Introducing the New Neuroscience Building
fMRI machine opens doors for human brain research on the Gables Campus

Welcome, Students!
Get to Know Your Advisors and the PALs

Psi Chi
Honor Society Updates

TUNS
The Undergraduate Neuroscience Society

Study Abroad
Copenhagen and Mannheim

Alternative Breaks
A Week That Lasts a Lifetime

Neuroscience 2013: Interviews with Our Newest Neuroscience Faculty
Drs. Jennifer Britton, Amishi Jha, and Lucina Uddin
Welcome back, students! Roughly 200 new freshmen and transfers joined us this fall, making our Department one of the largest at the University of Miami for yet another year.

The Department (and the University) experienced a lot of change last year. From the construction of new buildings, to the development of a new psychology and neuroscience curriculum, to the implementation of a new registration system, the University continued to grow and to show why it is a top-notch educational institution. Still, there are a lot of exciting things yet to come like the grand opening of the Neuroscience Building, the launch of our YouTube site—subscribe to UASP UM—and much more. Keep an eye out for our e-mails, newsletters, tweets, etc. to make sure you are up-to-date on all important advising information.

Our office, UASP, is dedicated to providing each of you with the highest-quality advising services. By offering you thorough information and exposing you to various academic opportunities, our goal is to help you make the most of your undergraduate experience.

The PALs, Academic Advisors, and I look forward to working closely with each of you throughout the semester. Our office hours are Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., and we generally see students on a walk-in basis. There is no need to schedule an appointment during non-registration periods. Stop by any time!

We hope you have an exciting and successful academic year. Good luck with your first week of classes!

Sean Kilaptrick, M.S.Ed.
Director, Undergraduate Academic Services
Undergraduate Academic Services for Psychology is a great starting point for a wide array of services. If we can’t solve your problem, we can connect you with other resources who can!

Visit UASP for help with:

- Graduation Planning
- Course Selection
- Research Involvement
- Career Exploration
- Graduate and Professional School Preparation
- Study Abroad Info
- Academic and other Issues

Sean Kilpatrick, Director
Sean Kilpatrick is the Director of Undergraduate Academic Services in the Department of Psychology. Sean first joined UASP as a Peer Advisor during his junior year at the University of Miami. After graduating magna cum laude with a B.A. in Psychology and Criminology, Sean continued to work for UASP as a full-time administrator while attending graduate school in education at UM. He earned an M.S.Ed. in Higher Education Administration with a concentration in Enrollment Management and a Certificate in Student Life and Development. Sean oversees all UASP functions, supervises the Peer Advising Liaisons (PALs), and ensures the Department provides the highest-quality advising services. He also teaches the new freshmen and new transfer student orientation, advising, and mentoring courses, FACT (UMX 100) and TUMS (PSY 365). Sean is available to meet with all students regarding advising, curriculum planning, research participation, and graduate school and career preparation. His background in enrollment management, student affairs, and research make him an excellent resource for students. Feel free to contact Sean at smkilpatrick@miami.edu.

Alida Lambert, Academic Advisor
Alida Lambert is a full-time Academic Advisor who provides general advising for psychology and neuroscience majors. In addition to advising students, Alida assists with the FACT and TUMS seminar courses and she publishes this bimonthly newsletter, psych! She attended the University of Miami as an undergraduate and graduated summa cum laude with a B.A. in Psychology and a minor in Sociology. She is also a member of Phi Beta Kappa National Honor Society. During her undergraduate career, Alida worked at UASP as a Peer Advising Liaison (PAL) for two years and she studied abroad in Sydney, Australia. She is passionate about study abroad and international education, and she is a great resource for information. Alida is now completing her M.S.Ed. in Research, Measurement, and Evaluation through the UM School of Education, and she plans to pursue a Ph.D. in research methodology and statistics. She can be reached at alambert@miami.edu.

Dris Stephen, Academic Advisor
Idrissa “Dris” Stephen is a full-time Academic Advisor who provides general advising for psychology and neuroscience majors. He graduated cum laude from the University of South Florida with a B.A. in Mass Communications and a minor in English. Dris served on active duty in the U.S. Marine Corps during Operation Iraqi Freedom, and he later became a certified middle and high school English teacher. He began his M.S.Ed. in Higher Education Administration at Florida International University and transferred to UM to continue his Master’s Degree this Fall as a ’Cane! He is interested in pursuing a career in student leadership development. Dris can be reached at jstephen@miami.edu.
William McAuliffe is a senior majoring in psychology and philosophy. He is applying to Ph.D. programs in philosophy this year. William is a research assistant in Dr. McCullough's lab where he participated in PRIME during the summer of 2012. He is a second year PAL.

