The Distinguished Lecture Series in Educational Neuroscience

2016-17 Theme: Breaking Down Barriers

This lecture series honors world renowned scientists and aims to form a bridge between science and society.

Dr. Nathan Fox
University of Maryland
The effects of deprivation on the developing brain and behavior: Lessons from the Bucharest Early Intervention Project

September 15, 2016 / 4-5:30 pm

Dr. Marina Bedny
Johns Hopkins University
Nature and nurture in human brain development: Insights from studies with blind individuals

November 10, 2016 / 4-5:30 pm

Dr. Andrew Meltzoff
University of Washington
Minds, brains, and how children learn: From infants to society

February 16, 2017 / 4-5:30 pm

Dr. Joy Hirsch
Yale School of Medicine
The new neuroscience of “two”: Communicating eye-to-eye

February 23, 2017 / 4-5:30 pm

Dr. Sian Beilock
University of Chicago
Overcoming anxiety about math

April 20, 2017 / 4-5:30 pm

All lectures will be held in the Merrill Learning Center Room B111 on the Gallaudet Campus and will be live streamed and archived at http://webcast.gallaudet.edu.
Presenters

The Distinguished Lecture Series in Educational Neuroscience honors researchers who have changed the landscape of science. We invite them to share their discoveries with us as we forge new links between research communities within Gallaudet University, Washington D.C., and the world.

About This Year’s Presenters

This high-profile lecture series honors our presenters—true pioneers in science who work at the intersection of the Science of Learning (learning across the lifespan) and Educational Neuroscience (learning across early life). This year’s theme, “Breaking Down Barriers,” showcases work investigating how the human brain achieves its maximum potential in response to changing environments, as well as neuroimaging techniques that allow these researchers to ask questions that were previously thought unanswerable. Our esteemed speakers include experts in the fields of cognitive neuroscience, developmental cognitive neuroscience, and child development, broadly defined.

About the PhD in Educational Neuroscience Program

As an outgrowth of our mission to educate the next generation of student scholars, the Gallaudet-NSF Science of Learning Center, VL2, has given rise to the new PhD in Educational Neuroscience (PEN) program. The PhD in Educational Neuroscience Program encompasses how humans learn, spanning early child development and adults, with a special interest in the neuroplasticity of visually-guided learning processes subserving higher cognition. The PEN program at Gallaudet further provides a unique strength in, and contribution to, pioneering advances in the learning and education of young visual learners.

For more information: www.gallaudet.edu/educational_neuroscience

Dr. Nathan A. Fox, Ph.D

Nathan A. Fox is Distinguished University Professor at the University of Maryland. He conducts research on the biological bases of social and emotional behavior developing methods for assessing brain activity in infants and young children during tasks designed to elicit a range of emotions. His work on the temperamental antecedents of anxiety is funded by the National Institutes of Health where he was awarded a MERIT award for excellence of his research program. He also works in the area of the effects of early experience on brain and behavior with particular emphasis on the study of early adversity. He is one of three Principal Investigators of the Bucharest Early Intervention Program.  The PhD in Educational Neuroscience Program encompasses how humans learn, spanning early child development and adults, with a special interest in the neuroplasticity of visually-guided learning processes subserving higher cognition. The PEN program at Gallaudet further provides a unique strength in, and contribution to, pioneering advances in the learning and education of young visual learners.

Dr. Andrew N. Meltzoff, Ph.D

Andrew N. Meltzoff is the Job and Gertrud Tamaki Endowed Chair and is the Co-Director of the University of Washington Institute for Learning & Brain Sciences. He is an internationally renowned expert on infant and child development. Dr. Meltzoff's pioneering research on young children has had profound implications for cognitive science, especially for ideas about memory and its development; for brain science, especially for ideas about common coding and shared neural circuits for perception and action; and for early education and parenting, particularly for ideas about the importance of role models, both adults and peers, and how cultural stereotypes influence child development. He is the co-author of two books about early learning and the brain: 'The Scientist in the Crib: What Early Learning Tells Us about the Mind' (Morrow Press, 2000) and 'Words, Thoughts and Theories' (MIT Press, 1997).

Dr. Joy Hirsch, Ph.D

Joy Hirsch, is a Professor of Psychiatry and Neurobiology, and the director of the new Brain Function Laboratory at the Yale School of Medicine. Her current research aims to understand the nature of the relationships between two brains during live communications and the translation of these advances to serve medical applications. These new investigations open a novel era of neural investigations that focus on multiple interacting brains rather than the more traditional approaches focused on single brains. Professor Hirsch has published over 120 peer-reviewed scientific papers and chapters, is a popular world-wide lecturer on the brain, and served as a curator for the 2010-2011 Brain Exhibit at the American Museum of Natural History. She was awarded the prestigious Gannow Science prize for her accomplishments in science and was one of the five women scientists featured in the 2011 World Science Festival.

Dr. Marina Bedny, Ph.D

Marina Bedny, Ph.D., is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Psychological & Brain Sciences at Johns Hopkins University. Dr. Bedny is also the director of her own research lab, which focuses on studying how developmental experiences shape the human brain. Her research uses functional neuroimaging to compare the minds and brains of people with different developmental experiences. One line of research focuses on investigating cortical neuroplasticity in the brains of congenitally blind and late-blind individuals, with the goal of understanding how their visual cortices reorganize in light of different perceptual inputs. Dr. Bedny's work has resulted in dozens of peer-reviewed articles, and has been covered in major news outlets such as The Guardian, The Baltimore Sun, and Discover Magazine.

Dr. Sian Beilock, Ph.D

Sian Beilock, Ph.D., is one of the world’s leading experts on the neuroscience behind “chooking under pressure” and the many brain and body factors influencing all types of performance. Her research explores the cognitive and neural substrates driving learning as well as the mechanisms by which performance breaks down in high-stress or high-pressure situations. In addition to answering basic questions about cognition, she aims to inform educational practice and policy. Dr. Beilock’s research is routinely covered in the media (e.g., CNN, New York Times, NPR, Wall Street Journal), she was highlighted as one of four “Rising Stars” across all academic disciplines by the Chronicle of Higher Education in 2005, and she received a prestigious award for Transformative Early Career Contributions from the Association for Psychological Science in 2011.

Dr. Sian Beilock, Ph.D