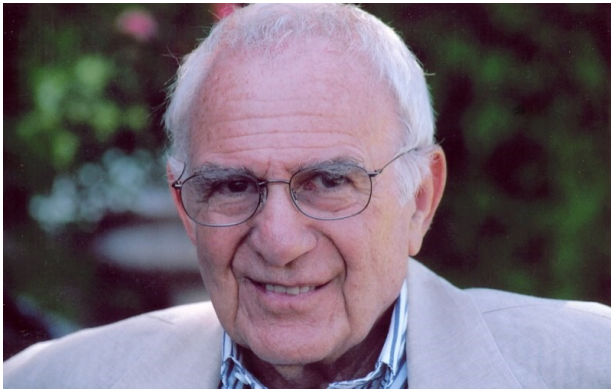




### In Memoriam: Sarnoff Mednick



Sarnoff Mednick, Professor Emeritus of Psychology, has died on April 10 in Toledo, Ohio, his family announced. He joined the USC faculty in 1977 and retired in 2008, although he continued actively to collaborate on research with several members of the psychology department, international colleagues, and former students.

It had just been announced that Mednick had received the APF Gold Medal Award for Life Achievement in the Science of Psychology. This award is arguably the highest recognition afforded to psychologists for a lifetime of research. His prior accolades included the Leiber Prize for Outstanding Achievement in Schizophrenia Research, the Joseph Zubin Award for his contributions to psychopathology research, and an honorary degree of Dr. Med. from the University of Copenhagen.

While best known for his longitudinal Copenhagen High Risk for Schizophrenia study to investigate the etiology of this disorder, Mednick also made notable contributions to the fields of criminology and research on creativity. In 1962 he developed the Remote Associates Test of creative potential, still in use today. In the longitudinal schizophrenia studies, launched in the 1960s and continuing to shape scientific understanding of schizophrenia, Mednick demonstrated that schizophrenia has important biological origins, reflecting genetic risk and perinatal influences. Subsequently, in a Helsinki cohort, he and colleagues reported that risk of schizophrenia was elevated among those whose mothers were exposed to an influenza epidemic during their second trimester.

In 1972, Mednick and colleagues launched the Mauritius Child Health Project that included tests of interventions to alter neurophysiological risk factors for psychopathology. Mednick was also interested in early precursors of anti-social behavior, and using an adoption design, he demonstrated that anti-social behavior had a genetic component.

Mednick's legacy includes his former students, many of whom have conducted further significant studies in the areas of schizophrenia and crime. Plans for a memorial will be announced shortly.

### USC Alumnus Shinichi Daimyo Awarded Prestigious Soros Fellowship for New Americans



Shinichi, a participant of the psychology undergraduate honors program from 2006-2007, witnessed first-hand the trauma experienced by the Vietnamese boat refugee community when he was growing up in Los Angeles. The stigma toward mental health issues and the lack of access to mental health services only compounded the problem.

While cultural norms told him to ignore mental health issues, Shinichi chose instead to focus on them.

As a psychology major at the University of Southern California (USC), Shinichi volunteered in the Navajo Nation, and studied the psychological consequences of the Cyprus problem in the Republic of Cyprus and Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus. Recognizing similarities, Shinichi was inspired to study mental health across cultural boundaries and countries.

Shinichi has become an expert in developing and implementing community-based mental health programs across the globe through his work at the Harvard Program in Refugee Trauma, the World Health Organization, and Partners In Health. Whether in Haiti or Pakistan, Shinichi is focused on creating sustainable solutions for resource-poor communities with unmet mental health needs.

Shinichi's work has shown him the game changing potential of nurses in addressing the significant burden of mental illness. Consequently, Shinichi will be attending the Yale School of Nursing's Graduate Entry Prespecialty in Nursing program to become a psychiatric nurse practitioner so that he can train the next generation of psychiatric nurses to provide mental health care to communities in need. His goal is to raise the profile of advanced practice psychiatric nursing in low-resource settings to help transform how mental health systems are fundamentally structured to care for the poorest and most vulnerable.

