



GURP

**19th Annual Georgia Undergraduate
Research in Psychology Conference**

Conference Program

April 15, 2023



**KENNESAW STATE
UNIVERSITY**

Department of Psychological Science

Schedule

Location: Academic Learning Center (ALC), Kennesaw State University, Kennesaw, GA

9:00-9:30 am	Registration and Continental Breakfast: ALC Lobby
9:30-10:15 am	Poster Session I: ALC Room 1201
10:15-10:30 am	Opening Remarks, Door Prizes: ALC Room 1100 Dr. Jen Willard, GURP Co-coordinator
10:30-11:30 am	Keynote Address: ALC Room 1100 Title: Thriving in Stressful Times Dr. Roxanne Donovan, Professor of Psychological Sciences and Interdisciplinary Studies Kennesaw State University
11:30-11:45 am	Break
11:45-12:15 pm	Paper Session I: ALC Room 1100 Moderator: Dr. Ordene Edwards
12:15-1:30 pm	Lunch: The KSU Commons
1:30-2:15 pm	Poster Session II: ALC Room 1201
2:15-3:00 pm	Paper Session II: ALC Room 1100 Moderator: Dr. Paul Story
3:00-3:10 pm	Break
3:10-4:00 pm	Graduate School Panel: ALC Room 1100 Moderator: Dr. Dan Niederjohn, GURP Co-coordinator
4:00-4:15 pm	Awards Presentation and Closing Remarks: ALC Room 1100 Dr. Adrienne Williamson, GURP Co-coordinator
4:15-4:30 pm	Book Give-Away

Table of Contents

Keynote Address	3
Informational Session: Graduate Panel	4
Paper Presentations	5 – 7
Paper Session I	5
Paper Session II	6 – 7
Poster Presentations	8 – 11
Cognitive	8
Cultural and Diversity	8 – 9
Developmental	9
Experimental	9 – 10
Industrial and Organizational	10
Other	11
Physiological	11
Social and Personality	11
Acknowledgements	12 – 13

Keynote Address

Thriving in Stressful Times Dr. Roxanne A. Donovan, Kennesaw State University

Stressed? You're not alone. Even the most resilient among us are struggling under the weight of accumulative stress from the last three years. Yet, we have a collective tendency to underestimate the impact of stress on our well-being, work, and relationships, leaving us vulnerable to burnout. In this keynote, Dr. Roxanne Donovan breaks down what stress is, the big mistakes we make when trying to reduce it, and the psychology-based practices that can take us beyond managing stress to thriving despite it. Hint: They're not what you think.



Dr. Roxanne A. Donovan is a former corporate negotiator turned clinical psychologist, Professor of Psychological Sciences and Interdisciplinary Studies at Kennesaw State University, and certified yoga teacher. She is a nationally recognized expert on topics of well-being and social justice and features regularly in the media. Dr. Donovan brings an intersectional lens rooted in liberation to her scholarship, publishing and presenting extensively on the ways gendered racism impacts the mental health outcomes of Black women and other women of color. Her two coauthored books, *Teaching Diversity Relationally: Engaging Emotions and Embracing Possibilities* and *Unraveling Assumptions: A Primer for Understanding Oppression and Privilege*, apply psychological and social justice frameworks to the understanding and teaching of diversity. Integrated with her professional roles are her rich and multilayered identities as spouse, mama, sister, and auntie.

Graduate School Panel

Panelist Biographies:



Zhardae Bailey majored in psychology and minored in applied statistics and data analysis at Kennesaw State University, which catapulted her future in data. After beginning her career in 2017, she later obtained a master's degree in Data Science and currently holds a position as a Business Intelligence Consultant for a large healthcare company. She is on a mission to protect consumer/patient information, enhance business longevity, and improve decision making through reporting. With always having a curiosity for research and the unknown, she provides improvements to processes and creates technology-driven results for actionable insights.



