### **Robust Inattentional Blindness: When Looking Is Not the Same as Seeing**

Inattentional blindness is the failure to detect the presence of an item plainly in one's field of view. It was previously thought that this can only occur for unexpected items. Our study presents a paradigm that consistently produces inattentional blindness even when participants are told to look for the item.

Presenter: Wen Qian Zhang

Supervisor: Rebecca Todd

#### **ADRA2b gene polymorphism and emotional learning**

The deletion variant of ADRA2b gene has been implicated in enhanced emotional attention and memory, but little is known about its influence on emotional learning. Using genotyping, we investigated the relationship between the ADRA2b polymorphism on emotional learning by measuring the facial emotional adaption effect.

Presenter: George Molina

Supervisor: Natasha Pestonji

#### **Familiarity Breeds Contempt**

The findings in our study, "Familiarity Breeds Contempt" highlight the limits of the mere exposure effect, and provide preliminary support for other theoretical accounts of the relationship between familiarity and affective evaluations.

## Day 1 - Poster Presentation Descriptions

*In the Alphabetical Order of Presenters name, PSYC217 Group\* listed as last*

Presenter: Alana Guidry  
Supervisor: David Klonsky

### **Examining the Relationship of Induced Mood on Self-reported Personality**

Emotions can have lasting consequences for our health, but what impacts how much they influence us? The present study seeks to investigate if measures of age, gender, or psychological status can affect how we view our own personality, particularly in the presence of positive and negative moods.

Presenters: Anette Yanken, Joanna Conde  
Supervisor: Steven Heine

### **Awe and Meaning Maintenance: Virtual Reality Study**

Poster will present the methods, results, and discussion of the study called Awe and Meaning Making conducted at UBC at the Culture and Self lab.

Presenter: Briana Chau  
Supervisor: Fidel Vila-Rodriguez

### **C-reactive Protein Levels in Depression Patients Post TMS Treatment**

It has been shown that depression patients have a significantly higher level of an inflammatory marker, C-reactive protein (CRP). The objective of this study is to determine the relationship between CRP levels pre and post transcranial magnetic stimulation (TMS) treatment in responsive and non-responsive depression patients.

Presenter: Candy Chua  
Supervisor: Luke Clark

### **Cash or Credit? The Pain of Paying in Slot Machine Gambling**

Consumer research has suggested that people are less risk averse when paying for goods using vouchers or credit cards compared to cash. Is there a similar effect on human cognition and behaviour when it comes to gambling? This study aims to investigate the effect of credit or cash on gambling behaviour.

Presenter: Catherine Li  
Supervisor: Adam Baimel

### **Exploring the Relationship between Sacred Values and Pro-environmental Behaviours**

Encouraging pro-environmental behaviours is a continual challenge. Here, we questioned whether conceptualizing environmental protection as a sacred value predicts sustainable behaviours and decision making. We also explored how various forms of eco-spiritual beliefs contribute to the beliefs regarding the sanctity of the environment.

Presenter: Eunice Ip  
Supervisor: Joelle LeMoult

### **Stability and Stress Predictors of Rumination Subtypes Among University Freshmen**

To understand rumination as a multidimensional construct, this study aims to investigate the stability and stress predictors of two rumination subtypes (brooding versus reflection) in the context of university adjustment. The manifestations of these subtypes offer insight to the nature of rumination and freshmen's adjustment outcomes.

Presenter: Evan Eschelmuller

Supervisor: Ashley Whillans

**How do attributions for wealth shape charitable giving?**

Current research suggests that individuals who make more money seem to donate proportionally less to charity. What factors hold wealthy individuals back from donating? This research project examines the relationship between attributions individuals make for their personal wealth and charitable behaviour.

Presenter: Evelyn Chan

Supervisor: Andrew Baron

**Heroes and Villains**

The current study attempts to reduce implicit racial biases in children ages 5-12. For all children, exposure to positive outgroup exemplars reduced bias, but these effects only persisted for older children. These results indicate that there may be a developmental difference in the long-term effectiveness of implicit racial bias reduction.

Presenter: Hugh McCall

Supervisor: Frances Chen

**Evaluating an Online CBT Treatment Program for Social Anxiety**

Our study investigates the effectiveness of an online, CBT-based social anxiety treatment program. Initial results suggest that the program may reduce symptoms of social anxiety and increase life satisfaction among a non-clinical undergraduate population.

