The Psychology Department is pleased to recognize students in the program who have written successful proposals for external fellowships:

**Doctoral student, Larissa Borofsky (advisor, Dr. Gayla Margolin)** received an NSF Graduate Research Fellowship titled “Childhood adversity and cortisol levels as risk factors for cognitive impairment in adolescence” to explore cognitive consequences of prolonged exposure to community violence and family aggression.

**Doctoral student, Esti Iturralde (advisor, Dr. Gayla Margolin)** received an NRSA fellowship “Peer Talk Influence on Adolescent Sexual Risk, Dating Aggression and Substance Use.” In her research, Esti studies adolescent friendships and how they interact with family relationship factors and contribute to health and interpersonal processes such as disclosure, intimacy, and support.

**Doctoral student, Keiko Kurita (advisor, Dr. Beth Meyerowitz, mentor, Dr. Margaret Gatz)** received an NRSA fellowship "Cognitive Functioning Following Ovarian Removal Before or After Natural Menopause" and the objective is to examine cognitive functioning of older women who had bilateral oophorectomy, its timing before and after natural menopause, and hormone therapy use. The project has two studies: for Study I, the sample is women 65 years and older in the Swedish Twin Registry, and for Study II, the sample is healthy, postmenopausal women free of cardiovascular disease from 3 clinical trials.

**Doctoral student Bruna Martins (advisor, Drs. Mara Mather and Margaret Gatz)** received an NSF Graduate Research Fellowship for her project titled: “Neural Mechanisms of Emotion Regulation in Older Adults.” In her research, Bruna is currently investigating age-related differences in emotion regulation strategies and how they are represented in the brain with ultivoxel pattern analyses and fMRI.

**Doctoral student Aubrey Rodriguez (advisor, Dr. Gayla Margolin)** received an NSRA fellowship for her project titled: “Parental Military Deployment and Adolescent Mental/Behavioral Health.” Aubrey is using behavioral observation of parent-child discussions to assess the relationship between the civilian parent and adolescent child as a proximal context of risk for adolescent mental and behavioral health problems.

**Doctoral student Carlos Rodriquez (advisor, Dr. Margaret Gatz)** has recently completed an NSRA fellowship, “A Fotonovela for Improving Dementia Literacy among Latinos.” The fellowship supported two studies. In Study 1, Carlos assessed knowledge and perceptions about dementia among adult Latinos using surveys and focus groups. In Study 2, Carlos will apply a randomized control design to evaluate the effectiveness of a Fotonovela in educating adult Latinos about dementia.

**Doctoral student Lauren Spies Shapiro (advisor, Dr. Gayla Margolin)** received an NSRA fellowship titled “Adolescent Conflict, Physiological Stress, and Risky Health Behavior.”
• **Moshe Bar, PhD** (Dr. Irving Biederman, advisor) has taken a position as Professor of Neuroscience, Director of the Gonda Brain Research Center at Bar Ilan University, in Ramat Gan, Israel.

• **Adam Leventhal, PhD**, has received the 2012 David Shakow Early Career Award for Distinguished Scientific Contributions to Clinical Psychology from the American Psychological Association Society of Clinical Psychology (Division 12). [http://www.div12.org/awards](http://www.div12.org/awards). Dr. Leventhal has also received the 2012 Young Psychopharmacologist Award for excellence in research at the interface between the disciplines of pharmacology and psychology from the American Psychological Association Division on Psychopharmacology and Substance Abuse (Division 28). [http://www.apadivisions.org/division-28/awards/wyeth-young/index.aspx](http://www.apadivisions.org/division-28/awards/wyeth-young/index.aspx).

• **Danielle Keenan-Miller, PhD**, was featured in the USC Chronicle on a story about her freshman micro-seminar about mindfulness. [http://news.usc.edu/#/article/40717/welcome-week-geves-freshmen-a-smart-start/](http://news.usc.edu/#/article/40717/welcome-week-geves-freshmen-a-smart-start/)

• **Mary Helen Immordino-Yang, PhD** received a 5-year NSF CAREER award for her project titled, "A longitudinal, cross-cultural investigation of psychosocial and neurobiological aspects of emotion development in adolescence."

• **Jason Goldman** (advisor, Dr. Frank Manis) was included in The Best Science Writing Online 2012: [http://books.scientificamerican.com/fsg/books/the-best-science-writing-online-2012](http://books.scientificamerican.com/fsg/books/the-best-science-writing-online-2012). His first piece in his new column for BBC also has been published, [http://www.bbc.com/future/20120919-respect-the-dead](http://www.bbc.com/future/20120919-respect-the-dead)

• **Suzanne Houston** (advisors, Drs Elizabeth Sowell and Frank Manis) recently presented a paper at the Society for Neuroscience meeting in New Orleans. See story in *The Guardian*, [http://www.guardian.co.uk/science/2012/oct/16/childhood-adversity-adult-brain-functions](http://www.guardian.co.uk/science/2012/oct/16/childhood-adversity-adult-brain-functions)

• **Susan Geffen** (advisor, Dr. Toben Mintz) received a two year Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant from the National Science Foundation for her dissertation project titled “Infants’ ability to discriminate statements and questions.”

• Doctoral student, **Adela Timmons** (advisors, Drs Jack McArdle and Gayla Margolin) received the APAGS/Psi Chi Junior Scientist Fellowship which provides research funding for graduate students in their first or second years. Adela is currently piloting a study examining how exposure to family violence in childhood relates to co-regulation of electrodermal activity among dating pairs in adulthood.


• Mather, M., & Lighthall, N.R., (2012). Risk and reward are processed differently in decisions made under stress. *Current Directions in Psychological Science*, 21,36-41. [http://cdp.sagepub.com/content/21/1/36/short](http://cdp.sagepub.com/content/21/1/36/short)


*Articles are posted outside SGM 538*
Talks and Events

Frank Rijmen, PhD
Principal Research Scientist with the Center for Global Assessment at Educational Testing Service (ETS), Princeton, NJ
PhD in Psychometrics from KU Leuven (Flanders, Belgium)

“The Use of Graphs in the Social and Behavioral Sciences: Beyond Visualization”

Wednesday, October 24
12:00 pm—1:00 pm
HNB 100

PSYCHOLOGY DEPARTMENT WEDNESDAY COFFEE GUESTS

Drop by anytime!

Wednesdays—9:30 am—10:30 am—SGM 501

- October 17  Meet the McArdle Lab
- October 24  Come to coffee and visit with the staff in the USC Office of Contracts and Grants who work with Psychology
  
  Nancy Levien, Katie Rountree, Alice Young-Singleton, Heather Kubinec and Sarah Judd
- October 31  Meet the Graham Lab

GASP—4th Annual Thanksgiving Food Drive
SGM 501—Drop off box
November 5—November 20th

Canned goods only (dried pasta is okay). No glass please. Last year we collected over 100 lbs of food. Let's try to top that this year. We're also accepting cash donations. Donations will be collected in SGM 501. If you have any questions, feel free to email sgeffen@usc.edu

Donations to benefit the SOVA house.

REMEMBER to Check the Department Website Calendar for more details
http://dornsife.usc.edu/psych/arounds_the_department/departmental-calendar.cfm