

# THE CAROLINA AUTISM AND NEURODEVELOPMENT RESEARCH CENTER

## OCTOBER NEWSLETTER

### VISITING SCIENTIST: SUSAN WHITE



October 27

🕒 1 - 2 PM

💻 Virtual

See schedule pg. 4!

Tune in to learn about Dr. White's research studying developmental psychology and autism interventions! Small-group faculty meetings and a drop-in trainee meeting will also be available. More info pg 4!

### HEART ACTIVITY SERIES TALK

October 12

🕒 9 - 10am

📍 Institute for Mind and Brain

Dr. Bridgette Kelleher, Purdue University, will give a talk about her research on heart-rate. More info pg. 6!

### Community Opportunities

Each month, the CAN Research Center attends community events to share research opportunities, resources, and information.

See pg. 9 for our **October event schedule**. Email [can@sc.edu](mailto:can@sc.edu) to sign up!



### CAN CV Panel Highlights



**The CAN Trainee Committee** hosted a CV publishing panel and workshop! Check out pg. 7 to see highlights.



# Happy October!



Caitlin Hudac  
CAN Steering Director  
[chudac@mailbox.sc.edu](mailto:chudac@mailbox.sc.edu)

Cheers,

*Caitlin*

## A MESSAGE FROM OUR STEERING DIRECTOR

This semester we have launched our weekly (-ish) **CAN Science meeting** (virtual Wednesdays @ 8 am) to great success! The goal is to provide a platform for describing works-in-progress -- including new data, grants in development, or existing scientific problems. Personally, despite being a night owl, I've really loved the engagement from CAN Science attendees. Thank you so much for your questions and ideas!

We are also moving steadily towards our first **Community Advisory Board (CAB)**! Stay tuned next month for more details about the CAN CAB, including the members who have agreed to serve a one-year term. This year, the CAB will be run by myself and Dr. Jessica Bradshaw. We are currently open to any suggestions for how to make that less of a mouthful!

I encourage everyone to check out Page 9 -- there are a lot of fantastic opportunities to **join us out in the community** this month.

Lastly, send us your **Halloween photos and other accomplishments** to be featured in our November edition!

## New CAN Intern!

Sarai Deese is a CAN intern who organizes events and communicates scientific findings to the public. She is a third year BARSC (Neurodevelopment and Minority Studies) in the honors college. She has a medical response service dog named Archer that serves as a therapy dog at CAN events.





**Fall 2023**  
**CAN**  
**Events**

## Weekly Virtual Science Meetings

Wednesdays, 8-9am | Every first three weeks of the month

Want to learn about science updates from CAN researchers? Join us virtually to stay in the science loop and foster connections. ALL are welcome!

### Upcoming in October:

10/4/23 - Jessie Fu: Grant/project idea

10/11/23 - To be determined

10/18/23 - Dan Foster

10/25/23 - No Science meeting (Executive Meeting)

**Oct**  
**12**

### **Heart Activity Series Talk** 9am | Institute for Mind and Brain

Dr. Bridgette Kelleher, Associate Professor in the Department of Psychological Sciences at Purdue University, will discuss translating heart-rate defined sustained attention metrics for broader clinical applications.

**Oct**  
**15**

### **Buddy Walk - Lowcountry** 12 - 4pm | Daniel Island, SC

October is Down Syndrome Awareness Month! Support Down syndrome at the annual Buddy Walk, a nationwide program to raise funds for individuals with Down syndrome. Featuring bouncy castles, crafts, live music, and more. Contact can@sc.edu to table!

**Oct**  
**27**

### **External Speaker Series - Virtual** 1 - 2 pm

Dr. Susan White, Psychology Professor at the University of Alabama, Doddridge Saxon Chair-holder, and Director for Center for Youth Development and Intervention, will be holding a virtual seminar and small group discussions.

**Nov**  
**13**

### **Lunch with a PI**

The CAN Trainee Committee is hosting a lunch with a PI, in which two Principal Investigators (PIs) will chat with and answer questions from trainees over lunch.

**Dec**  
**(date tbd)**

### **CAN Holiday Party**

Join us for the annual CAN Holiday Party! Enjoy dinner and the opportunity to connect with members at the end of the year. ALL members welcome!