Presenter: Levana Fernadi

Supervisor: Cindel White

**Effect of Karmic Priming on Prosociality through Dictator Game**

The study compares the amount of money participants are willing to allocate for the other participant based on the category they are placed, which is any of the neutral, god, or karma condition, with karma as our main focus.

Presenter: Marie Turcott

Supervisor: Silvain Dang

**Perfectionism as a Predictor of Sexism, Hostility and Rape Myth Acceptance in Males**

Perfectionistic traits were investigated in relation to sexually coercive attitudes, with dysfunctional interpersonal behaviours as the linking element.

Presenter: Matthew Burke

Supervisor: David Klonsky

**Suicidal Ideation and Attempts in First Year Students: An Exploratory Study on Living Conditions and Friendships**

This current exploratory study investigates how demographics, living conditions, and friendships/acquaintanceships may predict suicide ideation and attempts in first year students (N = 1893) transitioning into university. Online surveys were conducted at two time points; upon entering university (August 2016) and the end of the first semester (November-December 2016).

Presenter: Oren Princz-Lebel

Supervisor: Desiree Seib

**Envisioning the Future: Morphological Changes Following the Delay-Discounting Task**

Since hippocampal neurogenesis affects the preference for future rewards, we sought to investigate how learning the reward-based delay-discounting task affects morphologies of newly-generated neurons. Comparing dendritic spine densities of new neurons in animals that learned this task and controls will give new insight on the functional integration of new neurons.

Presenter: Parky Lau

Supervisor: Adam Baimel

**Exploring a Novel Approach to Study Perspective-Taking in Children: A Theory of Mind Task**

This study presents a novel approach based off a continuous measure to study theory of mind development in children. Results from a pilot study seem to demonstrate the measure is functioning in the same manner as an analogous task for adults.

Presenter: Ryosuke Takamatsu

Supervisor: Paul Hewitt

**Perfectionistic Self-Presentation and the Dark Triad: Testing Unique Links and Gender Differences**

In this study, we examined the associations between perfectionistic self-presentation (PSP) styles and the Dark Triad among university students (n=344). We hypothesized that all three PSP subscales would be positively related to all components of the Dark Triad. In addition, we examined potential gender differences in these relationships.

Presenter: Sebastian Leon

Supervisor: Jiaying Zhao

**How messaging content shapes the perception of food**

An experimental design was used to compare the capacity of various topics to promote a plant-based diet. The impact of information about ethics, health, sustainability, social trends, and those four topics combined, was assessed with reports of dietary choices, ratings of food perceptions, and a direct indication of interest.

Presenter: Sheila Wee

Supervisors: Toni Schmader, Katharina Block

**Internal and External Barriers to Men's Nursing Interest**

Men's underrepresentation in HEED jobs could be attributed to a lack of identification with communal values, and prevalent social norms prohibiting their exploration of HEED jobs. This study aims to investigate the manipulation of internal and external barriers amongst men to increase men's interest in nursing as a major/career.

Presenter: Stella Baehring

Supervisor: Christiane Hoppmann

**The link of allostatic load and perceived well-being in couples.**

The Allostatic Load Model has shown to be a good predictor of chronic illness. This study aimed to investigate how people in physical health risk categories effect their partner's perceived well-being, as well as outlined how negative effects can be moderated by social support.



Presenter: Thalia Lang

Supervisor: Amori Mikami

**Children with ADHD and friendships: The role of similarity, behavioral problems, and increased friendship quality**

Children with ADHD tend to struggle with peer relationships. Past research attributes these difficulties to behavioral problems, yet children with ADHD often have friends with behavioral problems. This study investigates how similarity in behavioral problems may predict increased friendship quality, providing different perspective on the nature of these friendships.

Presenter: Tom Chung

Supervisor: Sheila Woody

**Ownership and Compliance in People with Hoarding Disorder**

I will be discussing the relationship between the nature of ownership and compliance in people with hoarding disorder. Specifically, I will be comparing renters and owners of a home and their compliance rate to fire-bylaws.

