

**WELCOME TO THE FOURTH
ANNUAL SPR STUDENT NEWSLETTER**

This newsletter is created by the SPR Committee to Promote Student Interests and is sent to current and recent student members.

**ATTENTION FULL MEMBER
PSYCHOPHYSIOLOGISTS:
YOUR WIT AND WISDOM ARE
NEEDED!**

**ATTENTION NON-US MEMBERS:
Scroll to the bottom (see section VII) and
complete the survey to win a gift
certificate to amazon.com!**

Please click the below link, and in just a couple of minutes impart your wisdom to enhance the experience of up-and-coming psychophysiolgists!

[Click here to impart wisdom!](#)

In this special Conference Update Edition, read about:

- The upcoming SPR conference in Chicago:
 - Conference tips, awards, and events of special interest to students
 - Chicago Nightlife and Halloween Happenings
 - Career tips and events -- now and at the conference
 - Networking among Clinical Psychophysiology students
- Promoting an international community of psychophysiolgists
- How to contact members of the Committee to Promote Student Interests

I. ANNUAL SPR CONFERENCE: REGISTER NOW

It's less than two months away! This year, SPR will be held in Chicago, IL, USA from October 29 - November 2, 2003 at the Hyatt Regency, Chicago. REGISTER BY SEPTEMBER 26 to reserve a room and avoid paying late fees.

[Click here for the Conference webpage](#)

If you are looking for a roommate or if you have advice to share with others, the new message board on the SPR Student website can help.

[Click here to access the Message Board.](#)

Cat Norris has volunteered to be the student contact person for the 2003 SPR conference in Chicago. Cat attends the University of Chicago and is a member of the SPR Committee to Promote Student Interests. For the scoop on Chicago, contact her at cinorris@uchicago.edu. Also refer to the section below on Chicago highlights, including events for Halloween!

II. STUDENT POSTER AWARDS AND TURSKY AWARDS

Earn extra cash in less than 500 words—it's not too late! If you submitted an abstract by the May 1 deadline, you are eligible to apply for a student poster award. Applications for these awards are due SEPTEMBER 29. In an effort to promote career development, Student Poster Awards will be awarded to up to 15 student members at the upcoming SPR conference. A \$300-\$500 cash prize will accompany each award. Among these winners, up to three of the best posters will be given Tursky Awards, a highly honored award named after long-time SPR member Bernard Tursky. The Tursky Award comes with a plaque, and the cash prize is increased.

All winners will be called up during the conference business lunch on Saturday to receive their awards when many prominent psychophysicologists will be present. What better way is there to make your face known to established researchers who might remember you later during job talks? So, here's a way to make money doing what you were planning to do anyway, further your career goals, AND potentially win a decorative wall ornament! In the words of Past President and Tursky Award Committee Chair Margaret Bradley, **"GO FOR IT!"** She also states, "Our goal is to have all eligible students apply for this award. **IT'S EASY!"**

Click on the link below for eligibility, submission instructions and sample posters from past award winners.

[How To Apply For the Tursky Award
Instructions and Submission Deadline](#)

Congratulations to everyone who submitted a poster abstract, and good luck to those applying!

III. SPR CONFERENCE EVENTS OF SPECIAL INTEREST TO STUDENTS

Several events taking place at the October 2003 SPR conference are specially geared toward students and recent graduates. Descriptions of these events are listed below. Also refer to the conference program and inserts for specific details.

Open Dinner Meeting with the Committee to Promote Student Interests

Thursday, October 30, 2003
Location: TBA

Promote your interests! Come talk to the committee about how SPR is addressing or can better address student interests. Remember that this is an *open* dinner - all student members of SPR are welcome and encouraged to attend. Do you have questions or concerns about your role as a student member of SPR? Have a

great idea for how to improve communication among students? Want to know what we've been up to over the past year? Attend the dinner meeting and make your voice heard!

Student Social

Thursday, October 30, 2003
10 pm - 12 am

Timothy O'Toole's Pub Chicago

622 North Fairbanks Court

<http://www.timothytooles.com/>

Meet your peers! Join us for the SPR Student Social on Thursday, October 30, 2003, immediately following the poster session. In past years, student members have gathered and socialized while shooting pool at Sharx Bar in Montreal and while getting their groove on at Polly Esther's in Washington, DC. This year, we'll be heading to Timothy O'Toole's, a typical Chicago Irish pub just a few blocks north of the conference hotel. Music, pool, appetizers, and your first drink are on SPR! The student social provides an opportunity to find out about other students' research, make new friends, and see some of Chicago's nightlife!