Fari Djavanshir is a Board-Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA) who works with Peachtree Autism Services. Fari has been a BCBA for a year and has 4 years of experience in special education and working with children and teens diagnosed with intellectual/developmental disabilities. Fari received his BS in Psychology from Kennesaw State University in 2019. Afterwards, he gained experience at a neurodevelopmental facility, working with a large range of learners with different diagnoses. He graduated with his MS in Applied Behavior Analysis from Georgia State University in 2021, and he plans to use this knowledge to continue helping people in the neurodiverse community. He enjoys and encourages collaboration, and has experience working with parents, teachers, and other service providers in an inclusion preschool setting at The Frazer Center.



Marion Granger is a first-year PhD student in epidemiology at the University of South Carolina. She specializes in perinatal and reproductive research, with a particular interest in fetal development and birth outcomes. Marion completed her bachelor's degree in psychology and master's degree in applied statistics at Kennesaw State University, where she was introduced to the Human Studies Lab, and connected her passions for development, the prevention of negative health outcomes, and family welfare in riveting research on birth outcomes after neonatal intensive care unit admission.



Andrew Manocchio is a second-year doctoral student attending Mercer University's Clinical Psychology PsyD program. He has worked on research pertaining to false confessions, Islamophobia, research and clinical strategies in the treatment of autism, and cheating behaviors in academic settings. Currently, his research interests include mechanisms of change in the treatment of anxiety disorders and examining the psychometric properties of clinical measures. His clinical interests include psychotherapy for anxiety and mood disorders as well as neuropsychological assessment.

Paper Presentations

Paper Session I: ALC Room 1100

1. The Relationship Between Gender Dysphoria and Perinatal Depression Among Trans and Gender Expansive Individuals

Author: Kat LaFever
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Sherryl H. Goodman
Affiliation: Emory University

Gender dysphoria, which is characterized by clinically significant emotional distress due to incongruence between one's sex assigned at birth and their gender identity, is most prevalent among trans and gender expansive (TGE) individuals. Given both the steadily increasing number of TGE people choosing to pursue parenthood through childbirth, and concerns about depression in this population, it is essential to know the extent to which gender dysphoria might be associated with depression during the perinatal period. This study examined the association between gender dysphoria and depression symptom levels within a sample of pregnant or postpartum TGE individuals and explored potential mediators of the relationship. We found a significant, positive association between gender dysphoria and depression symptom levels. Further, we found a significant, positive association between gender dysphoria and perinatal depression when reported feelings of positive affect are high. Finally, we found no suggestion of support for feelings of community belongingness as a moderating variable for this relationship. This study is the first to report on this association within a TGE cohort and will help guide medical providers in treating gender dysphoria in TGE individuals both during and after pregnancy.

2. Musical Components and Their Impact on Perceived Exertion: An Examination of Tempo and Lyrics

Author: Leanna Wood
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Amy Boggan
Affiliation: Young Harris College

Improving our health and well-being is a goal that individuals share. One way to reach this goal is by developing an exercise routine, and for many, music is an essential part of their workout. Though music can make exercise more enjoyable, is there an underlying benefit? The research project presented here investigated whether lyrics and different tempos affect participants' perceived exertion during 10-minute cycling intervals with varying tempos of music with or without lyrics. Both music with lyrics and higher tempos seemed to lower perceived exertion, though these trends were not statistically significant. Funded by the Young Harris College Undergraduate Research Initiative.

3. Social and Psychological Factors of Immigration: Age of Immigration, Perceived Life Satisfaction, Feelings of Inclusion, Exclusion, and Linguistic Ability

Authors: Ian Sinza, Rebecca Eaker, and Ariel Jaillett
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Tirza Leader
Affiliation: Georgia Gwinnett College

