

# Welcome to the Seventeenth Semi-Annual SPR Student Newsletter

## Spring 2011, Volume 17

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

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### I. BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS: UPCOMING ANNUAL SPR CONFERENCE

This year, SPR will be held in Boston, Massachusetts from September 14 – 18, 2011 at the Westin Boston Waterfront. We look forward to seeing you all there! Please take the time to read though information about the upcoming meeting and some of the exciting things that we are working on bringing to this year's meeting.

#### ***SPR award/grant opportunities that students are potentially eligible for include:***

***Calling all exciting student research! Submit your abstracts for the Student Poster Award!*** – Be sure to submit your abstracts so you can be eligible for a Student Poster Award. These awards are based on merit, judged at the conference and winners are announced at the SPR Business Luncheon. What a great opportunity to boost your CV and get the recognition you deserve. Make sure you check the appropriate boxes when submitting your abstract to ensure you are entered into the competition! Students must be first author on an accepted poster submission. Remember, abstracts are due April 1, 2011!

***Apply for the SPR Student Travel Award program*** – The SPR Student Travel Award program will again be in place this year. The intent of the SPR Student Travel Awards is to assist students without other means of travel support to attend and present research at the SPR annual meeting. For the 2011 meeting in Boston, 30 awards will be available for student members presenting at the SPR meeting. Among these 30 awards,

15 will be reserved for North American members (\$500) and 15 for non-North American members (\$1000). These awards are determined through a lottery drawing from all eligible entrants. To be included in the lottery for one of these awards, simply complete the brief online application on the SPR website at the time of abstract submission. This application is embedded within the abstract submission page. Any student member who lives further than 500 miles from Boston and is the first author on a poster or paper accepted for presentation at the SPR annual meeting is potentially eligible (see details for additional restrictions). Be sure to include your advisor's name and email address for additional eligibility verification. Current SPR members must be up to date with dues, but prospective members that apply and pay dues by the time of poster or paper submission deadline will be eligible. Questions about the Student Travel Awards can be sent to Rebecca Houston ([rhouston@ria.buffalo.edu](mailto:rhouston@ria.buffalo.edu)). [Click here for more details.](#)

***Travel grants for psychophysicologists from Latin America, Asia, and Eastern Europe –***

Psychophysicologists (including students!) from these geographical areas who are first authors on an accepted submission are eligible to apply for these special travel grants. The aim of the SPR travel grant program is to help psychophysicologists from developing countries in Latin America, Asia, and Eastern Europe become members of the SPR and participate actively in its annual meetings. The awards include travel funds, free registration for the 2011 conference, and free SPR membership for 2011. A large number of grants are available, but applications are evaluated competitively based on merit, geographical distribution and other factors. [Click here for details.](#)

***SPR will again be sponsoring the SPR Research Fellowship Training Awards –*** These awards allow students or postdocs to obtain mentorship/training in psychophysiological assessment/analysis with experts in the field, which they could not get at their home institution. Applications will be due August 1, 2011 and the new application packet should be available on the SPR website in late spring. So watch for updates!

***Opportunities to Meet and Mingle –*** Don't forget that there are plenty of opportunities to meet and mingle with other SPR students and members. Here is just a brief sampling of some of the special interest lunches, dinners, and meetings in the works:

***The Student Social –*** A “can't miss”! Time and location will be finalized as the meeting draws near.

***Roommate Matching–*** Looking to save some money at the meeting by sharing a room with another student? The Committee to Promote Student Interests provides roommate matching where possible. If interested, please email Robin Nusslock ([nusslock@gmail.com](mailto:nusslock@gmail.com)).

**Pre-Conference Workshop Information**

Three pre-conference workshops will be offered at the 2011 SPR Annual Meeting. All pre-conference sessions will be held on Wednesday, September 28. Register for a pre-conference when you register for the 2011 SPR annual meeting.