### Download the CAN Calendar:

<https://outlook.office365.com/owa/calendar/0f01a5502d964c20be076774f11570c9@sc.edu/6e8a7693fef4466c8a6c15cc9d26fe67614674595889468974/calendar.ics>





## RESEARCH SCIENTIST SEMINAR SERIES

“  
Emotion dysregulation  
and its treatment in the  
autistic community  
”

 **OCTOBER 27**

 **1 - 2 PM**

 **VIRTUAL**

## DR. SUSAN WHITE



**University of Alabama**  
Doddrige Saxon Chair  
Professor of Clinical Psychology  
Director, Center for Youth  
Development and Intervention

## RESEARCH EXPERTISE

- Developmental psychopathology
- Evidence-based assessment and treatment
- Intervention research
- Neurodevelopmental disorders such as autism
- ADHD
- Learning disorders

## Learn more!

[Dr. White's Website](#)  [More Event Info](#)

## SCHEDULE

**9 - 10:30** 30-min small  
group meetings

**10:30 - 12** Trainee group  
“drop-in” meeting

**1 - 2** Seminar (virtual)

## Meet with Dr. White!

Sign up to participate in a  
small group meeting with  
Dr. White.

## Contact us

 [can@sc.edu](mailto:can@sc.edu)  803-766-6309



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**South Carolina**



CAROLINA  
AUTISM & NEURODEVELOPMENT  
CENTER





# DR. SUSAN WHITE



The Psychosocial Interventions  
Lab at the University of Alabama

## Biography

Dr. Susan White, Professor and Doddridge Saxon Chair in Clinical Psychology at The University of Alabama, researches developmental psychopathology, including mechanism-driven intervention for problems in autism. Her research has been funded by NIH and the US Department of Defense. Dedicated to implementation and dissemination of evidence-based practice, Dr. White leads community-based workshops for local mental health services and schools.

She received the 2019 Mentor Award from the Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies Autism Special Interest Group.

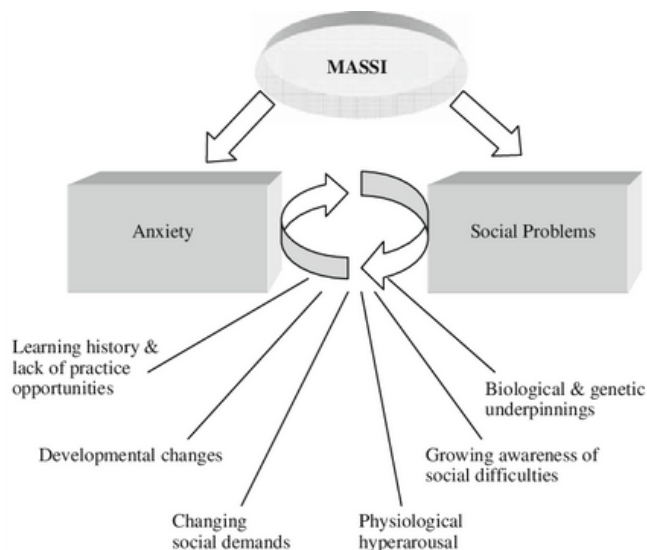
## Publications

Peers, play, and performance to build social salience in autistic youth: A multisite randomized clinical trial

Emotion regulation and executive function: Associations with depression and anxiety in autism

## Learn about treatment programs she developed

**(1) Multimodal Anxiety and Social Skills Intervention (MASSI)** helps adolescents learn how cognition contributes to anxious feelings and avoidance behaviors -- and in turn affect cognition.



**(2) Emotion Awareness and Skills Enhancement (EASE)** helps autistic individuals learn about controlling emotion.

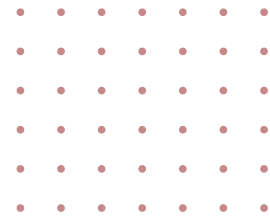


**EASE**  
The Emotion Awareness and Skills Enhancement Program

**(3) SENSE Theatre:** SENSE Theatre is a theatre-based program created to help autistic children develop social competence. See [CYDI website](#) for more info!