Nicole Laviña is a senior psychology major. She plans to pursue a Master's in Mental Health Counseling. She is a member of Project Sunshine and studied abroad through URome. She works in Dr. Henderson's research lab and is involved with UASP's GRIPP and Social Media teams. Nicole is a third year PAL.

Rachel Lopez is a sophomore psychology and criminology double major. She is an RA in Eaton Residential College. Rachel plans to pursue a graduate degree in forensic or organizational psychology overseas, learning and traveling simultaneously. She is a first year PAL.

Jennifer Baumgartner is a senior neuroscience major with a minor in chemistry. She plans to take time to volunteer abroad before pursuing a graduate degree in physical therapy. She is involved with UM’s Quidditch team, which is currently ranked among the top 10 in the world. She is a third year PAL.

Meghan Holzmacher is a sophomore majoring in neuroscience. She is a member of the General Honors Program, the Honors Student Association, and Delta Phi Epsilon. She hopes to attend medical school or pursue a Ph.D. to do medical research. Meghan is a first year PAL.

Gabriel Jimenez-Garcia is a sophomore, double majoring in psychology and philosophy. Gabriel has aspirations of attending law school after graduation and pursuing a job in health care law. He is a first year PAL.

Vidhya Krishnan is a junior neuroscience and religion double major. Vidhya is the co-chair of National Gandhi Day of Service, is a Pre-Health peer advisor and is also involved in Mortar Board and Beta Beta Beta. She researches at the Miami Project to Cure Paralysis where she will complete her honors thesis. This is her second year as a PAL.

Nicole Laviña is a senior psychology major. She plans to pursue a Master's in Mental Health Counseling. She is a member of Project Sunshine and studied abroad through URome. She works in Dr. Henderson's research lab and is involved with UASP's GRIPP and Social Media teams. Nicole is a third year PAL.

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Dris Stephen, Volunteer of the Year!

This June, our very own Dris Stephen received the award for Volunteer of the Year for his dedicated service to the Mid-Florida HOBY seminar. HOBY is an international non-profit organization devoted to inspiring and developing a global community of youth and volunteers to a life dedicated to leadership, service and innovation.

Dris has been working with HOBY in Mid- and South Florida for the past 6 years, facilitating small groups, serving as web master, directing community relations, representing at corporate board meetings, and more. Currently, he is the Director of Junior Staff Fundraising and Marketing for Mid-Florida and Director of Community Relations for South Florida. Program participants, called HOBY Ambassadors, have demonstrated the potential to lead and to positively influence others. They are given the opportunity and encouraged to interact with, question, and respectfully challenge community leaders, while networking and forming friendships with other ambassadors, volunteers, and service organization representatives.

Truly passionate about the HOBY Ambassadors, Dris’ dedication to the HOBY organization and its mission is impressive! In fact, he just returned from the week-long World Leadership Congress held in Chicago, IL, where ambassadors from all over the world got together to explore the social change model of leadership, interact with like-minded students, and hear from speakers in various leadership positions.

Dris with his team at the World Leadership Congress

Upgrades

The University has moved its UPrint system to the latest in Cannon technology. New machines in Flipse feature:

- Color Printing
- Free scanning
- Copying
- Mobile printing (Email to uprintbw@miami.edu or uprintcolor@miami.edu to print emails and email attachments)

For help with the new printers, please see the reference guide attached to each machine or speak to a UASP staff member.

UPrint

Grab Your Calendar and Enter These Important Dates!

Academic Calendar

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aug 26th</td>
<td>Classes begin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept 2nd</td>
<td>Labor Day (University Closed)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept 11th</td>
<td>Last day to add a course</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept 11th</td>
<td>Last day to drop without a “W”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept 11th</td>
<td>Last day to add research for credit (280, 380, 480, 580, or 581)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept 11th</td>
<td>Last day to make a change in credit-only designation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct 17th-20th</td>
<td>Fall Recess</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct 4th</td>
<td>Last day to apply for graduation for Fall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct 21st</td>
<td>Spring advising begins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov 4th</td>
<td>Last day to drop a class (with a “W”)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov 11th</td>
<td>Spring registration begins</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov 23rd</td>
<td>Dec 1st Thanksgiving Recess</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec 10th</td>
<td>Classes end</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec 11th</td>
<td>Reading day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec 12th</td>
<td>Final exams</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec 18th</td>
<td>Final exams</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec 27th</td>
<td>Final grades available to students in CaneLink</td>
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</tbody>
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New Student Orientation and Advising