***Pre-Conference #1 – ERP Mini-Boot Camp*** (2-day; Led by Steve Luck).

***Pre-Conference #2 – Genetics and epigenetics*** (1-day; Led by Eco de Geus, additional speakers include Gareth Davie, Benjamin Neale, Andrew Brooks, and Ahmad Hariri).

***Pre-Conference #3 – Eye-tracking and pupillometry*** (1-day; Led by Frank Marchak).

***The Open Dinner Meeting with the Committee to Promote Student Interests -*** Do you have suggestions for improvements in student outreach? Looking to bolster your CV with service to our organization? Would you like to work with one of our many subcommittees on issues relevant to your research? The Committee to Promote Student Interests hosts an annual dinner at every SPR meeting. All SPR student members are welcome to attend. Please come with your appetite and opinions! The time, date and location will be announced as the meeting gets closer.

**Early Career Conversation Hour (Thursday, September 15th from 8:15 – 10:15 p.m.)**– Don't miss this opportunity to discuss early career issues with some of SPR's leading scientists! During the first hour, the entire panel will be available for questions. During the second hour, we will split into three groups to allow for more specific questions based on career phase - early and late graduate school, postdocs, and junior faculty. The panel will consist of faculty (yet to be determined) from a variety of institutions, including those in and outside the US. A casual dinner will be served. Advance registration is requested, so please register by contacting Robin Nusslock ([nusslock@northwestern.edu](mailto:nusslock@northwestern.edu)).

**Roundtable Discussions** – The roundtable discussions provide an opportunity to discuss a topic of particular interest with experts on the subject in an informal setting (and with free lunch!). The roundtables will be offered once again at the meeting in Boston, and the Education and Training Committee is interested in receiving topic and facilitator suggestions. Suggestions should be sent (ideally by March 1st) to Bruce Friedman ([bhfriedm@vt.edu](mailto:bhfriedm@vt.edu)) and Carien van Reekum ([c.vanreecum@reading.ac.uk](mailto:c.vanreecum@reading.ac.uk)), the committee members who are coordinating that event.

**Special Interest Lunches & Dinners** – At the upcoming annual meeting there will be a special interest lunch for people from primarily undergraduate institutions (PUI). This is meant to be an event to bring together faculty and students to discuss issues faced by PUI psychophysiologicalists. Watch the SPR website for any other special interest lunches or dinners that may be added to the schedule.

**Teaching Psychophysiology** – The Education and Training Committee is currently developing a set of teaching materials to be used for courses in psychophysiology, which can be accessed through the SPR website: <http://www.sprweb.org/teaching/index.cfm>. If any students have suggestions for specific materials or topics that would facilitate their learning of psychophysiology, suggestions can be sent to Heather Urry ([heather.urry@tufts.edu](mailto:heather.urry@tufts.edu)).

**Women in Science and Education Lunch Box Discussion** – The Committee to Promote Student Interests will hold the 6th annual Women in Science luncheon at the Boston 2011 meeting. The focus of this lunch is on promoting membership retention among diverse populations in SPR. Past topics have included: coordinating dual careers in academia, negotiation, and women in leadership.

If you would like to join this committee, and/or have ideas for this year's luncheon theme, please contact Erika Henry at [erika.henry@colorado.edu](mailto:erika.henry@colorado.edu) or Sarah Lust at [salxr6@mail.mizzou.edu](mailto:salxr6@mail.mizzou.edu). All members of SPR (men and women) are encouraged to participate!

If you would like to join the W.I.S.E. listserv, please email John Hofmann ([jhofmann@reesgroupinc.com](mailto:jhofmann@reesgroupinc.com)) of SPR's management group with the subject "Subscribe SPR-WISE." Once you have signed up, you can share your ideas regarding how SPR might best serve its female members and participate in engaging email discussions covering a wide range of topics (e.g., career development, quality of life, mentoring, diversity, etc.).