# Did You Know?



**Dr. Norbert Schwarz**, Provost Professor of Psychology and Marketing, has been honored with the 2014 Donald T. Campbell Award for his scholarly achievement and sustained excellence in social psychology research from the Society for Personality and Social Psychology (SPSP).



**Dr. Gayla Margolin, Dr. Shri Narayanan, and Dr. Donna Spruijt-Metz** were awarded SC CTSI Pilot Funding (NIH/NCATS) for a project titled: "A Day in the Life": Using Mobile Technology to Measure Romantic Partners' Emotions, Vocalizations, and Physiology as Possible Indicators of Dating Aggression."



**Dr. Gale Sinatra** received a \$1 million dollar foundation award from Mattel Children's Foundation to do an RTC on her STEM curriculum. <<http://rossier.usc.edu/usc-rossier-and-mattel-childrens-foundation-launch-innovative-stem-curriculum-for-fourth-graders>> Dr. Sinatra also received a grant from Jobs for the Future (JFF) as part of the College Employer Collaborative Project funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.



**Dr. Morteza Dehghani:** Modeling and exploiting the social function of emotions in mixed human-machine teams (AFOSR), J. Gratch, M. Dehghani; S. Marsella; P. Carnevale, \$1,200,000, 2014-2018.



**Dr. Stephen Read** received a new research grant from NIH: Read, S. J., & Miller, L. C. *A Neurobiologically-based Neural Network Model of Risky Decision-making*. National Institute of General Medical Sciences (NIH). 1R01GM109996-01. (1/05/2015-12/31/2018).



**Dr. Margaret Gatz** received a Certificate of Recognition from the American Psychological Association Public Interest Directorate for her work in advancement of psychology in the public interest through bringing psychological information about cutting edge research in dementia to bear on key policy issues.



**Dr. Henrike Moll** received the John Templeton Fellowship (residential) at the Notre Dame Institute for Advanced Study for the 2015-2016 academic year 2015/16.



**Dr. Jesse Graham** was selected to be Associate Editor of the journal of *Social Psychological and Personality Science*. He also received two new research grants: **1.)** 2015-2017. Philosophy and Science of Self-Control Project. Applying moral pluralism to the study of self-control. PI Graham, co-PIs Oyserman, Monterosso, Dehghani, Doris, Meindl. **2.)** 2015-2017. The Experience Project. Development and validation of a text-based approach to studying transformative experience. PI Graham, co-PIs Monterosso, Dehghani, Doris, Meindl.



## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

May 13, 2015 at 1:00pm-2:00pm in SGM414

**Joan E. Broderick, Ph.D.**  
Senior Behavioral Scientist  
Associate Director, Center for Self-Report Science  
Center for Economic and Social Research  
University of Southern California



*"Effectiveness Research and Dissemination Issues in Behavioral Medicine"*

If you have submissions for the Department of Psychology Newsletter, please email Daniel Paris <[dparis@usc.edu](mailto:dparis@usc.edu)>.

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## Graduate Program

**Kelly Miller** (Gayla Margolin) received the USC Irving and Jeanne Glovin Endowed Scholarship for 2014-15, which is given to a graduate student who demonstrates scholarly excellence and carries out research into the nature of good human conduct as guided by the Oskar Schindler Humanities Foundation.

**Geoffrey Corner** (Darby Saxbe), **Laura Garcia Cardona** (Steven Lopez), and **Tasha Poppa** (Antoine Bechara) were each awarded NSF Graduate Research Fellowship Program (NSF GRFP) for 2014-15.

**Kate Johnson** (Jesse Graham) won the USC Excellence in Teaching Award.

**Aubrey Rodriguez** (Gayla Margolin) published her qualifying examination paper: Rodriguez, A. J. & Margolin, G. (2015). Parental incarceration, transnational migration, and military deployment: Family process mechanisms of youth adjustment to temporary parent absence. *Clinical Child and Family Psychology Review*, 18, 24-49. doi:10.1007/s10567-014-0176-0.