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aug 20th</td>
<td>Housing available</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug 21st</td>
<td>Orientation begins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug 23rd</td>
<td>Orientation meeting for freshmen psychology and neuroscience majors at 12:00 p.m. in Learning Center 170</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug 23rd</td>
<td>Advising appointments for new freshmen (3:00 - 5:00 p.m.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug 24th</td>
<td>Advising appointments for new freshmen (9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.)</td>
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</table>
Congratulations to all participants for successful completion of their summer research projects. A special thanks goes out to all faculty mentors, the PRIME/JUMPSTART coordinator, Sean Kilpatrick, Graduate Student Coordinator, Sarah Henry, and all guest lecturers. Thank you all for your hard work and dedication to our undergraduate students!

Alexis Alvarez (Dr. Isaac Skromne)
The Role of Signaling Factor BMP and Transcription Factor Cdx4 in the Development of the Zebrafish Spinal Cord.

Angela Carracino (Dr. Sari Izenwasser)
Environmental and Dietary Factors Relating to Cocaine Conditioned Place Preference and Anxiety-Like Behavior in Female Adult Rats

Chelsea Cosner (Dr. Jacqueline Sagen)
The Design and Evaluation of CGRP8-37 Recombinant Peptide Construct in a Model of Nerve Injury-Induced Pain in Rats

Spencer Keil (Dr. Isaac Skromne)
Temporal analysis of Wnt Signaling Activity on the Regulation of Cdx4 Gene Expression During the Establishment of Hindbrain and Spinal Cord Territories in Zebrafish Embryos

Akhil Khan (Dr. Mohammed Faghihi)
The Optimal Differentiation of Progenitor Cells into Neurons

Keun Lee (Dr. Isaac Skromne)
Retinoic Acid and FGF Interaction in Spinal Cord Specification

Shreyans Patel (Dr. Roberta Brambilla)
Role of Oligodendroglial Tumor Necrosis Factor Receptor 2 (TNFR2) in Maintenance of Myelin Integrity in Experimental Autoimmune Encephalomyelitis (EAE)

Sam Powell (Dr. Claes Wahlestedt)
Epigenetics and Long Non-coding RNA Transcripts in the Neural Mechanisms of Cocaine Addiction

Lindsey Salay (Dr. Vance Lemmon)
The Role of p70 and p90 S6 Kinases in Regulating Neurite Growth

Jonathan Cohn (Dr. Amy Weisman de Mamani)
Baseline Symptom Severity as a Predictor of Benefit from and Satisfaction with Family Therapy in Patients with Schizophrenia

Jordan Fuchs (Dr. Mike McCullough)
The Relationship Between Religiosity and Prejudice

Sara Wiltcraft (Dr. Kiara Timpano)
The Relationship between Traumatic Life Events and Hoarding Symptoms

Naomi Pak (Dr. Kiara Timpano)
The Relationship Between Obsessive Compulsive Symptom Dimensions and Substance Use

Gregoire Calon (Dr. Gail Ironson)
Positive Spiritual Coping as a Predictor of Adherence and Slower Disease Progression Following HIV Diagnosis

Chelsey Axelrod (Dr. Bonnie Levin)
Age, Gender, and Ethnic Differences in Cognitive and Neuropsychiatric Symptoms in a Sample of Individuals with Memory Complaints

Merika Lang (Dr. Youngmee Kim)
The Effect of Spirituality on Psychological Distress in Colorectal Cancer Patients

Spencer Keil (Dr. Isaac Skromne)
Temporal analysis of Wnt Signaling Activity on the Regulation of Cdx4 Gene Transcription During the Establishment of Hindbrain and Spinal Cord Territories in Zebrafish Embryos

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The Role of p70 and p90 S6 Kinases in Regulating Neurite Growth

Haley Meskunas (Dr. Matthias Siemer)
Autobiographical Memory Recall as a Function of Gender, Age & Intelligence in a Clinically Depressed Sample

Samantha Belabin (Dr. Jason Jent)
Postpartum Depression & Child Gender as Predictors of Developmental Delays in Toddlers

Clara Choi (Dr. Heather Henderson)
Supporting Others: The Roles of Early Temperament and Context

Taylor Owen (Dr. Michael Alessandri)
Measures of Symptom Severity in Preschoolers with Autism Spectrum Disorder: The Role of Maternal Anxiety

Michael Delgado (Dr. Gail Ironson)
Influence of Positive Affect on HIV Progression in Seropositive Men

