

STUDENT AWARDS FROM TORONTO!

Student Research Development Award (SRDA)

Mirte Brom

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I am completing my PhD at the Leiden University Medical Centre under the supervision of Dr. Stephanie Both, and will graduate this fall. My doctoral research examined the underlying (neurobiological) mechanisms of sexual arousal and motivation. Recently, my research team and I demonstrated that D-Cycloserine (DCS) makes sexual extinction memories context-independent and prevents the return of sexual response. The IASR SRDA enables me to further explore if DCS can also be used to enhance newly learned sexual associations. In case DCS indeed also facilitates sexual conditioning memory consolidation, these findings may lead us to ask whether administration of DCS directly after successful exposures to sexually rewarding stimuli and events during cognitive behavioural therapy may enhance sexual memory formation, and herewith may be a promising avenue to improving therapy for disorders of low sexual interest and arousal.



Student Research Development Award (SRDA)

Lanna Petterson

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I am currently pursuing my PhD at the University of Lethbridge under the supervision of Dr. Paul Vasey. My doctoral research will examine male sexual orientation using a cross-cultural perspective. Specifically, much of my doctoral work will investigate the sexual orientation of men in Samoa who engage in sexual activity with transgender males, known as fa'afafine. This research will contribute to our understanding of how culture shapes male sexual orientation in addition to shedding light on the way in which male sexual orientation is structured and organized.



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Best Student Poster: Morag Yule (Pictured right)

Poster: Masturbation and sexual fantasy among asexual individuals: An in depth exploration

Research institution and program: UBC Clinical Psychology

Focus of research: Morag's current research seeks to investigate the correlates of asexuality, including investigation of mental health and interpersonal functioning, physical health and development, sexual behaviours and desire, and sexual fantasy and masturbation of asexual individuals.

Number of years attending IASR meetings: This was her second IASR meeting. Her first was IASR Vancouver (in 2007), which was also her first ever sexuality conference!

Best Senior Poster: Laura Baams (Pictured center)

Poster: Puberty, popularity, and intimate relationships among early adolescents: Longitudinal findings in the Netherlands

Research institution and program: Developmental Psychology at Utrecht University

Focus of research: In her postdoc Laura does research on the development of negative attitudes toward gender and sexual diversity, and how LGBT youth's mental health and well-being is affected by rejection and stigma.

Number of years attending IASR meetings: She attended the IASR meetings in 2011, 2012, and 2015.



Best Brief Communication: Tierney Lorenz (Pictured second from left)

Talk: Sexual activity moderates shifts in Th1/Th2 cytokine profile across the ovarian cycle

Research institution and program: The Kinsey Institute and the Center for Integrative Study of Animal Behavior, both of which are at Indiana University.

Focus of research: Tierney's research investigates the interaction between health and sexuality – including sexual behavior and reproduction.

Number of years attending IASR meetings: With a few exceptions, she has attended IASR meetings since 2008.



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Best Student Manuscript

Jackie S. Huberman & Meredith L. Chivers

Different Devices, Same Story? Using Thermography and Plethysmography to Examine Gender-specificity of Sexual Response in Women and Men

7jh6@queensu.ca



Jackie Presenting her award-winning paper (Dr. Meredith Chivers, looking extremely proud, not pictured).

I am interested in better understanding women's and men's sexual responses, including differences and similarities in the processing of sexual information. This manuscript is a product of my Master's thesis and was recently published in *Psychophysiology* (10.1111/psyp.12466). There is substantial evidence to suggest a gender difference in the gender-specificity of genital responses; however, this pattern has only been demonstrated using genital measures that may assess different aspects of genital vasocongestion in women and men. Using concurrent measures of plethysmography and thermography, we found that men's sexual responses were gender-specific and women's were gender-nonspecific – this pattern was consistent across measures and across time. Our findings extend knowledge of gendered sexual response and highlight the utility of multimethod approaches in sexual psychophysiology studies. For my doctoral research, I will continue using multimethod approaches, with a focus on improving our understanding of women's sexual responses and sexual difficulties.

A BIG THANK YOU TO THE PREVIOUS IASR STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE, SARAH BELL!



We are indebted to the work of Sarah Bell, who is our outgoing IASR Student Representative. For the past several years, Sarah served an invaluable role as a liaison between student members of IASR and the senior administration of the Academy. We thank Sarah for her great work and wish her luck with the remainder of her graduate program at the University of Michigan!