## **II. Boston, HERE WE COME! SIGHTS TO SEE, THINGS TO DO!**

Check out a list of things to do in Boston, compiled by fellow SPR members. This list includes information about museums, entertainment, attractions, places to eat, places to drink, and a couple locations that are truly local ([Boston Things to-do.doc](#)).

## **III. UPDATE FROM THE INTERVIEW SUBCOMMITTEE**

The interview subcommittee interviewed [David Amodio](#) for the SPR member interview.

## **IV. UPDATE FROM THE POST-DOCTORAL/EARLY CAREER SUBCOMMITTEE**

We would like to extend our great appreciation to Catherine Norris and Christine Larson for their service on this committee. Colleen Brenner and Robin Nusslock will be taking over as co-chairs of this committee. Best wishes to each of you in your new endeavors.

## **V. UPDATE FROM THE CLINICAL PSYCHOPHYSIOLOGY SUBCOMMITTEE**

Are you interested in research that integrates psychophysiology and clinical science? Do you conduct basic psychophysiology or fMRI research that has clinical applications? Do you employ psychophysiology or fMRI methods to study clinical populations? If you answered "yes" to any of these questions, you should consider joining the Clinical Psychophysiology Subcommittee. The aims of this committee are to create networking opportunities among clinical psychophysiolgists, to facilitate discussions about clinical applications of psychophysiology and fMRI research, and to stimulate collaborations among clinical psychophysiolgists across the globe. If you are interested in joining the Clinical Psychophysiology Subcommittee, please contact Julie Hall ([halljl@umich.edu](mailto:halljl@umich.edu))!

## **VI. MEMBERS OF THE SPR COMMITTEE TO PROMOTE STUDENT INTERESTS**

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

<http://www.sprweb.org/student/contact/index.cfm>

## **VII. ERP BOOTCAMP – UC-DAVIS (APPLICATION DEADLINE MARCH 1ST ,2011)**

The UC-Davis ERP Boot Camp, an NIH-funded summer workshop on the ERP technique, will be held July 11-20 2011. Please forward this announcement to students, postdocs, and faculty who might be interested in attending. (For additional information, see [erpinfo.org/the-erp-bootcamp](http://erpinfo.org/the-erp-bootcamp)).

The ERP Boot Camp is a 10-day introduction to the ERP technique held each summer at UC Davis. It is intended for beginning and intermediate ERP researchers, and for both basic scientists and clinical/translational researchers.

The topics will include:

- 1) Where do ERPs come from? What do they mean?
- 2) ERP components
- 3) The design and interpretation of ERP experiments
- 4) EEG data acquisition
- 5) Filtering, artifact rejection, and artifact correction
- 6) Measuring and analyzing ERP components
- 7) ERP localization
- 8) Time-frequency analysis
- 9) Setting up and running an ERP lab

The Boot Camp consists of lectures on these topics, structured discussions, individual consultations, and a substantial laboratory component. It is led by Steve Luck, and the faculty includes many distinguished ERP researchers from UC Davis and other universities.

Participants at previous Boot Camps have come from around the world and have ranged from beginning graduate students to full professors. They have included psychologists, neuroscientists, psychiatrists, neurologists, and speech pathologists. Typically, we expect that students and postdocs should have had at least 6 months of significant ERP (or related) experience before attending the Boot Camp.

We strongly encourage the participation of individuals from underrepresented groups.

Funding is available from NIMH to defray some or all of the costs of attending the Boot Camp, and scholarships will be provided to all participants who are U.S. citizens or permanent residents. Unfortunately, scholarships are not available for international participants. We typically accept 25-28 U.S. citizens and permanent residents, along with 2-5 international participants.

The application consists of a CV, a 1-2 page statement of background and interests, and (for students and postdocs) a letter of recommendation.

Applications for the 2011 session are now being accepted at [erpinfo.org/the-erp-bootcamp](http://erpinfo.org/the-erp-bootcamp). Applications are due on March 1, 2011.

Questions should be directed to [erpbootcamp@gmail.com](mailto:erpbootcamp@gmail.com).