



OAR Announces 2018 Graduate Research Grant Recipients

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 3, 2018

Contact: Saman Kamgar-Parsi, Programs and Outreach Associate
(703)243-3466, research@researchautism.org

ARLINGTON, VA – The Organization for Autism Research (OAR) is pleased to announce the recipients of its 2018 [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 11 grants totaling \$21,000. With these grants, OAR has awarded over \$249,600 in research grants to 138 graduate researchers since 2004.

“Each year, I am impressed with the high quality of the proposals we receive,” notes Peter Gerhardt, Ed.D., chair of OAR’s Scientific Council. “The future of autism research is in good hands with these promising individuals.”

OAR received a record 42 study proposals this year. 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 2018 grant recipients:

Jonet Artis, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

A longitudinal study of the language profiles of infants at risk for ASD

Lauren Best, University of Georgia

Evaluating client preference for vocal stereotypy treatment

Mattina Davenport, The University of Missouri

BE SAFE: An initial evaluation and pilot study

Leslie Dooley, Iowa State University

Integrated exploration of pediatrician and lactation consultant knowledge of atypical development

Yael Goldfarb, University of Haifa

Work motivation of adults with ASD

Chantal Labonté, University of Alberta

Bilingualism in children with autism spectrum disorder: exploring the impact of dual languages

Emily Laubscher, Pennsylvania State University

Effects of video AAC technology on communication and play for children with autism

Dianne Macdonald, McGill University

A reading comprehension program for preschoolers with hyperlexia

Sandhya Rajagopal, Florida Institute of Technology

An evaluation of a procedure to teach children with autism to tact private events

Sara C. Spong, Regent University

Stress and resiliency factors in caregivers of children of neurodevelopmental disorders

Caroline Theron, University of Cape Town

The effects of home-based enhanced milieu teaching on the spoken-language outcomes of children with autism

For inquiries regarding the Graduate Research Grant Program or for more information on the 2018 funding cycle, please contact Saman Kamgar-Parsi, Programs and Outreach Associate, at 703-243-3466 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 spectrum disorders. 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.

###