Immigration in the US has remained in a steady increase for the last few decades, with foreign-born populations increasing, especially in urban areas (Brown et al., 2018; MacDonald & Sampson, 2012). Immigration affects socioeconomic markers, such as education, employment, salary, and welfare (Hermansen, 2017). Age-at-arrival and length of exposure to a host culture are also key factors in the construction of cultural identity, with evidence pointing towards a time-sensitive period for acculturation (Cheung et al., 2011). Killen and Stangor (2001) also demonstrated that inclusion was dependent on age, with younger children feeling more inclusive. Therefore, it is hypothesized that there is a correlation between age-at-immigration and perceived satisfaction with life, feelings of inclusion, and exclusion. This study aims to uncover the social and psychological factors in immigration, specifically, the relationship between immigration age, linguistic factors, feelings of social inclusion, exclusion, and perceived satisfaction with life. This archival research provides a thematic analysis of 390 entries in the Immigrant Stories Collection from the University of Minnesota's Immigration History Research Center. Discussion will include the potential implications of immigration processes and further exploration of the psychological effects of immigrating.

4. Swearing Through the Pain

Authors: Isabel Brown, Luis Orellana, Britney McKenzie, and Elizabeth Dunaway
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Elizabeth Dunaway
Affiliation: Dalton State College

Previous research has shown that using swear words causes a hypoalgesic or pain-lessening effect. Stephens et al. (2009) found that when participants submerged their hands in ice water, they could withstand the pain longer when repeating a swear word than when repeating a neutral word. A follow-up study found that participants could withstand the pain of the ice water longer when repeating a swear word, only if they did not often swear (Stephens et al., 2011). The current study aimed to replicate these studies on an American college student population, using the cold pressor task to induce pain, and time spent in ice water and heart rate as dependent measures. Participants were exposed to neutral and swearing conditions while submerging their hands in ice water. In this study, we failed to find a significant difference between the swearing and control conditions in both duration of time spent in the cold pressor task and heart rate. In this paper, we discuss several explanations for our lack of effect, including cultural differences between our sample and those of Stephens and colleagues, as well as a reluctance to swear in professional settings. Future directions are also discussed.

5. Investigating Conditioned Threat Responses and Alcohol Use Among College Students

Authors: Erin Batarseh and Ebony Glover
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Sharon Pearcey
Affiliation: Kennesaw State University

Alcohol abuse and alcohol dependence in college students are ongoing problems that have been associated with several different psychological disturbances and disorders. High alcohol preference has been associated with high fear-potentiated startle (FPS) magnitude in mouse lines, but alcohol consumption itself has hardly any effect on decreasing fear responses (Barrenha & Chester, 2007; Barrenha et al., 2011). There may be a relationship between overconsumption of alcohol and a predisposition to higher baseline FPS and fear learning in humans. It is hypothesized that students who report high alcohol consumption will also show amplified overall FPS responses in a fear conditioning paradigm. Participants were 71 college students at a southeastern university who received introductory course credit for their participation. Upon completing the Kreek-Mchugh-Schluger-Kellog (KMSK) scale survey for alcohol consumption, participants were then prepared for their participation in a fear conditioning paradigm. Uniformly, participants who scored high in alcohol consumption startled higher to both conditioned stimuli in the paradigm compared to participants who scored low in alcohol consumption. Although the results were not statistically significant, there is a consistent difference in the magnitude of the startle response depending on participants' high and low alcohol scores.

Poster Presentations

Cognitive

1. Effects of Background Music in Adults with Autism Spectrum Disorder
Authors: Savannah Cato, Beth Suranie, and Michelle Khandadash
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Sidni A. Justus
Affiliation: Kennesaw State University
2. Exploring Interactions Among Depression, Sleep, and Episodic Memory in Adults with Autism
Authors: Justin Summe, Emily Hutson, Sidni A. Justus, and Audrey Duarte
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Sidni A. Justus
Affiliation: Kennesaw State University
3. Adapting Generic Occupational Health Psychology Interventions to Increase Cultural Relevance for First Responders
Authors: Haley Trust, Anthony Puline, and Evan Sassenberger
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Kristen Horan
Affiliation: Kennesaw State University