STUDENT MEMBER BIOS

Megan Sawatsky; msawa023@uottawa.ca

I am a PhD student in clinical psychology at the University of Ottawa in Canada, working under the supervision of Dr. Martin Lalumière. My research interests include the assessment of typical and atypical sexual preferences and behavior, and the psychophysiology of sexual arousal. My PhD research focuses on developing novel measures to assess physiological sexual responses in men and women in order to test fundamental hypotheses about the human sexual response.

Recent publication: Sawatsky, M. L., Dawson, S. J., & Lalumière, M. L. (in press). Consensual victim-perpetrator intercourse following nonconsensual sex: The role of prior relationship. *Journal of Sex Research*. doi: 10.1080/00224499.2014.996279

Alexandra Zidenberg; azidenberg@laurentian.ca

I am a Master of Arts student at Laurentian University in the experimental psychology program. My research activity has focused on sexual coercion and other forms of sexual violence, sexuality, and alcohol facilitated sexual offending. My research interests, however, are broad and include multiple areas including: forensic psychology, social psychology, and populations with disabilities.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A reminder that **Student Dues** are \$50 per year and will be due on **Feb. 1, 2016** for all student members. (New student members who join **after** the conference do not need to pay their first dues until Feb. 1.) You must be in good standing (having paid your student dues) to be eligible for the student registration rate for the conference and for awards/prizes such as the SRDA and Best Student Manuscript. Students who did not pay 2015 dues will be asked to pay them retrospectively when registering for the 2016 conference or applying for awards (that is, if you are behind on dues, you will be asked to pay up to two years of dues — a limit of \$75 total — to be fair to those students who did pay dues this year). Remember that this nominal fee of \$50 per year not only helps offset the discounted student conference rate, but also makes you eligible to apply for student awards and allows you access to the IASR website, the newsletter, and the listserv! Thanks for your help in keeping IASR membership benefits accessible to current and future students!

Upcoming deadlines for Student Awards:

- Best Student Manuscript – **February 1st 2016**
- Student Research Development Award – **May 1st 2016**



IASR NEW STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE BIOS

Katy Renfro

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I am a fifth year doctoral candidate in Kim Wallen's lab at Emory University in Atlanta, Georgia. I am broadly interested in the relationship between gonadal steroids and behavior. Within this field, I focus specifically on how women's use of oral contraceptives is related to their neural, affective, and behavioral responses to social and sexual stimuli. The work of a number of IASR members – both student and senior – has informed my approach to these research questions. I am excited to be able to engage more fully with the IASR community through my new role as a student representative.



Scott Semenyra

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I'm currently wrapping up my MSc in Psychology under the supervision of Dr. Paul Vasey at the University of Lethbridge, in Alberta, Canada. My thesis work has focused on the factors that predict victimization due to bullying in same-sex attracted males. Looking forward, my PhD research will focus on various aspects of mate competition, with a special emphasis the moderating role culture plays in the mate competition that occurs both between and among men, women, and individuals who identify as belonging to third-gender categories. I feel excited and privileged to have the opportunity to represent the student members of IASR. To help us in filling that role, please don't hesitate to contact either Katy or myself if you have questions, concerns, comments, suggestions, ideas, or are just looking for information.

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

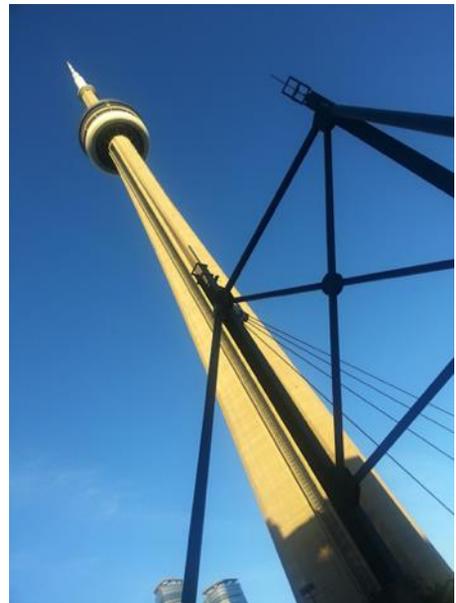
We are always looking for contributions to the student newsletter – whether they be photographic, textual, or purely conceptual. Two great ways to contribute are to propose an idea for the front-page article or to submit a student bio. This is a newsletter for the students, so we are always happy to hear what you would like to see featured on the front page. And a student bio can be a great way to introduce yourself to other members of the IASR community. If you would like to contribute to upcoming newsletters, please email your student representatives!



MOMENTS FROM TORONTO!



A SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR LOCAL HOST – TREVOR HART (PICTURED ABOVE, CENTER)!



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