Ashley Martinez (Dr. Jason Jent)
Effectiveness of Parent-Child Interaction Therapy for Hispanic Families: Child-Directed Interaction Phase

Kathleen Diaz (Dr. Annette LaGreca)
Friends’ and Family’s Social Support: Their Association with Social Anxiety

Christina Perry (Dr. Alexandra Quittner)
Predictors of Adolescent and Interventionist Interactions in a Treatment Adherence Problem-Solving Intervention

Anna Gogos (Dr. Annette LaGreca)
Cyber Aggression as it Relates to Gender, Internet Use, Social Support, and Emotion Regulation
This year will be a big one for neuroscience at the University of Miami! Our three newest neuroscience faculty members, Dr. Jennifer Britton, Dr. Amishi Jha, and Dr. Lucina Uddin, are well-published and highly regarded as experts in their fields. For insight into the new developments in neuroscience, Alida Lambert interviewed the Director of the Undergraduate Neuroscience Program, Dr. Philip McCabe, and our newest faculty. Read on to find out more about their backgrounds, research interests, and prospects at the University of Miami.

2013 marks the opening of the new Neuroscience Building (NB), funded by a $14.8 million grant from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act and awarded by the National Institute of Health. Completed in just over one year, the new building houses collaborative workspaces for researchers from a variety of disciplines, including neuroscience, psychology, biology, physics, and others. The building was also designed with the intention to host national and international scientists to further facilitate collaboration between disciplines, universities, and nations in the pursuit of quality neuroscience research.

NB is located behind the Cox Science Center and is directly connected by several cross-bridges. The building’s lobby and common areas will be openly accessible to students and visitors to check-out. Access to lab spaces is only granted via Cane Card to pertinent faculty and research personnel (including undergraduate RAs).

Philip McCabe, Ph.D.
Director, Neuroscience Program

1) We are thrilled about the opening of the Neuroscience Building, but why should undergraduates be too? The Neuroscience Building is a fantastic new venue for research, and it’s not only for fMRI imaging. The second floor will be dedicated to biology faculty and the third will include psychology faculty. There is also more space for future inclusion of other departments as well. Research in the facility will run the spectrum from cellular and molecular mechanisms to complex human brain functioning. Also, the resource will allow us to hire new faculty who will also be teaching courses and interacting with undergraduates. Neuroscience is one of the fastest growing areas within the life sciences, and the building is a great boost for the Neuroscience Program in general.

2) As the Director of the Undergraduate Neuroscience Program, what response do you expect from your students? Excitement. I see the students’ interests ranging from simple curiosity and desire to see the magnet to desire for in-depth participation in the research. Also just knowing there are dedicated resources on campus for neuroscience lends more legitimacy to the major. As an interdisciplinary major, neuroscience never really had a physical home aside from the advising office. Now it does.

3) How does the final product compare to what you had envisioned when planning began? It’s even better! The building is contemporary, sleek, and state of the art. It has already allowed us to recruit 3 new faculty and we have been approved to continue the search this year for another cognitive neuroscience faculty member.

4) What are your hopes for the new building? My hope is that it becomes a platform to recruit top young neuroscientists to come to the University of Miami. It is a place for undergraduate and graduate students to congregate and receive state of the art research training. As a collaborative space, I hope it acts as a bridge between the Gables’ campus, the Medical School (Miller), and the Marine School (RSMAS), all three of which are involved in teaching for the Neuroscience Ph.D. program. Finally, I hope that it becomes a focal point for research and helps to bring visibility to the University of Miami.

5) Will your office be moving? My office will remain on the fifth floor of Flipse; however, my laboratory space will be moving from the Behavioral Medicine Building to the new third floor.
1) What brought you to UM?
“The number of faculty who were happy,” she said with a smile. I was very impressed with the amount of collaboration that goes on at UM. At the NIMH, I had been working in Psychiatry and I wanted to get back to teaching and working with students, which I have the opportunity to do here. Also, the weather isn’t terrible!

2) Can you describe your research interests in general?
I investigate brain and behavior relationships in individuals with anxiety disorders, using neuroimaging techniques. More specifically, I am interested in the developmental trajectory of anxiety disorders. Childhood anxiety does not always carry through to adulthood and I am curious to examine factors that contribute to the maintenance or dissipation of that anxiety. In particular, I examine fear vs. safety discrimination. Anxiety has long been conceptualized as being rooted in fear; however, it may not be the presence of fear but rather the absence of perceived safety, a similar yet crucially different framework, that produces anxiety. Another goal of my research is to develop novel behavioral treatments as alternatives to non-targeted treatments. One example of this type of treatment is attention training, which aims to refocus attention away from perceived threats to reduce anxiety.