Cultural and Diversity

4. Withdrawn
5. The Impact of Discrimination, Community Support, and Class Modalities on Burnout in College Students
Authors: Caitlin Callahan, Audrey Harris, Maya Maqousi, Kevin Toler, Sarah Weeks, and Adriana Williams
Faculty Sponsors: Dr. Meghan Bankhead and Dr. Anisah Bagasra
Affiliation: Kennesaw State University
6. Is the American Dream Lost? Influences of Acculturation and SES on Future Thinking in Immigrants
Authors: Saiesh Faisal and Darren Bernal
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Darren Bernal
Affiliation: University of North Carolina, Asheville
7. Racial Attitudes and LGBTQ+ Identity: Implications for Educational Resources
Authors: Kylee Frazier and Peeper McDonald
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Peeper McDonald
Affiliation: Agnes Scott College

8. The Impact of Age and Racial/Ethnic Origin on the Well-Being of College Students

Authors: Noah Henry, Kayla Fisco, and Kevin Kieffer
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Kevin Kieffer
Affiliation: Saint Leo University

Developmental

9. Examination of Social Interactions in Biological and Foster Mother-Offspring Orangutans

Authors: Rachel Bond, Antonio Kocoski, Hannah Maurello, Mia Bechara, Grace Williams, Christina Ragan, and Vanessa Quinn
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Christina Ragan
Affiliation: Georgia Institute of Technology, Purdue University Northwest

10. Choices for Family Growth: Infertility to Adoption

Authors: Daezha Jackson and Meghan Salain
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Nicole Martin
Affiliation: Kennesaw State University

11. The COVID-19 Pandemic and Social Play Opportunities for Children

Authors: Peyton Kehl, Jenni Koehler, and Maria Hopkins,
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Maria Hopkins
Affiliation: University of Alabama at Birmingham

Experimental

12. Designing and Validating a Simple Voluntary Exercise Assay in Mice

Authors: Nana Addo Offei, Rob Sullivan, Lucy Bronson, Christopher Le, and AbdAlrahman Najjar
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Kate Cammack
Affiliation: The University of the South

13. Mister Rogers' Grown-Up Neighborhood: The Effect of Fred Rogers on Benevolent Worldviews

Author: Meagan Belflower
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Maria Hopkins
Affiliation: The University of Alabama at Birmingham

14. The Impact of Environmental Enrichment and Voluntary Exercise on Opioid Relapse

Authors: Lucy Bronson, Rob Sullivan, Nana Addo Offei, Christopher Le, and AbdAlrahman Najjar
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Kate Cammack
Affiliation: The University of the South

15. Assessing Conditioned Preference and Locomotor Properties of a Possible Cocaine Antagonist in Mice
 Authors: Daniela Duenas-Pincay, Anna Püsök, and Kate Cammack
 Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Kate Cammack
 Affiliation: The University of the South
16. Spatial Navigation in Betta Fish: Allocentric vs. Egocentric Cues
 Authors: Noah Gibson, Brittany McKenzie, Dakota Marquez, and Elizabeth Dunaway
 Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Elizabeth Dunaway
 Affiliation: Dalton State College
17. The Impact of the Gut Microbiome on Despair-Like Behavior in Mice
 Authors: AbdAlrahman Najjar, Revie Atkinson, and Kate Cammack
 Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Kate Cammack
 Affiliation: The University of the South
18. The Importance of Estrus as a Biological Variable in Undergraduate Research Using Rodents
 Authors: Anna Püsök, Kendall Moore, and Kate Cammack
 Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Kate Cammack
 Affiliation: The University of the South
19. Anxiety Levels Following Long-Term Antibiotic Exposure in Mice
 Authors: Kelly Walker, Revie Atkinson, Yana VanDenAbbeele, Anna Püsök, AbdAlrahman Najjar, and Kate Cammack
 Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Kate Cammack
 Affiliation: The University of the South

Industrial and Organizational

20. The Impact of Team Size on the Leadership Style and Psychological Capital of Women Leaders
 Authors: Jennifer Garcia-Arreguin and Israel Sánchez-Cardona
 Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Israel Sánchez-Cardona
 Affiliation: Kennesaw State University
21. Work-Design Features Associated with a Higher Net Promoter Score
 Authors: Evan Liu and Kristin Horan
 Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Kristin Horan
 Affiliation: Kennesaw Mountain High School and Kennesaw State University
22. Examining Differences in Psychological Capital, Burnout, and Work Engagement Among Women in Leadership Positions
 Authors: Edwin Trejo-Rivera, Israel Sánchez-Cardona, and Maria Vera
 Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Sánchez-Cardona
 Affiliation: Kennesaw State University and Universidad Pablo de Olavide, Spain