Presenter: Vrinda Munjal

Supervisor: Naznin Virji-Babul

**Development of a Tool to Reduce Sports-related Concussions in Organizations (using Ice Hockey as a Model Sport)**

I will discuss the development and the process of implementation of the Sports Organization Concussion Risk Assessment Tool (SOCRAT) by presenting an example of the proposed algorithm. I will also be highlighting some key risk factors of concussions in Ice Hockey and ways organizations and individuals can reduce their risk of concussion.

[PSYC217 Winner Group]

Presenters: Naima Mansuri, Amanda Burke, Louise Leung, David Yu

Supervisor: Kristan Marchak

**Trustworthy Blue: The Effect of Clothing Colour on Perceptions of Trust**

Can wearing a certain colour make others trust you more? Undergraduates were shown one of two similar images of a young woman, either wearing a blue or white shirt. Participants generally found the stranger more trustworthy on four measures of trust when she was wearing blue compared to white. This effect seems to be larger for male participants.

## Day 2 - Saturday, April 1st

### Oral Presentation Descriptions

*In the Order of Presentation, PSYC217 Group\* listed as last*

Presenter: Emma Ward-Griffin

Supervisor: Toni Schmader

#### **The Effects of Implicit Gender Bias Framing on Anticipated Cross-Sex Collaboration**

Although research exists documenting the importance of gender bias, little research has investigated how to successfully educate others about gender bias. In the present study, we examine how framing gender bias as reflecting cultural beliefs rather than individual beliefs may be beneficial for facilitating interactions between men and women.

Presenter: Mikayla Pachkowski

Supervisor: David Klonsky

#### **Gender and Ethnic Differences in Motivation for Suicide**

Although past research has identified numerous risk factors for suicide, there is limited knowledge with regards to motivations for suicide. This presentation explores how motivations for suicide differ across gender and ethnicity. Specifically, motivations for suicide were assessed in male and female attempters, as well as attempters of East Asian and European descent.

Presenter: Giping Tomczyk

Supervisor: Alan Kingstone

#### **Mind-Wandering in Leisure**

Traditionally, mind-wandering has been investigated through standard laboratory tasks such as reading, visual search, or working-memory tasks. The current study investigates mind-wandering in a more naturalistic leisure setting. We assessed mind-wandering rates, interest, and attention ratings after participants played a series of video games across different visual platforms.

Presenter: Natalie Wong

Supervisor: Lara Boyd

#### **Cognitive Training and Academic Performance**

Neuroplasticity, the brain's ability to reorganize itself, has been largely underexplored in the context of cognitive and educational capabilities in children and teenagers with learning difficulties. Findings suggest that neuroplasticity-targeting cognitive training may not have robust effects on academic performance when evaluated before and after a year of training.

Presenter: Kiki Jang

Supervisor: Susan Birch

#### **Fluency Misattribution and Curse of Knowledge in Children**

This study looks at fluency (the ease of processing information) as a mechanism of curse of knowledge in children. In this study, fluency misattribution was not correlated with curse of knowledge. However, children were more likely than chance to say more frequently repeated items were more commonly known to others.

Presenter: Iris Lok

Supervisor: Elizabeth Dunn

**The Smartphone Contagion: Collective Phone Use in Groups**

People continue to use their smartphones during ongoing social interactions despite understanding how doing so can lead to negative social outcomes. This talk will present preliminary evidence for the smartphone contagion hypothesis, which posits that people are more likely to use a smartphone when others are also using a smartphone.

Presenter: Sherry Guo

Supervisor: Brandon Tomm

**The Effect of Time Scarcity on Online Detection**

In this study we examined how time scarcity affects online detection. In this experiment, participants solved puzzles with limited time. We found that participants in the time-poor participants failed to use the time-saving cues, suggesting that time scarcity induces a failure to notice important information in the environment.

Presenter: Emilie Ptak

Supervisor: Rebecca Todd

**Possessed: The Effects of Self-Relevance on Temporal Order Judgement**

Attentional rubbernecking occurs when salient stimuli capture attention, making disengaging and shifting attention difficult. We hypothesize self-relevant stimuli induces attentional rubbernecking as stimuli are more salient than neutral stimuli. Findings show self-relevance induces attentional rubbernecking. Findings have implications for attention biases and why disengaging from certain stimuli can be challenging.

