



2020 Graduate Grant Recipients Identified

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ARLINGTON, VA – The Organization for Autism Research (OAR) is pleased to announce the recipients of its 2020 [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 12 grants totaling \$18,186, including two international grants. With these grants, OAR has awarded over \$288,156 in research grants to 161 graduate researchers since 2004.

“The OAR Graduate Grant Program is, for me, one of our most exciting programs,” notes Peter Gerhardt, Ed.D., chair of OAR’s Scientific Council. “OAR’s ability to support new researchers at the start of their careers is a win for them, for the autism community, and for OAR itself. This year is no exception. I am very much looking forward to following the careers and future research of the OAR 2020 Graduate Research Grantees.”

OAR received a record 45 study proposals this year. Members of the OAR Scientific Council, a group of 20 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 2020 grant recipients:

Chelsea Anderson, University of North Texas

The Role of Attention in Speech-in-Noise Processing in Young Adults with Autism Spectrum Disorder

Megan Carpenter, University of North Carolina at Charlotte

Inclusion of Elementary Students with ASD in Check-In/Check-Out

Natalie Croteau, The Chicago School of Professional Psychology

A Comparison of Caregiver or Mediator Implementation to Teach Both Urination and Bowel Movement Skills

Williams Espericueta Luna, University of North Texas

A systematic evaluation of ShoeBox Audiometry as method for audiometric assessment of individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder

Mary Alice Keller, Vanderbilt University

What do children with minimally verbal autism (MVA) understand? Developing a practical, feasible, and valid observational assessment of receptive language for children with MVA

Marie Kirkpatrick, Baylor University

Self-Instructed Video Activity Schedules to Support Academic Learning for Students with ASD During Small Group Activities

Qing Liu, University of Hong Kong

The Effects of A Self-Directed Telehealth Parent Training Program for Children Newly Diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorders in China

Meka McCammon, University of South Carolina

An Evaluation of Video Modeling on Teacher Fidelity of Mand Training Across Mand Topographies

Giovanna Salvatore, Rowan University

Destructive Behavior and Restraint Use in Hospital Settings for Patients with Autism Spectrum Disorder

Stephanie St. Joseph, University of Oregon

Modifying manualized CBT¹ to treat anxiety for students with ASD in the school setting

Carlien Vorster, University of Pretoria

A cultural adaptation, Northern Sotho translation, and evaluation of the M-CHAT-R/F²

Xihan Yang, Tufts University

Comparing SRE³ in Two Formats for Adolescents with ASD

For inquiries regarding the Graduate Research Grant Program or for more information on the 2020 funding cycle, please contact Margaret Gorman, 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.

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¹ Cognitive Behavioral Therapy

² Modified Checklist for Autism in Toddlers-Revised with Follow-up

³ Sexuality and Relationship Education