**Rubin Khoddam** (Carol Prescott) was awarded NIH Ruth Kirschstein National Research Service Award, Pre-Doctoral Fellowship (NIH NRSA F31) for 2014-15.

**The Graduate Association for Students in Psychology (GASP)** had a very productive 2014-2015! GASP had several panel discussions to help students think about job opportunities in the future and hosted several events to have fun and foster communication between areas. We had faculty at various stages in their career come give a talk on getting an academic job and what it's like at each stage of the process in February 2015. The following month we had faculty from various departments and disciplines, including Neuropsychology, come give a talk regarding creating a work-life balance and how that differs between departments and areas. The last panel discussion scheduled for April 2015 will discuss how to apply the advanced research methodologies taught in grad school to non-academic placements. Besides hosting these career-advancing talks, GASP also hosted several fun events to allow students to relax, including a Casino Night, Halloween Costume Party, as well as a White Elephant Christmas Party. GASP met its goal of creating opportunities for students to learn more about academia but also to create a fun space for students to interact, network, and have fun. We look forward to what 2015-2016 school year will bring!



*Doctoral students speaking to a classroom full of our undergraduates about life in a psychology graduate program.*



*GASP Halloween Party*



*GASP Holidays Party*

# Undergraduate Program

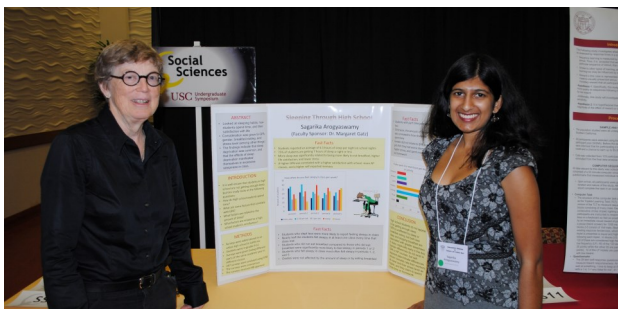
## Annual USC Undergraduate Research Symposium



*2015 Psychology Honors Program Cohort*

The Undergraduate Symposium for Scholarly and Creative Work provides undergraduates with the unique opportunity to exhibit and share examples of their significant research and creativity. All undergraduates at USC are encouraged to participate. After all submissions are judged by a panel of distinguished faculty, an award ceremony recognizing the most outstanding works takes place at the end of the symposium. Psychology students compete in the largest category: Social Sciences.

59 students submitted their research in the Social Sciences this year, with nearly half of these projects completed by students in the Department of Psychology. In the end, we can proudly state that our students made a “clean sweep,” winning all of the prizes available in the Social Sciences category! Congratulations to the 2015 symposium winners, listed below:



*Sagarika Arogyaswamy with advisor Margaret Gatz*



### FIRST PRIZE

Kristine Hossepian (advisor: Gayla Margolin) won First Prize for her project titled: “Community Violence Exposure and the Moderating Effects of Co-parenting.”



*Hootan Omidvar speaking with judges*



### SECOND PRIZE

Caroline Windler (advisor: Jesse Graham) won Second Prize for her project titled “How Purity Beliefs Impact Moral Judgments Regarding Vaccines.”



### HONORABLE MENTION

Tori Hirata (advisor: Wendy Wood) won Honorable Mention for her project titled: “Habits and Self-Control: An Examination of the Benefit of Habit Performance on Self-Control.”



*Ariadne Lyon sharing her research*



### INTERDISCIPLINARY PRIZE

Hania Adib (advisor: Thomas Lyon) won the Interdisciplinary Award for her project titled “Questioning Children About Their Understanding of the Physician’s Role.”