3) What is unique about your lab?
We use neuroimaging techniques to understand the underlying mechanisms of anxiety. Also, I enjoy being an interdisciplinary researcher. My faculty position is within the health track but due to my research questions, I work with researchers in both the child and adult tracks as well.

4) What studies are you currently working on?
My time lately has been spent getting the magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) facility up and running. We had our first MRI test subject scanned and studies will start soon!

5) What do undergraduate Research Assistants (RAs) do?
I like RAs to experience all aspects of research, to understand the research questions and their impact. RAs participate in lab meeting discussions of journal articles, will run cognitive tasks, and collect questionnaire data. They also learn about psychophysiology, including how to measure heart rate, skin conductance, startle response, and more. In addition, RAs are exposed to imaging techniques.

6) Will you be teaching any undergraduate courses?
For now, the only undergraduate course I teach is the first-year FORUM course for new freshmen in the spring semesters. I do teach a graduate course on cognitive neuroscience, though.

7) In what way(s) do you foresee the new building opening doors both in regards to your research and to the undergraduate student population?
There is a lot of interest on campus for neuroimaging research so this facility opens doors to those possibilities. I have had so many requests from undergraduate students that, unfortunately, I have had to turn some students away. However, there will be other opportunities for students to get involved.
Amishi Jha, Ph.D.

1) What brought you to UM?
One big draw was the interest in growing cognitive neuroscience/neuroimaging, in an already successful department. Also, the openness of both the Department and the University to the mindfulness work I do was a big draw for me. Both of these factors suggested to me that UM comprised a forward-thinking community of scientists who celebrated innovation.

2) Can you describe your research interests in general?
My research has two main themes: one is the basic mechanisms of attention and working memory and how they work in the adult brain. The other looks at how attention and working-memory can be enhanced or degraded. For enhancement, we investigate effects of mindfulness training on attention, with the goal of making the systems stronger. For degradation, we examine the impact of acute and chronic stress on attention and working-memory. Additionally, we implement mindfulness training to prevent degradation and help participants deal with their challenges using new cognitive skills.

3) What studies are you currently working on?
One study is on mindfulness training with undergraduates. We are also conducting similar mindfulness studies with different populations, including military spouses, active duty soldiers, and people in various high stress jobs (e.g., firefighters, paramedics, CEOs) in the South Florida community. Additionally, we look at both brain wave recordings and fMRI scans to examine the relationship between emotion, attention, and working-memory. Here we are interested in how mood state and emotionally evocative images impact performance on high-demand attention and working memory tasks. These studies go hand in hand because stress can be viewed as a type of negative affect.

4) What is unique about your lab?
We are one of very few labs on campus doing research specifically on mindfulness, and perhaps the only one studying mindfulness, attention, working memory, and the brain. We are very happy to be part of the ‘cognitive neuroscience’ initiative within the Department of Psychology here at UM.

5) What do undergraduate Research Assistants (RAs) typically do?
My goal for all undergraduates in my lab is for their experience to serve as a stepping stone to their career goals. I want them to develop a strong skill set from their work here that will carry them throughout their undergraduate years and open doors for the future. All RAs participate in weekly lab meetings and are expected to present a research article to the group. They also must conduct their own research project and are responsible for all phases of the project from design to data collection to results (working with close mentoring by me and my team, of course). The goal is for them to develop intellectual ownership of the research. RAs are also required to present in a more formal way, either by writing a paper or producing a poster. I treat my RAs like graduate-students-in-training. In fact, our track record is very good in seeing undergraduates go on to accomplish their career goals. I have served on admissions committees for M.D./Ph.D. and Ph.D. programs, and I know what separates the “keep” from the “pass” piles of applicant folders. I try to give my undergraduates the experiences they need to place them solidly in the “keep” pile.

6) Will you be teaching any undergraduate courses?
I teach FORUM in the spring for new freshmen. I do have plans in the future to begin an fMRI course for undergraduates in the coming years.

7) In what way(s) do you foresee the new building opening doors both in regards to your research and to the undergraduate student population?
I think it will help catalyze cognitive neuroscience/neuroimaging on this campus. The building provides a literal footprint for brain imaging, and an intellectual hub for human neuroscience research on the Gables campus. Also, the availability of the space and technology will bring in interested students, post-docs, collaborators from around the University, and beyond. This building is the first important step toward making UM’s cognitive neuroscience/neuroimaging initiative a World-Class enterprise.
1) What brings you to UM?
I am really excited about the neuroscience initiative at UM and looking forward to working with people who are pushing the envelope in neuroscience research. I was also impressed by the large autism clinic [Center for Autism and Related Disabilities (CARD)]. It is very rare to have a full-service autism-focused clinic right on campus. I am excited about the opportunity to work with Dr. Alessandri and the other researchers and clinicians at CARD.