Other

23. The Effect of the Severity of an Individual's First Criminal Conviction on the Probability of Criminal Recidivism

Author: Bryce Jeffcoat
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Cynthia Midcalf
Affiliation: Erskine College

24. The Role of Emotional Inhibition in Relation to Emotion Perception, Empathy, and the Strong Black Woman Schema

Authors: Kathernine Carr, Kaelyn Dicks, Dash L. Acker, Desire N. Egboh, Royale S. Randall, Raja A. White, Georgia C. Anderson, Charlotte Capers B. Snoad, and Joel G. Thomas
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Joel G. Thomas
Affiliation: Agnes Scott College

Physiological

25. Long-Term Biobehavioral Effects of Postnatal Clomipramine Exposure in Sprague-Dawley Rats

Authors: Harika Kosaraju and Christina Ragan
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Christina Ragan
Affiliation: Georgia Institute of Technology

26. Cannabis Use Contributes to Sex Differences in Fear Extinction

Authors: Ashante Thompson, Cymone Parker, Samari Simmons, and Ebony Glover
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Ebony Glover
Affiliation: Kennesaw State University

Social and Personality

27. The Impact of Resilience on Perceptions of Performance After Receiving Feedback

Authors: Michael Buehring, Julie Delose, and Amy Boggan
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Amy Boggan
Affiliation: Young Harris College

Acknowledgements

Conference Coordinators

Dan Niederjohn, Kennesaw State University
Jennifer Willard, Kennesaw State University
Adrienne Williamson, Kennesaw State University

Keynote Speaker

Roxanne Donovan, Kennesaw State University

Graduate School Panelists

Zhardae Bailey, Kennesaw State University
Fari Djavanshir, Georgia State University
Marion Granger, University of South Carolina
Andrew Manocchio, Mercer University

Support Staff

Danyelle Denham, Kennesaw State University
Nicole Wilcox, Kennesaw State University

Conference Volunteers

Anisah Bagasra, Kennesaw State University
Meghan Bankhead, Kennesaw State University
Ordene Edwards, Kennesaw State University
Jeffrey Helms, Kennesaw State University
Kristin Horan, Kennesaw State University
Sidni Justus, Kennesaw State University
Suma Mallavarapu, Kennesaw State University
Allison Martin, Kennesaw State University
Nicole Martin, Kennesaw State University
Sharon Pearcey, Kennesaw State University
Kayla Sargent, Kennesaw State University
Shubam Sharma, Kennesaw State University
Kalisha Smith, Kennesaw State University
Paul Story, Kennesaw State University
Lauren Taglialatela, Kennesaw State University
Amanda Wolfe, Kennesaw State University
Dianhan Zheng, Kennesaw State University

Paper and Poster Judges

Anisah Bagasra, Kennesaw State University
Meghan Bankhead, Kennesaw State University
Kate Cammack, The University of the South
Elizabeth Dunaway, Dalton State College
Ordene Edwards, Kennesaw State University
Kristin Horan, Kennesaw State University
Sidni Justus, Kennesaw State University
Tirza Leader, Georgia Gwinnett College
Allison Martin, Kennesaw State University
Nicole Martin, Kennesaw State University
Sharon Pearcey, Kennesaw State University
Christina Ragan, Georgia Institute of Technology
Ahmad Sarris, Kennesaw State University
Shubam Sharma, Kennesaw State University
Paul Story, Kennesaw State University
Dianhan Zheng, Kennesaw State University

We appreciate everyone's help in making this year's conference a success!

**Website: <http://gurp.kennesaw.edu>
Email: gurp@kennesaw.edu**



“Somewhere, something incredible is waiting to be known.” Dr. Carl Sagan