Engaging Underrepresented Students in Interdisciplinary Developmental Research Experiences

Introduction

This project financially supported five undergraduate women who are typically underrepresented in science engaged in interdisciplinary research activities in summer 2024. Specifically, they were involved in research inspired by social neuroscience, family sociology, and developmental psychology to better understand how families contribute to the well-being of teenagers. Students contributed to the Texas Sibling Study, a longitudinal study of families with two teenage siblings. Students actively engaged in tasks including participant retention and scheduling; collecting data using neuropsychology tasks, video-taped behavioral observations, surveys, psychological assessments, and physiological data; conducting data quality checks; transcribing and coding behavioral data; and conducting analyses for their independent research questions.

Student Voice

"I aim to gain hands-on research experience, especially in analyzing qualitative data from interviews, and to conduct independent investigations. The lab's blend of psychology and neuroscience, combined with a supportive environment led by Dr. Rogers and the team, aligns with my interests and career goals. Plus, the stipend will cover

Student started coding project to assess hostility and warmth between adolescent siblings in chats.

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Experien

native

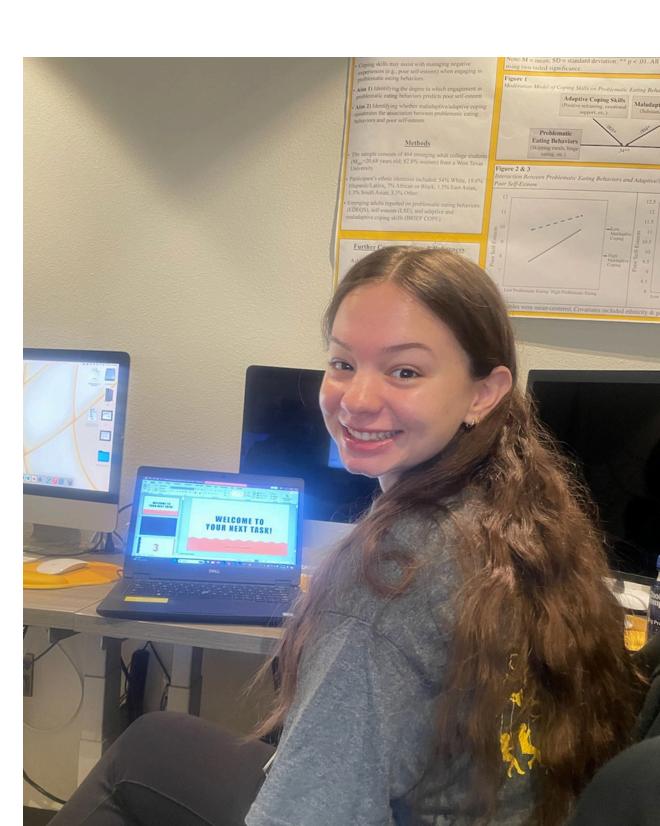
Faculty Voice

my summer rent."

-- Julia Whitson

fall.

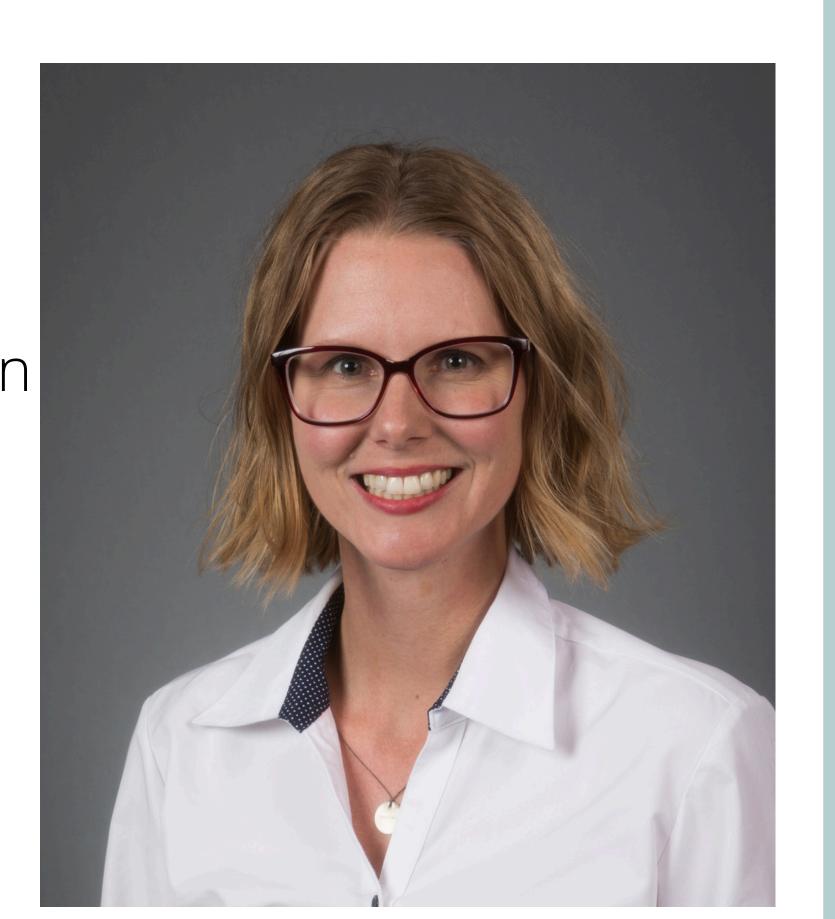




Students independently administer surveys, observations, neuropsych tasks, and heart rate monitoring.



"This experience has transformed us, empowering us as underrepresented women in science to engage deeply in research and collaborate with families on meaningful projects." -- Christy Rogers





Faculty: Christy Rogers



remain in the lab to work with the remaining families in the study.

Impacts/Results/Products/To Date Progress

Gabbey Sloan received a \$1,000 internal grant to fund her project examining the link between sibling hostility and adolescent wellbeing. She will present her findings at the TrUE Undergraduate



Students: Mikayla Hesseltine, Rey Shatto,

Julia Whitson, Gabbey Sloan, Montse Ramirez

Research Conference in Spring 2025. Our Texas Sibling Study has **Transformers**





Support more than oneStrong potential forIntentionally Recruitedundergraduate studentcontinuation post-grantUnderrepresented Students