

Award Roster

Behavioral Sciences Student Fellowship FY2004

Name: Heidi A. Bender , M.A.
Institution: New York University
Project: *Comparing the clinical utility of behavior rating scales and a diagnostic interview in pediatric epilepsy*
Preceptor: Charles M. Zaroff, Ph.D.

The primary goal of this study is to evaluate the relationship between a structured diagnostic interview and five commonly administered parent and self-report behavior rating scales in children with epilepsy.

Name: Kyle Capizzi
Institution: Rosalind Franklin University of Medicine and Science
Project: *Quantitative MRI evaluation of age of acquisition effects on naming in temporal lobe epilepsy*
Preceptor: Michael Seidenberg, Ph.D.

In summary, this investigation will examine object naming, a commonly occurring cognitive problem in TLE. The purpose of the project is to characterize age of acquisition effects in left and right TLE groups, and to investigate the relationship between quantitative MRI abnormalities in discrete temporal lobe regions to these naming problems. Specifically, this proposal will: 1) Contrast the confrontation naming performance of right and left TLE groups to healthy controls as a function of age acquisition of the word concept. 2) Examine the relationship between naming ability across different periods of age of acquisition and MRI temporal lobe volume (hippocampus and lateral temporal lobe).

Name: Rima Dolgoff-Kaspar
Institution: Queens College, City University of New York
Project: *An investigation of psychological symptoms in persons with partial epilepsy*
Preceptor: Kenneth Perinne, Ph.D.

We hope to learn whether patients with epilepsy have any patterns in personality style or belief systems, particularly relating to religion and spirituality, and whether these characteristics are related to where their seizures originate in the brain. In order to determine this, the volunteers in this study would agree to be interviewed by research staff and to fill out questionnaires. Involvement in this study also involves a review of the study participant's neurological records in order to determine details about the patient's epilepsy.

Name: Jared Morton
Institution: Rosalind Franklin University of Medicine and Science
Project: *Negative symptoms in temporal lobe epilepsy: A longitudinal study of cognition and quality of life*
Preceptor: Bruce Hermann, Ph.D.

The study that I propose to conduct through the Epilepsy Foundation Student Fellowship will allow me to further investigate the link between TLF and negative symptoms. This research is important because of the significant deleterious impact that negative symptom syndromes have on affected individuals. Furthermore, this research may be beneficial to others with neurological conditions that are also suffering from negative symptoms.