[Click Here for a Map to the Student Social](#)

Clinical Psychophysiology Student Gathering/Special Interest Lunch

Thursday, October 30, 2003

Location: TBA

Contact: [Greg Hajcak \(hajcak@UDeI.Edu\)](mailto:hajcak@UDeI.Edu)

Clinical psychophysiologyists wanted! The Committee to Promote Student Interests has recently created a subcommittee of students interested in issues specific to Clinical Psychophysiology (see below, this issue!). Come share ideas with fellow clinical psychophysiologyists at a special interest luncheon, Thursday, October 30th, in Chicago. If you are interested in attending, please send an email to Greg Hajcak at hajcak@UDeI.Edu - we hope to see you there!

Early Careers Conversation Hour

Thursday, October 30, 2003

7:00PM

Hyatt Regency, Chicago

Water Tower meeting room (West Tower, Bronze Level)

Contact: Rebecca Houston (houston@psychiatry.uchc.edu)

Been there, done that? If not, learn from someone who has! The postdoctoral subcommittee (described below, this issue) will be hosting a conversation hour on early career issues. This will be an opportunity for students, postdocs, recent graduates and researchers to discuss a variety of personal and professional issues facing folks at the early stages of their careers. Several senior investigators have agreed to participate and share some of their advice and experiences. Everyone is welcome! Join us after dinner on Thursday, October 30th at 7:00 pm in the Water Tower meeting room (West Tower, Bronze Level) for coffee, dessert and learn more about building a successful career in psychophysiology! If you're interested in participating or would like to see a particular topic addressed, please contact Rebecca Houston (houston@psychiatry.uchc.edu).

Other Special Interest Lunches and Dinners

Thursday - Saturday

Various Times and Locations (see below for this year's topics)

Eat dinner, talk research! Throughout the SPR conference, faculty host "special interest" lunches and dinners, which focus on a wide variety of research topics and other issues relevant to both students and faculty. Last year, special interest meals were held on topics such as teaching psychophysiology, women in science, and setting up a psychophysiology lab. This year we are pleased to announce that student member Greg Hajcak is organizing a clinical psychophysiology lunch to encourage students to discuss relevant research, the challenges of simultaneously mastering clinical and psychophysiological skills, and the possibilities of collaboration! More information is listed below.

These dinners are a great opportunity to meet people with similar interests and discuss research in an informal setting. We would highly recommend that students take advantage of these special interest meals at SPR 2003! Registration for the special interest meals varies, so make sure to keep an eye out for this information - some will be advertised over email, some will be announced on the web site, and information for others will be posted on the message board at the conference.

HOST

TOPIC

Thursday Lunch

Greg Hajcak	Student subcommittee on clinical psychophysiology
Kevin Spencer	Gamma-band EEG

Thursday Dinner

Joseph Dien	Attention and Language
Stuart Brody	Psychophysiology and Sexual Behavior

Friday Lunch

Matt Stanford	Psychophysiology of Aggression/Violence
Bill Hetrick	Schizophrenia

Friday Dinner

Chris Lovelace	Multisensory psychophysiology
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Saturday Dinner

Monica Fabiani

Women in Science

IV. CHICAGO NIGHTLIFE AND HALLOWEEN HAPPENINGS

Explore the Windy City! Chicago is a fabulous city that truly has something for everyone - great food, amazing theater, incredible art and architecture, and the lakefront. Take some time to explore the area and find out what Chicago has to offer! Click the link below for a few suggestions.

[Sweet Home, Chicago](#)

Also check out <http://chicago.citysearch.com> and <http://metromix.chicagotribune.com> for ideas on how to spend your time in Chicago.

A Taste of Chicago. The Special Events Committee will be compiling a list of restaurant recommendations for Chicago, ranging from the ultra cheap to the ultra chic. The final list will be available in mid-October. In the meantime, you can search <http://chicago.citysearch.com> by cuisine, location, reviews, or other restaurant category.

Ghosts, ghouls, and goblins! In case you haven't yet noticed, SPR happens to fall over Halloween this year. Click the below link to see a short list of Halloween-themed activities in Chicago. More events will most likely pop up as the holiday draws nearer, so check chicago.citysearch.com's event listings for more details. In addition to these events, rumor has it that a group of young psychophysicists may be planning to 'haunt' a room at the Hyatt Regency Hotel on Friday night... Start planning your costume now and keep your eyes peeled for more information in the coming weeks!

[Halloween Happenings in Chicago](#)

V. UPDATE FROM THE POSTDOCTORAL "STUDENT" SUBCOMMITTEE

The postdoctoral "student" subcommittee has been developed to address the interests of those SPR members who are currently in a postdoctoral position, as well as students interested in early career/postdoctoral issues.