Presenter: Cindy Choi

Supervisors: Paul Hewitt, Chang Chan

**Seeing Others through the Perfect Lens: How Perfectionistic Traits in Female Raters Influence Their Perceptions of Male Targets**

We examined negative associations between perfectionism and relationship satisfaction using thin slice approach. The results showed that women (N=90) who perceived others to prescribe perfection on them rated male targets as more attractive and likeable, whereas the opposite was found for women who expressed a need for perfection from others.

Presenter: Kyle Dadgar

Supervisor: Susan Birch

**The Curse of Knowledge in Childhood: Children's Estimates of Their Peers' Knowledge**

The current study investigates how children reason about the perspective of their peer groups. Specifically, we assessed whether 4- to 7-year-olds would overestimate their peer groups' knowledge when they were taught the answers to factual questions compared to when they were not taught the answers.

Presenter: Brandon Woo

Supervisor: Kiley Hamlin

**Social Evaluation of Intentional and Accidental Actions by 10-Month-Old Infants**

10-month-old infants privileged intention in their evaluation of true, but not negligent, accidents. Furthermore, infants were sensitive to negligence in their evaluation of accidental harm, but not accidental help. These results imply that infants engage in intention-based sociomoral evaluation of accidents, insofar as those accidents do not result from negligence.

Presenter: Spencer Williams

Supervisor: Ronald Rensink

**The Effects of Gamma Correction on Correlation Perception in Strip Plots**

Previous research has shown that people's perceptions of correlations in scatter plots varies systemically as a function of the magnitude of their correlations. The present study attempts to extend these findings to black-and-white strip plots of varying gamma levels, and to examine potential performance measures for visual displays of correlation.

Presenter: Garricia Lee

Supervisor: David Kealy

**Narcissistic Exploitativeness and the Making of Multiple Suicide Threats in Clinical Outpatients**

Dealing with threats of suicide from patients is a major challenge for clinicians and helping professions. This study examines the role of narcissistic pathology in predicting multiple threats of suicide in clinical outpatients.

Presenter: Joseph Rootman

Supervisor: Jessica Tracy

**Shame: An Affective Mechanism Linking Major Depression to Alcohol Abuse Disorder**

Major Depression (MD) and Alcohol Abuse and Dependence (AAD) are two prolific conditions impacting Canadians. Although both MD and AAD tend to be damaging in their own right, these conditions often coexist. This presentation is focused on exploring the role of shame in this relationship.

Presenter: Hanne Collins

Supervisor: Mark Schaller

**Menopause: An Evolutionary Puzzle**

The "grandmother hypothesis" proposes that menopause evolved because at some point it becomes beneficial for a woman to shift from reproductive efforts to supporting existing kin. The current study examines the Health and Retirement survey; results support the hypothesis that menopause is associated with increased time spent caring for grandchildren.

Presenter: George Kachkovski

Supervisor: Kiran Soma, Stan Floresco

**The Role of Neural Synthesis of Testosterone in Behavioural Flexibility**

The study explores the production of testosterone in the brain, and the role that it plays in regulating flexible behavior.

Presenter: Kunashni Parikh

Supervisor: Janet Werker

**Language Exposure Effects in Infant Audiovisual Speech Perception**

Infants are able to detect audiovisual incongruence in speech. We predict that familiarity with the test language boosts this sensitivity and may even alter subsequent auditory-only speech perception in native infants with prior exposure to the language.

Presenter: Manesh Girn

Supervisor: Lawrence Ward

**Neural Dynamics of Spontaneous Thought: An EEG Study**

We employed electroencephalography (EEG) to investigate the neural dynamics underlying spontaneously arising thoughts in meditation practitioners.

Presenter: Tyler Chartier

Supervisor: N/A

**Applied Psychology: New Findings in Organizational Psychology**

Organizational Psychology is the smallest yet fastest growing subfield in psychology that operates under the theory that happier employees are more productive, creative, and valuable to their workplaces. It applies psychological research to organizations in order to break down the elements of that lead to happier and healthier workplaces.

## Day 2 - Poster Presentation Descriptions

Presenter: Allison Drodgy

Supervisor: Alan Kingstone

**The influence of implied social presence on visual attention**

We investigated how the number of sources of implied social presence might influence looking behaviour. Participants viewed a series of provocative and neutral images in the presence of no cameras, one camera, or three cameras. While a greater number of cameras present did not increase their effect on looking behaviour, the mere presence of cameras led participants to attend less to the provocative images compared to those in the control (no camera) group.