# Undergraduate Program

## Senior Class of 2015 to Graduate School

Kelsey Mezrahi	Columbia University	Master of Arts	Occupational Therapy
Helen Yiu	MGH Institute of Health Professions	Doctorate	Physical Therapy
Sara Newman	UCLA	Master of Education	Education
Zhiyan Zheng	University of Oxford	Master of Science	Financial Economics
Julie Lai	University of Minnesota College	Doctorate	Pharmacy
Mariangela Ruiz-Hernandez	USC	Master of Social Work	Social Work
Paige Sorrentino	S. Cal College of Optometry	Doctorate	Optometry
Chet Kristy	USC	Master of Science	Finance
Crescent Cheng	UCLA	Doctorate	Law
Kaitlin O'Hara	USC	Master of Arts	Occupational Therapy
Sara Ivette Merced	Columbia University	Master of Arts	Clinical Psychology
Micki Smith	USC	Master of Arts	Marriage and Family Therapy
Ariana Garcia	USC	Master of Social Work	Social Work
Ankita Agharkar	Columbia University	Master of Arts	Organizational Psychology
Kristene Hossepiian	Stanford University - PGSP	Doctorate	Clinical Psychology
Grace Gai Huang	University of Pennsylvania	Master of Science	Nursing
Karen Arcos	UC Irvine	Doctorate	Cognitive Neuroscience
Christina Stewart	USC	Doctorate	Physical Therapy
Alexandra Antosy	Palo Alto University	Doctorate	Clinical Psychology
Emily Huang	University of Vermont	Master of Education	Student Affairs
Kaitlyn Trimarchi	USC	Master of Arts	Occupational Therapy
Gina Ibrahim	University of Pittsburgh	Master of Education	Higher Education Management
Alexandra Collatz	University of Redlands	Master of Science	Communicative Disorders
Catrina Gillus	University of Sheffield, UK	Master of Science	Organizational Psychology
Carolyn Windler	Togo, West Africa	Peace Corps	Community Health & Malaria Prevention
India Bulkeley	Kenya, Africa	Princeton in Africa Fellowship	BOMA Project
Ebony Davis	Chicago, Illinois	Teach for America	Early Childhood Education
Viviana Ramos	Las Vegas Valley, Nevada	Teach for America	Early Childhood Education
Darlyn Aguilar	Las Vegas Valley, Nevada	Teach for America	Early Childhood Education
Hootan Omidvar	NYU	Postbaccalaureate	Pre-Medicine
Tiffany Chiu	Japan	Jet Program	English Education



# Undergraduate Program

## Phi Beta Kappa

Phi Beta Kappa is the nation's most widely known academic honors society, with chapters only established at America's leading universities. Every year, the top 5-10% of upper-division arts and sciences undergraduates are selected for membership.

The psychology student inductees of 2015 are: Fiona Alfait, Michelle Bielas, Alexa Bisbas, Audrey Chai, Jennifer Chan, Jennifer Chang, Loudanni Chen, Michelle Chen, Steven Childress, Robyn Cho, Maxine De Luna, Margarete Deagon, Chloe Foon, Trent Fujii, Kimberly Goldstein, Michelle Hantman, Portia Henry-Warren, Tiffany Lee, Lyla Lee, Xinyu Catherine Liang, Sara Ivette Merced, Sara Newman, Robert Palmer, Viviana Ramos, Rachel Rehert, Caitlin Reid, Arvin Saremi, Camille Saucier, Allie Schmiesing, Jessica Thai, Vicente Alberto Victoria, Mary Waller, Hallie Winant, Zi Yang, Kirsten Yip, & Helen Yui.

## Psi Chi International Honors Society in Psychology: USC Chapter

The 2014-2015 academic year was very successful for USC Psi Chi. The student organization celebrated its 85th year on campus and had a record breaking number of new members for the second consecutive year. Psi Chi had almost two events per month this year, including topics that range from graduate school, research in psychology, and careers in psychology. Psi Chi also had a few social gatherings and charity events. In fact, USC Psi Chi raised about two thousand for cancer research, through "Relay for Life" and suicide prevention, through the "American Foundation for Suicide Prevention: Out of the Darkness Walk."



*Psi Chi Atop the Mountain on their Hollywood Hike*



*Psi Chi at the Suicide Prevention Walk*



*USC Psi Chi Chapter Annual Spring Banquet Party*