



OAR Announces 2014 Graduate Research Grant Recipients

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ARLINGTON, VA – The Organization for Autism Research (OAR) is pleased to announce the recipients of its 2014 [Graduate Research Grants](#). This program, open to graduate students pursuing master’s or doctoral degrees, awards up to \$1,000 and \$2,000 respectively to those conducting research related to autism as part of their graduate studies. This year, OAR is awarding 10 grants totaling \$17,312. With these grants, OAR has awarded more than \$172,000 in research grants to 95 graduate researchers since 2004.

“It’s the ultimate win-win to be able to support original autism research in priority areas and encourage future professionals at the same time,” notes Joanne Gerenser, Ph.D., CCC-SLP, vice chair of OAR’s Scientific Council. “My colleagues and I have no doubt that this year’s grant recipients are poised to make meaningful contributions to the field and, more importantly, deliver results that can help individuals on the spectrum.”

OAR received 27 study proposals this year, the most in the history of the program. Members of the OAR Scientific Council, a group of 16 autism professionals from a variety of fields and backgrounds, reviewed and scored each proposal. Their evaluation was based on three key criteria:

- Alignment with OAR’s research priorities
- Methodological soundness
- Relevance of potential findings for those affected by autism

In keeping with OAR’s dedication to high quality research, only the best of the best were selected for funding.

Congratulations to the 2014 grant recipients:

Hannah Louise Belcher, Anglia Ruskin University (UK)

Autism Spectrum Screening in the Student Population: Misdiagnosis and Missed Diagnosis in Females

Marika Coffman, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University

Evaluation of a Support Group Program for Brothers and Sisters of Individuals with ASD

Caitlin Conner, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University

A Pilot Study of a Mindfulness- and Acceptance-Based Intervention Targeting Emotion Dysregulation

Sarah Doyle, Virginia Commonwealth University

Autism and Peer Victimization: Risk and Protective Factors, Outcomes

Christine Ghilain, University of Miami

Sibling Rivalry or Sibling Revelry: A Multifactorial Approach to Understanding Sibling Relationships

Serene Habayeb, The Catholic University of America

Treating Psychosocial and Face Processing Deficits in Youth with ASD in a Private Clinical Setting

Timothy Soto, University of Massachusetts – Boston

Identifying Sensory Symptoms as a Diagnostic Indicator of ASD

Andrea Trubanova, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University

Eye-Gaze Analysis of Facial Emotion Expression in Adolescents with ASD

Jessica Weber, Florida International University

Evaluating the Role of Social Motivation in Children with Autism

Danielle Ung, University of South Florida

Peer Victimization in Youth with High-Functioning Autism Spectrum Disorders

For inquiries regarding the Graduate Research Grant Program or for more information on the 2015 funding cycle, please contact Samantha Millard, assistant director, development, at 703-243-9717 or e-mail research@researchautism.org.

About OAR: The Organization for Autism Research (OAR) is a national non-profit organization formed and led by relatives of children and adults with autism and Asperger Syndrome. OAR is dedicated to promoting research that can be applied to help families, educators, caregivers, and individuals with autism find much-needed answers to their immediate and urgent questions. Learn more at their Web site: www.researchautism.org.

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