2016 Psychology Recognition Reception

Friday, May 6, 2016
1:30 pm  1199 Urban Life Building

In honor of psychology faculty who received promotion and/or tenure this year, and to recognize students and faculty who were honored with awards or achieved milestones.

All faculty, graduate students, and staff are invited!

Desserts and beverages will be served.

Featuring...

**Outstanding Diversity Teaching Award Lecture**

Dr. Kim Darnell
Promoted to Associate Professor with Tenure

Dr. Ciara Smalls Glover
The Department of Psychology is pleased to announce the recipient of the 2016 Outstanding Graduate Student Research Award:

Ruschelle Leone
Gender Influence on Cognition and Structure in People with Schizophrenia

Nadia Quyyum, Sarah Clark, Aral Ahmadi, Jessica A. Turner
Psychology, Georgia State University, Atlanta, GA

Introduction

Previous studies have found gender differences in both cognition and brain structure.

Cognition: Women tend to excel on cognitive tasks compared to men in all areas except for spatial reasoning. Cognitive gender differences apply to schizophrenia patients, with patients performing worse than controls due to their deficit. 1,2,3,4,5

Structure: In the parietal lobe, which plays a role in spatial reasoning, women have greater grey matter volume while men have greater surface area. 1,2

Frederick et al. (2000) found differences in the inferior parietal lobe (PIL) between male controls and patients, but there were no differences between female controls and patients.

We want to build on Frederick et al.’s (2000) results and see if there is a relationship between cognition and structure across diagnosis and gender.

RESEARCH QUESTIONS

1. Will our results be consistent with Frederick et al.’s (2000) results?
2. Is there a gender difference in the effect of the diagnosis on the PIL?
3. Is there a relationship between cognition and structure across diagnosis and gender?

METHOD

Participants:
- 87 healthy controls (HC) and 87 patients with schizophrenia (SZ)
- 102 men and 32 women

Cognitive Measures:
- Verbal Learning & Memory: Hopkins Verbal Learning Test (HVLT)
- Immediate & Delayed: Recall, Recognition, and Total Score
- Semantic Memory: Neocognitron Test
- Spatial Memory: Neurocognitive Assessment Battery (NAB) (NAB-III)
- Simple Recall: Wechsler Memory Scale—Third Edition (WMS-III)
- Complex Recall: WMS-III

Brain Measures:
- Used fMRI to obtain brain measures of cortical thickness (CT)

Statistical Analyses:
- SPSS was used to create partial correlations between each cognitive measure and CT of the PIL as well as calculate MANCOVA and MANAVA to compare diagnoses and gender

RESULTS

Group Differences in Cognition

Group Differences in Structure

RESULTS CONT’D

Cognition x Structure: Male HC vs Male SZ

CONCLUSION

- Our results replicate that there is a difference in cognitive hosted in not only men but also women. Furthermore, our results were not consistent with Frederick et al.’s (2000)
- There were no significant gender differences regarding the effect of diagnosis on structure across diagnosis however, diagnosis does seem to influence the strength and cognitive measure, which is consistent with previous research. 2,3,4,5
- There is a consistent pattern between cognition and structure across diagnosis and gender.
- By looking into cognitive and structural differences between men and women within the same diagnostic group, we can have a better understanding of expression of these traits and provide a possible treatment plan for each group.

REFERENCES


ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Thanks to Dr. Turner for guiding me on my research, as well as helping me with my poster. I also want to thank Dr. Ford and Dr. Oades for their assistance in creating my poster. Thank you to the imaging lab at Georgia State University for providing all of the imaging data.
Andrea Barton-Hulsey was awarded a GSU Dissertation Grant for her project, *Phonological Awareness in preschool age children with developmental disabilities*
Congratulations to students who earned Ph.D. degrees this year:

Cynthia Funes (CLN)
Lillie Macias (CLC)
Karie Gaska (CLC)
Kandi Felmet (CLC)
Cortney Fritz (CLN)
Sarah Martin (CLG)
Nicholas Tarantino (CLC)
Aurelie Weinstein (DEV)
Natasha Mehta (CLG)
Audrey Parrish (CGS)
Cheryl Garn (CLG)
Kate Talbot (CGS)
Zhidan Wang (DEV)
Tracy Hipp (COR)
Anna Gonsiorowski (CGS)
Bradley Goodnight (COR)
Bianca Brooks (CLG)
Tracy Hipp was awarded a GSU Dissertation Grant for her project, *Risk factors of sexual assault: Can existing theories explain bisexual women’s disproportionate risk?*
Congratulations, Dr. Sarah Brosnan!

College of Arts and Sciences
2016 Outstanding Graduate Mentoring Award
The Department of Psychology is pleased to announce the recipient of the 2016 Theresa Nash Bernstein Scholarship in International Travel:

Ashley Lauterbach
Promoted to Associate Professor with Tenure

Dr. Robert Latzman
The Department of Psychology is pleased to announce the recipient of the 2016-2017 Bailey M. Wade Fellowship:

Michelle Rattinger
Congratulations to these psychology majors who were selected for GRADUATION WITH DISTINCTION*

SUMMER 2015

Mallorie Jones
Victoria Willis
Mari-Lyn Abir
Yemimah King
Camila Cardona

*Requires GPA of 3.5 or higher, plus nomination by faculty for outstanding research, leadership or service in the department
Congratulations, Dr. Lindsey Cohen!