2) Can you describe your research interests in general?
My work is in the field of cognitive neuroscience, looking at the brain processes underlying attention and social processing. I use both structural and functional neuroimaging techniques to understand the development and organization of large-scale brain networks that are responsible for attention and social processing. One example of research in the social domain includes looking at the functional activation profile of the brain while individuals view stimuli with social meaning, such as faces. I have a particular interest in autism and examine both typical and atypical development of the brain, in addition to examining adults, with regard to these interests.

3) What studies are you currently working on?
I just published a study looking at brain based biomarkers. The study was designed to identify potential signs of autism in brain scans, which could potentially add a more objective dimension to diagnosis. Basically we wanted to find out, can we tell if a child has autism by looking at these brain images? So far we have found that there are patterns of structural organization and functional brain connectivity that can be used to discriminate children with autism from their typically developing peers.

4) What is unique about your lab?
Most studies on autism target a specific age group such as young children, adolescents, or adults. My research is unique because I am interested in development across the lifespan, and thus plan to work with participants of any age. There are many unanswered questions about how the brain in autism changes across the lifespan and as a result of early intervention. I hope to be able to start to address some of these.

5) Will you be taking undergraduate Research Assistants? What will they be doing?
Yes, I am eager to have undergraduates work in my lab. Really, they will be involved with the whole range of duties associated with the research process. They might be analyzing neuroimaging data, entering participant information, assisting with IRB requests, contacting study participants, writing manuscripts, and a host of other activities.

6) Will you be teaching any undergraduate courses?
I won’t be teaching undergraduates during my first year; however, I look forward to doing more teaching in the future. I am hoping to teach an introductory course on cognitive neuroscience and possibly neuroimaging techniques. The latter would include how to run analyses, explore the kinds of questions that can be answered using neuroimaging, and more. Developing new coursework will be an exciting endeavor!

7) In what way(s) do you foresee the new building opening doors both in regards to your research and to the undergraduate student population?
The new building is really evidence of the University of Miami’s and the Department of Psychology’s commitment to neuroscience. It is so rare to not only have the technology of MRI available, but to have that technology dedicated completely to research efforts. It is almost unheard of! I also think the facility will peak interests of other researchers and afford many opportunities for collaboration.
Fall Recess 2013
Applications Released: 8/28
Site Leaders Due: 9/11
Participants Due: 9/11

Spring Break 2014
Application Released: 9/18
Site Leaders Due: 9/27
Participants Due: 11/3

Mission: To provide diverse, quality alternative breaks in order to engage participants in their local, national, and global communities and foster a lifelong commitment to social action and social change.

Want a spring break experience that you’ll never forget? Want to make a difference in local communities? Want to travel and make new friends? Then give yourself “a week that lasts a lifetime” with UM Alternative Breaks.

University of Miami Alternative Breaks (UMAB) sends UM students all around the country each year to volunteer and learn about social issues, such as HIV/AIDS, homelessness, environmental issues, children’s issues, and animal rights.

facebook.com/umaltbreaks
@UMiamiAltBreaks

William R. Butler Center for Volunteer Service and Leadership Development
Whitten University Center, Room 240
(305) 284-4483

Why participate in UM Alternative Breaks?
UMAB is truly an “experience that lasts a lifetime.” It’s a movement that aims to open your eyes to different communities and develop active citizens who will choose to integrate community service into their lifestyles. The trips also serve as great ways to meet and bond with peers, and to expand the network of Alternative Breakers. Participants return from their trips with a new perspective and understanding of our world that few experiences can provide.

Who goes on Alternative Break trips?
Each year, nearly 200 students participate in one of 2 or 3 trips during Fall Recess and one of 15 to 20 trips during Spring Break. Groups consist of 8 to 12 members, including 1 or 2 site leaders who are responsible for facilitating individual trips.

Where will I go?
Trip locations vary depending on the issue. All fall break trips take place within Florida, while spring break trips take place throughout the United States. Students work in a variety of locations around the country, including urban, suburban, and rural areas. Trip prices are $80 for all fall participants, $135 for spring site leaders, and $235 for spring participants, all-inclusive.