Presenter: Anne Gale

Supervisor: Benjamin Cheung

**Do Different Cultures have Different Theories about Why People Sleep?**

Past research has shown Japanese university students sleep about an hour less than Canadian students. Our study investigated whether these differences are associated with different theories about the function of sleep cross culturally.

Presenter: Bana Ashour

Supervisor: Darko Odic

**Children match skill level to problem difficulty in a cooperative setting**

Skill and difficulty are intimately linked, but when does this understanding develop? In a study of children aged 4-7, we found that children ages 5 and up can match skill and difficulty, whereas four year olds perform at chance. These findings signal a change in children's conceptualization of skill.

Presenter: Bitia Zareian

Supervisor: David Klonsky

**Suicidality in eating disorders in the light of ideation-to-action framework**

Suicide is a major concern in eating disorder. This poster attempts to organize data on suicidality in eating disorder population in the ideation-to-action framework. Risk factors associated with suicidal ideation and suicide attempt in eating disorder population are presented and the implications of our findings for suicide literature are discussed.

Presenter: Bonnie Lee  
Supervisor: Jason Snyder

**Does adult neurogenesis buffer the effects of chronic stress on learning and memory in female rats?**

Adult neurogenesis, the generation of new neurons in the brain, occurs within the dentate gyrus of the hippocampus. Since neurogenesis is known to buffer the effects of stress on depressive-like behaviours, this study investigates whether neurogenesis also buffers the effects of chronic stress on learning and memory in female rats.

Presenter: Daria Juck  
Supervisor: Frances Chen

**Loneliness in the context of relocation**

This study aims to explore and confirm the link between social ties and loneliness in a cohort of middle-aged adults in the context of a natural occurrence of a disruption of social ties: moving to a new city.

Presenter: Faith Jabs  
Supervisor: Alan Kingstone

**The role of self-efficacy in distinguishing important information**

This study examined a manipulation of self-efficacy, with the intention of improving ability to discriminate between important and unimportant information in a lecture. Participants watched a video on improving note-taking skills, or a control video, they then watched an online lecture and selected information they considered important.

Presenters: Farris Kassam, Rehan Jessa  
Supervisor: Tricia Tang

**Can drinking benefit your health?**

Although a cure for Type 2 diabetes has yet to be developed, definitive actions can be taken to prevent this global pandemic from escalating further. Alcohol has varying effects on diabetes related health outcomes, but may be beneficial to the prevention and management of this chronic disease if consumed appropriately.

Presenter: Hernan Ochoa  
Supervisor: Steven Heine

**Keep calm and carry on, or quit while you're ahead**

The Poster will display the study, Keep calm and carry on, or quit while you're ahead, from the Culture and Self Lab. An introduction, methods, results, and discussion section will be included to capture the whole scope of the investigation.

Presenter: Jessica Tong  
Supervisor: Steven Heine

**Acetaminophen's Effect on Regret**

Previous research has shown that acetaminophen, or Tylenol, has an effect on various types of psychological pain - such as social rejection or feelings of uncertainty. Our study investigates the effects of acetaminophen on the experience of regret.

Presenter: Justin Reed

Supervisor: Amori Mikami

**The Power of Friendship: The role of Friendship Quality in the relationship between Parental Psychopathology and Social Functioning in Children with ADHD**

This study examined parental psychopathology as a risk factor for decreased social functioning in children with ADHD; we studied the potential protective effects of friendship quality in the relationship between parental ADHD and social functioning, and parental depression and social functioning.

Presenter: Katrina Ross-Ghali

Supervisor: Christiane Hoppmann

**The Link Between Older Adults' Physical Activity and Perceived Neighbourhood Factors Is Moderated by Self-Efficacy and Social Self-Efficacy**

This study examines the relationship between perceived neighbourhood factors including proximity, access to services, and safety, and the level of physical activity in older adults, moderated by self-efficacy and social self-efficacy.

Presenter: Keng Hon Ng

Supervisor: Luke Clark

**The influence of ethnicity on superstitious belief and gambling behavior**

Superstitious beliefs are the perceived ability to influence random events' outcome. Unsurprisingly, they are common in gambling activities. Previous researches show that superstitious beliefs may vary across cultures, and we hypothesize Asian heritage are more prone to superstitious beliefs, which leads to a more frequent gambling pattern, than European heritage.