This Committee will be hosting a special conversation hour on early career issues for interested students, postdocs, and others (see "Events of Special Interest to Students" section above).

For those interested in a research career in psychophysiology, a postdoctoral position is frequently the next step after graduate school. Click on the first link below to read some of the most frequently asked questions concerning the early career process, along with some general advice gathered from various SPR members. The second link provides a list of helpful questions and tips for the postdoctoral interview process. (Many thanks to those who contributed!)

Frequently Asked Questions

Interview Tips

Also click on the 'Browse Old Newsletters and Interviews' link on the left to read the featured interview with SPR student member Jim Coan about going on the Job Market.

In future issues of this newsletter, look forward to words of wisdom from SPR members at large!

VI. Special Interest Section: Clinical Psychophysiology

Are you a budding psychophysiologicalist in a clinical psychology program or working with clinical populations? If you are (or would like to be), you'll be happy to know about the new Clinical Psychophysiology Subcommittee, the brainchild of student SPR member Greg Hajcak. The goal of this subcommittee is to bring together clinical psychophysiologicalists and to:

- Discuss research methodology and relevant literature
- Talk about the challenges of simultaneously mastering psychophysiological methods and enriching clinical knowledge (and the challenge of employing psychophysiological methods with some clinical populations!)
- Facilitate networking and perhaps collaborations!

Come share ideas with fellow clinical psychophysiologicalists at a special interest luncheon, Thursday, October 30th, in Chicago (listed above in the section on Events of Special Interest to Students). If you are interested in attending, please send an email to Greg Hajcak at hajcak@UDeL.Edu. In the meantime, if you have ideas for how this subcommittee could best benefit clinical psychophysiologicalists like yourself, we encourage you to email your thoughts to the Committee to Promote Student Interests (click the "Send Suggestions" link on the left).

VII. PSYCHOPHYSIOLOGY AROUND THE WORLD

The International Students Subcommittee has been hard at work cultivating the development of an international community of psychophysiologicalists. Two major efforts are underway: (1) to assess the needs of SPR's non-US members, and (2) to promote international exchange. Keep reading to learn how you can participate in these efforts!

ATTENTION NON-US STUDENT MEMBERS!!! Interested in an Amazon.com gift certificate? Then just fill out our brief survey that assesses how well SPR meets the needs of our non-US student members! You can reinforce SPR's strengths and also suggest changes you would like to see. SPR values your opinions and wants to get your thoughts on what it is like for you to be part of SPR. Just click on the following link to access the survey. All individuals completing the survey by October 1 will be entered into a drawing for a \$50 gift certificate from Amazon.com.

<http://www.uni-konstanz.de/FuF/SozWiss/fg-psy/spr/survey.html>

Any of the following individuals are invited to complete the survey:

- Current non-US student members
- Former non-US student members, including:
 - Recent degree recipients who are no longer students, regardless of whether they remained SPR members
 - Students that may have simply not renewed their membership status

If you already completed the survey, we very much appreciate your participation and wish you luck in the drawing!

Be part of an international exchange. Thanks to the efforts of Stephan Moratti from the University of Konstanz, Germany, we are proud to continue featuring the International Exchange Opportunities section of the SPR student web page. The aim of this section is to identify laboratories and graduate students who may be interested in participating in an international exchange.

The principle of such an exchange is that interested graduate students would simply swap his/her work place with that of a student from another country. Thus, with the cooperation of the participating laboratories and graduate institutions, students can be financed by their graduate program during the exchange. Of course, besides swapping work places with someone else, you can organize your own "international exchange" by contacting one of the labs that is interested in hosting a graduate researcher. Especially if you have your own funding, it is often quite easy to initiate a visit. Use the listing of labs here (see below link) to help you find a research place of interest!

Enter your profile! We encourage psychophysiological laboratories supporting international exchange to go to the link below and enter their profile. Once a list of laboratory profiles is established, graduate students can search for labs that match their geographical and research interests, and international exchange can be facilitated! Students: talk to your advisors about opening your lab to collaborators internationally!

Please enter your laboratory profile by visiting:

[The SPR International Exchange Forum](#)

This is one more step toward improving international exchange and collaboration. The planning of other international sections (e.g., postings of international workshops; including this link on the main SPR web page) is underway, so stay tuned!

VIII. MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE TO PROMOTE STUDENT INTERESTS

Are your needs being met? Please feel free to contact members of the committee below with suggestions, questions, comments, or to bond with a fellow psychophysiologicalist:

[Faculty Chair](#)

[John JB Allen](#), University of Arizona

Web Subcommittee

This subcommittee maintains and develops the SPR student website. They integrate content from other subcommittees, as well as develop new content as appropriate.