How can I learn more about the trips?
Alternative Breaks Issue Showcases will highlight all available social justice issues. Informational cards and posters can be found around campus, and they will also be tabling in the UC Breezeway and at the Residence Halls.

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Do I get to pick my site?
You’ll be able to rank your preferences for issues (but not locations) on your applications. Issue Showcases will help you determine which issues to make your top choices. Please note that there are a limited number of slots available, and applications will be reviewed on a first-come, first-serve basis. Although we will do our best to assign participants to one of their top issues, we cannot guarantee placement.

Can I sign up with my friends?
One of our goals at UMAB is for you to have a completely new experience and go beyond your comfort zone. It is best to participate individually so that you allow yourself a greater opportunity to bond with your group. Group dynamics are a crucial component of UMAB trips, and we strive to help forge new friendships through weekly group meetings before trips take place.

What will I do when I get to my site?
Each site is different, but the service itself generally takes place from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. throughout the week. Trips also include various educational and community involvement activities, and groups will engage in reflection every evening. Trips also include one free day, which group members may spend as they choose.
Copenhagen is famous for its beautiful squares, innovative architecture, and safe, clean city living. As the capital of Denmark, Copenhagen is the commercial and cultural center of the country, and the largest city in Scandinavia. The city has extremely low pollution and the most common method of transportation is the bicycle. The University is dedicated to upholding its mission to “conduct research and provide further education to the highest academic level,” with approximately one hundred different institutes, laboratories, disciplines, museums and more.

- Many courses taught in English
- No language prerequisite
- Research opportunities in childhood anxiety, organizational psychology, cognitive neuroscience, brain injury rehabilitation, visual cognition, infancy, bulimia, and more
- Courses offered in psychology
- “Mentor Programme” with Copenhagen students
- Danish language and culture courses available

Located in the Rhine-Neckar Metropolitan Region, the University of Mannheim sits in the heart of Europe. It is internationally renowned as a leading center of scientific research and business education, and for its large and vibrant international student population. The combination of old castles with rich history and innovative forward-thinking research teams make this university and region an exciting and diverse place to live and study.

- Many courses taught in English
- No language prerequisite
- Research opportunities
- Courses offered in psychology
- “Buddy Programme” with Mannheim students
- Study at Mannheim Palace, the largest Baroque palace in the world
- Optional 4-week German language and culture course designed for international students

Applications for Spring programs are due September 15th (Copenhagen) and October 1st (Mannheim). Applications for Fall programs are due March 1st. For general information on Study Abroad, visit the Education Abroad Office in Building 21, Room D.
Student and Alumni News

Recent grad, **Annabel Escandon**, B.A. ’13, accepted a full-time position working for the University of Miami in the Office of Risk Management. She plans to pursue a dual Master’s in Public Health and Master’s in Public Administration at UM.

**Olivia O’Brien**, B.A. ’13, accepted a position as a Research Coordinator at the Moffitt Cancer Center in Tampa, Florida. One of the National Cancer Institute’s Comprehensive Cancer Centers, Moffitt focuses on the development of early-stage translational research aimed at rapid translation of scientific discoveries to benefit patient care.

Former PAL, **Katherine Zambrana**, B.A. ’13, is working full-time in Dr. Daniel Messinger’s laboratory as a Research Coordinator.

**Rushil Desai**, B.S. ’12, completed his Master’s in Biomedical Science and will attend Chicago Medical School at Rosalind Franklin University of Medicine and Science to pursue his M.D.

Senior psychology major, **Sara Witcraft**, will present her PRIME research on trauma and hoarding symptoms at the Society for Advancement of Chicanos and Native Americans in Science National Conference. The conference will be held in San Antonio, TX, October 3rd-6th.

**Kent Schomber** was the recipient of the 2013 Founder’s Award presented by the University of Miami/Nova Southeastern University, Center for Autism and Related Disabilities (UM/NSU CARD). The award recognizes Kent for his leadership, dedication, and commitment to CARD and the South Florida Autism Community. Kent has high-functioning Autism and has worked diligently as the Department of Psychology’s Senior Mail Clerk for 28 years. He regularly participates in CARD events, activities, and fundraisers, including the Dan Marino Walk About Autism, Autism Speaks, and Shake a Leg, and he speaks at autism awareness events in the community. Kent is a long-time attendee at CARD’s annual Tropical Nights fundraiser where he received the award in May. Be sure to say hello and congratulate Kent when you see him! Congratulations, bud!
Hello, Psychology and Neuroscience majors! The Psi Chi E-board hopes that you have all been having a fun and relaxing summer. We are ready for another productive and Psychology-filled semester.