Presenter: Kevin Chi

Supervisor: Christiane Hoppmann

**Associations between shared goals and marital satisfaction in older couples: A longitudinal study**

This study takes a dyadic approach in examining the links between the pursuit of shared goals with one's partner and marital satisfaction. The types of goals (specifically, social or instrumental) and whether the individual's gender or ethnicity moderates associations are also examined.

Presenter: Laura Lu

Supervisor: Amori Mikami

**Effect of Parenting on the Relationship Between Parental Executive Function and Conduct Problems in Children with ADHD**

Child behaviour disorders, such as ADHD and ODD, are complex: a multitude of factors interact to affect their presentation. This study examines how parenting behaviours mediate the relationship between parental executive functioning (e.g., lower emotional control, poor working memory) and child conduct problems in families of children with ADHD.

Presenter: Olivia Li

Supervisor: Nicole Jenni

**Dopaminergic Modulation of Behavioural Flexibility in the Medial Orbitofrontal Cortex**

Behavioural flexibility enables us to adapt to a changing environment with dynamic reward contingencies, and is compromised in patients with perturbations in the mesocorticolimbic dopamine (DA) system. Our study examined the role of mOFC DA D1 and D2 receptors and found their dissociable and opposing roles in facilitating behavioural flexibility.

Presenter: Rachel Tober  
Supervisor: Leanne Willson

**Efficacy of a Prostitution Offender Program: A Thematic Analysis**

Do Prostitution Offender Rehabilitation Programs (POPs) Work? This study looks at the rehabilitative POP in Edmonton, Alberta, to see whether this program is deterring men who solicit sex from re-offending, and how this program could be improved. Participants in this project are stakeholders and volunteers who run the POP.

Presenters: Sarah Thongprasert, Yana Pertels, Wendy Chai, Jessica Ip  
Supervisor: Ronald Rensink

**Image Transitions: Visual Search in the Dynamic World**

How robust are our mental representations to the changes in the world around us? Using the visual search paradigm, we investigate the effects of size transformations on search speed. By varying the magnitude of the transformations, we can find just how flexible these representations are.

Presenter: Shelby Marozoff  
Supervisor: Todd Handy

**Money for Shopping (Cognitive Implications of Shopping)**

Our study investigates the cognitive reward associated with ownership. Previous research has indicated that self-relevance increases attention to objects. Our goal is to determine the reward necessary for individuals to pay equal amounts of attention to both self-owned and other-owned objects.

Presenter: Tatjana Raison  
Supervisor: Don Dutton

**Attributions of Intimate Partner Violence**

Attributions of intimate partner violence (IPV) are numerous and complex, however there is a common pattern that emerges. The most common reasons given by individuals for their perpetration of IPV are emotional, psychological, and interpersonal. Frequent motivations include: anger, retaliation, and the inability to express oneself.

Presenter: Wing Yee Tse  
Supervisor: Xijuan Zhang

**Examination of Order Effects in Expanded Format Scales**

This study examines whether order effects, primacy and recency effects, exist in the expanded format scales of psychological questionnaire. Our major finding is that the order of the options does not show an effect in the three of the manipulated psychological scales, and is consistent with our study hypothesis.

Presenter: Yin Zhou  
Supervisors: Christiane Hoppmann, Jennifer Lay

**How might portable electronic device usage be linked with older adults' physical activity?**

How does technology use affect older adults' physical activity? We examined portable electronic device usage and hours of physical activity over 6 months in a sample of 92 community-dwelling adults aged 50-85. Findings suggest that using reminders and alarms may drive older adults to engage more in moderate physical activity.



[PSYC217 Winner Group]

Presenters: Christopher Susanto, Pasakorn Vanasirikul, Jong Yong Park, Sabrina Li, Adam Tutinka,  
Dylan Moore

Supervisor: Kristan Marchak

**To Window or Not to Window**

The study examined how windows influence the perceived comfort and safety of rooms. Participants assessed windowed/windowless room drawings based on four adjectives: “comfortable”, “safe”, “miserable” and “stressful”. Participants reported more stress and miserableness in windowless rooms, and more comfort in windowed rooms. Participants rated windowless rooms safer.

## Acknowledgements

Thank you for your support!