College of Arts and Sciences
2016 Outstanding Senior Faculty Award
The Department of Psychology is pleased to announce the recipients of the 2016 Richard Morrell Outstanding Graduate Student in Psychology Award:

Laura Cousins

Kate Talbot
Tenured at the rank of Associate Professor

Dr. Jessica Turner
The Department of Psychology is pleased to announce the recipients of the 2016 John Warkentin Award:

Irene Daboin & Sarah Schmidt Francis
Congratulations to students who earned M.A. degrees this year

Anita Hasni (DEV)
Shanna Hegerty (CGS)
Alexandra Bellis (COR)
Lisa Hecht (CLN)
Christyl Wilson (DEV)
Mariya Malikina (CLG)
Carolyn Brennan (CLC)
Zahra Murtaza (CLC)
Nikita Rodrigues (CLG)
Leyla Eghbalzad (DEV)
Stella Tran (CLN)
Congratulations to faculty with new grants this year, including...

**Page Anderson** (Kukes Foundation Grant): *Internet-delivered virtual reality exposure therapy for social anxiety disorder*

**Sarah Brosnan** (National Academies Keck Futures Initiative): *Limits to collective behavior: Theoretical and empirical assessment of the lower and upper limits of group size to effect cooperative behaviors*

**Chris Henrich** (NIJ subcontract): *Comprehensive school safety in Atlanta public schools*

**Gabe Kuperminc** (Georgia Family Connection Partnership research contract)

**Erin Tully** (NARSAD Young Investigator Grant): *Neural processes underlying interpretation of emotions in children at risk for depression*

**Erin Tully** (APF Visionary Grant): *The neurobiology of sharing others’ happiness: A key to understanding children’s aggression*

**Jessica Turner** (NIMH subcontract): *Social processes initiative in neurobiology of the schizophrenias*
Sarah Garcia was awarded a GSU Dissertation Grant for her project, *Negatively biased facial affect discernment and socially inhibited behavior in middle school*.
Neurocognitive Effects of Computerized Training on Structured Sequence Processing

Gerardo E. Valdov, Gretchen N.L. Smith & Christopher M. Conway, Georgia State University

Introduction

Objectives

Measure of SSP

Preliminary Results Summary

- Pre-measures show a P3b for ungrammatical sequences and all 3 groups show a P3a for all sequence types.
- At post-measure, the control groups show no change to these components.
- In contrast, at post-measure, the P3b disappears for ungrammatical sequences only for the training group and the P3a emerges for new sequences relative to old sequences.
- Topographies show a very different distribution of electrical activity during the sequence learning task between the control groups and the training group, especially in frontal regions of the scalp.
- Behavioral results indicate an improvement in accuracy for the training group only.

Conclusions

- Disappearance of the P3b is possibly indicative of learning and/or enhancement of WM.
- Appearance of the P3a for novel sequences of any type is possibly due to attention necessary to process these new sequences more completely.
- The ERP and fMRI data together suggest that the SSP training regimen induced a functional frontotemporal reorganization in the brain that are known to be sequencing and language processing.
- Overall, the topographic and behavioral results demonstrate the feasibility of improving SSP.

There may be broader implications for improving SSP training in typical and atypical populations. The next steps includes collecting baseline measures in a pilot study followed by a full-scale study.
Laura Cousins was awarded the Graduate Student Research Award from Division 38 (Health Psychology) of the American Psychological Association
Congratulations, Dr. Kim Darnell!

2016 GSU Instructional Effectiveness Award
The Department of Psychology is pleased to announce the recipient of the 2016-2017 Elizabeth and Michael Kenny Scholarship (Outstanding Psychology Major): Shannon Schantz
Promoted to Professor with Tenure

Dr. Dominic Parrott
The Department of Psychology is pleased to announce the recipient of the 2016 Outstanding Psychology Honors Student Award: Leeah Dollar.
Dr. Kim Darnell was named a 2016 Digital Champions Fellow by the GSU Center for Instructional Innovation
Promoted to Professor with Tenure

Dr. Tricia King
The Department of Psychology is pleased to announce the recipient of the 2016 Percival Rogers Statistics Award:

Leslie Hodges
The Department of Psychology is pleased to announce the recipient of the 2016 Walter F. Daves Outstanding Graduate Teaching Award:

Irene Daboin
Congratulations, Dr. David Washburn!

2016 GSU Faculty Exceptional Service Award
The Graduate Association of Student Psychologists (GASP) announces the recipient of its 2016 *Duggins Peer Award for Outstanding Service*:

Shannon Schantz
CONGRATULATIONS!

The Department of Psychology is pleased to announce the recipient of the 2016 *Outstanding Psychology Staff Award*

**Barbara Davis Rouse**
The Department of Psychology is pleased to announce the recipient of the 2016 Outstanding Diversity Teaching Award

Gabriel Kupeminc