For all of the incoming freshmen, let me tell you a little bit about what Psi Chi is all about! Psi Chi International Honor Society is an academic organization for both psychology and neuroscience majors and minors. To be inducted as a National Member to Psi Chi, students must be a psychology major or minor, have at least 9 completed credits in psychology, maintain a minimum 3.0 GPA in psychology coursework, and be ranked in the top 35% of their class. If you meet national membership eligibility you will be invited to join UM’s Psi Chi chapter during the spring semester. There are no requirements to become an Associate member! Associate members are allowed to attend general meetings as well as participate in Psi Chi events. Getting involved with Psi Chi is a great way to show your passion for and commitment to Psychology, and doesn’t hurt on an application or a resume, either!

Our first meeting is scheduled for September 4th (Psi Chi’s 84th birthday!) and we hope you can attend! The location and time will be disseminated as the date draws closer. Our meetings often include speakers from psychology and related fields, as well as GRE information from Kaplan! We are also involved in community service events, such as Gandhi Day of Service and Walk About Autism. As Psi Chi’s newest president, I hope to add a new scientific perspective to some of our meetings. We will hold a Research Recruitment Fair this fall where research faculty, their graduate students, and their research assistants (RA’s) will provide students with information about their labs, current projects, and working as an RA.

We encourage all psychology and neuroscience students to attend the Psi Chi events and to become associate members! Have a great August! If you have any questions, please contact us at umiamipsichi@gmail.com.

Hello! On behalf of The Undergraduate Neuroscience Society (TUNS) I want to welcome everyone to the start of a fabulous new school year. In case you were wondering, TUNS is a completely student-led organization revolving around the ever-fascinating field of neuroscience, but we welcome students of all majors. Each year, we host a number of special guest speakers for our club members. This year, we plan to participate in a number of service events in hopes of raising awareness for the field of neuroscience. Our goal is to ensure members have a good time and make new friends as they build relationships with university faculty and staff, opening doors for potential research and shadowing opportunities.

Thanks to our faculty advisor, Dr. Phil McCabe, and the Department of Psychology we are one of the few clubs on campus you can join that is absolutely free. Your membership includes scheduled lectures, article discussions, volunteer events, and an invitation to the student-faculty mixer.

Interested in med school or graduate school? Or do you just want to learn more about neuroscience? TUNS is perfect for you! Come join us for our first event, the annual “Meet and Greet” pizza party, in September. For questions, more information, or to be added to the list-serv, email us at umtuns@gmail.com. We are looking forward to meeting you all!
FALL 2013

Programs

Preparing for Career Expo (Hosted by Northwestern Mutual)
Thursday, September 12, 6:00 p.m.

Utilizing Toppel as an International Student
Monday, September 23, 6:00 p.m.

So You’re Not Going to Medical School?
Tuesday, September 24, 6:30 p.m.

Is Graduate School Right For Me?
Tuesday, October 15, 6:30 p.m.

Want to Get into Banking?
Tuesday, October 22, 6:00 p.m.
School of Business

Network Like a Pro: Keys to Networking in the Field of Communications
Tuesday, October 22, 6:30 p.m.

Writing the Personal Statement
Wednesday, November 13, 6:30 p.m.

CANE Explorers: Major & Career Choices
Thursday, November, 14, 6:00 p.m.

Going Abroad: Securing International Internships & Volunteer Positions
Tuesday, November 19, 6:30 p.m.

Job Search for International Students
Wednesday, November 20, 7:00 p.m.
Location TBD

Questions?
Email us at topelpeers@miami.edu or call 305-284-5451

For complete program descriptions:
www.miami.edu/toppel/cds

All programs in Toppel Library (unless noted)

Career Fairs & Events

EPIC
(Employer Practice Interviews and Critiques)
Monday, September 16, 9:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
Tuesday, September 17, 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Diversity Networking Night
Wednesday, September 18, 6:00 p.m.
Student Activities Center, West Ballroom

Fall Career Expo
Thursday, September 19, 3:00 - 7:00 p.m.
BankUnited Center
www.miami.edu/careerexpo

Majors & Minors Fairs
Monday, September 30, 3:00 - 6:00 p.m.
Wellness Center, Multi-Purpose Room B

Accounting Career Fair
Friday, October 4, 12:00 - 3:00 p.m.
BankUnited Center, Multi-Purpose Room

STEM Networking Night
Wednesday, October 23, 6:00 p.m.
Student Activities Center, West Ballroom

Communication Networking Night
Tuesday, October 29, 6:00 p.m.
School of Communication Courtyard