Andrea Chambers (Chair), University of Arizona
Eddie Harmon-Jones (nonstudent), University of Wisconsin
James A Coan, University of Arizona

Newsletter Subcommittee

This subcommittee updates and prepares the semi-annual newsletter. The newsletter highlights items of special interest to students, and is timed to go out to members in electronic form in April, and again in August. These deadlines are timed with respect to two major SPR events that the newsletter can highlight for students: May 1 is the deadline for submitting an abstract, and the fall SPR meeting is in most often October, with student poster competition deadlines about one month prior to the meeting. The newsletter will highlight activities of other committees (e.g., Interview), as well as develop content as the committee sees fit.

Nicole A Roberts (Chair), University of California-Berkeley
Jennifer L. Stewart, University of Illinois
Rebecca J. Houston (postdoctoral student), University of Connecticut
Terrance Williams, University of California-Los Angeles
Marja Germans Gard, University of California-Berkeley
Sarah Sass, University of Illinois

Interview Subcommittee

This subcommittee will interview two SPR members per year. During the past year, Stephan Moratti conducted a very nice interview with Brigitte Rockstroh, and Sarah Sass conducted an interview with student member Jim Coan about going on the job market. We have a list of questions that was developed with the assistance of many members, and one that can form the core of any interview, with additional questions to be added as appropriate. Committee members aim to interview a balance of seasoned faculty and post-doctoral fellows or new faculty. The interviews ideally are completed in time to be highlighted in each newsletter.

Sarah Sass (Chair), University of Illinois
Stephan Moratti, University of Konstanz
James A Coan, University of Arizona
Greg Hajcak, University of Delaware
Catherine J. Norris, University of Chicago

International Students Subcommittee

International students comprise a substantial proportion of the student membership, but also appear to be less likely to remain members after graduation. There are likely a variety of factors responsible, but the International Students Subcommittee can examine ways in which SPR can better address the needs of international students. Stephan Moratti developed an international exchange web page that allows interested labs to host students from other laboratories. Worth considering is that the 2005 meeting is in Lisbon Portugal. As that meeting draws near, one of the things the subcommittee can do is to make sure that student needs and interests are anticipated for this European meeting. The last European meeting in Granada Spain was very popular and appeared to attract many European students.

Stephan Moratti (Chair), University of Konstanz
Ake Elden (nonstudent), Louis Pasteur University Strasbourg

Greg Hajcak, University of Delaware

Post-doctoral "Student" Subcommittee

Postdoctoral students have specific needs that overlap with those of student members. Recent efforts of our committee led to a reduced fee structure for recent graduates, but surely there are other issues that our committee might address.

Jonathan Wynn (Co-Chair; postdoctoral student), University of Southern California

Rebecca J. Houston (Co-Chair; postdoctoral student), University of Connecticut

Peter J. Gianaros, University of Pittsburgh

Nicole A. Roberts, University of California-Berkeley

Meeting Events Subcommittee

Each year we attempt to find a local student host for the annual meeting. This local host finds info on cheap eats, cheap excursions, and cheap transportation to the hotel. The student host also assists in finding a place for the SPR sponsored student social, and does whatever else seems appropriate to make the conference fun, informative, and affordable for students.

Catherine J. Norris (Chair), University of Chicago

Sarah Sass, University of Illinois

Jennifer L. Stewart, University of Illinois

Program Committee Representative

Each year one of our student members sits on the program committee to ensure that the student voice is represented. This position also allows the student member to get an inside glimpse of the meeting planning, involves reviewing abstracts, and begets the immense gratitude of the membership.

Colleen Brenner, Indiana University

Clinical Psychophysiology Subcommittee

Students enrolled in clinical programs face an additional set of demands and concerns, and this new subcommittee is working to provide a forum for discussing these issues. Topics of interest include discussing clinical applications of psychophysiology (especially new paradigms, etc) and issues specific to being in clinical programs while conducting psychophysiological research (e.g., accruing clinical hours, applying for internships, post-docs, etc.). The committee is hosting a special interest lunch at this year's annual meeting.

Greg Hajcak (Chair), University of Delaware

Terrance Williams, University of California-Los Angeles

Nicole A Roberts, University of California-Berkeley

Jennifer L. Stewart, University of Illinois

Rebecca J. Houston (postdoctoral student), University of Connecticut

Sarah Sass, University of Illinois

Colleen Brenner, Indiana University

Stephan Moratti, University of Konstanz

Ake Elden (nonstudent), Clinical Neuroscience Research Centre, UK

Marja Germans Gard, University of California-Berkeley

Thanks for visiting the Newsletter!

Click <http://psychoserver.psych.arizona.edu/SPRStudent>
to return to the SPR Student Web Homepage