# HEART ACTIVITY SERIES



## “SCALING AND AUTOMATING HEART-RATE DEFINED SUSTAINED ATTENTION ALGORITHMS FOR CLINICAL APPLICATIONS”

Join Dr. Bridgette Kelleher to learn about her work translating heart-rate defined sustained attention (HRDSA) metrics to clinical application. She will discuss:

- Her recent work applying HRDSA methods in naturalistic settings
- Her team’s recent NIH-funded project on developing software to standardize HRDSA processing algorithms

**OCTOBER 12**    **9 AM**    **IMB #125**

<b>9 - 10 AM:</b>	Talk
<b>10 AM:</b>	Informal consultation & work-in-progress meeting*

*\*After the talk, receive further consultation or clarification on her work and the topics from her talk as they relate to the work in your own lab.*

**COFFEE & COOKIES!**



### Dr. Bridgette Kelleher

Purdue University  
Associate Professor  
Psychological Sciences  
[Faculty Profile](#)

[can@sc.edu](mailto:can@sc.edu)

[go.sc.edu/can](http://go.sc.edu/can)

# == CAN Trainee Committee ==

## CV PANEL & WORKSHOP

### Building your CV

On September 15, the CAN Trainee Committee hosted a CV panel and workshop. Over 20 attendees from 7 departments enjoyed coffee and cookies while postdoctoral researchers shared tips and answered questions about cultivating your CV.



Want to join the CAN Trainee Committee?

Email [can@sc.edu](mailto:can@sc.edu) to learn more!

*Thank You*

to postdoctoral scholars Dr. Julia Yurkovic-Harding, Dr. Rinaldo Rodrigues dos Passos, and Dr. Snezana Milosavljevic for serving on the panel!

### UPCOMING TRAINEE EVENT

On November 13, join the CAN Trainee Committee to meet with a Principal Investigator (PI; researcher) over lunch. Learn about their work, career path, and more!

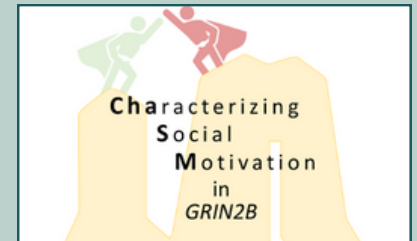




# CAN in the World

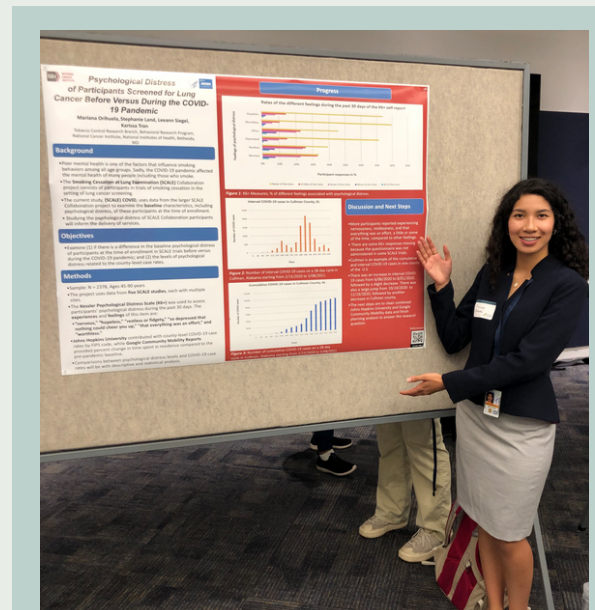


**Dr. Cailee Nelson**, postdoctoral researcher in the B-RAD Lab, has submitted her first grant! She designed an awesome logo for her proposed “ChaSM” study.



[Read the paper here!](#)

**Dr. Jessica Bradshaw, Dr. Jessie Fu, and Dr. Julia Yurkovic-Harding** published a paper, titled, *Infant embodied attention in context: Feasibility of home-based head-mounted eye tracking in early infancy.*



**Mariana Orihuela**, an undergraduate student in Dr. Hudac’s B-RAD Lab, interned at the National Cancer Institute this summer. She presented her research at AMGEN Research Symposium at UCLA.



**Audrey Weaver Kananowicz** got married in August!

*All CAN members are encouraged to share accomplishments, highlights, and images. Email [can@sc.edu](mailto:can@sc.edu) to submit!*

# CAN in the Community



Follow us  
@canresearchsc

## OCTOBER COMMUNITY EVENTS

## WHAT TO EXPECT!

South Carolina State Museum (SCSM) Accessibility Morning	Sat, October 14 9 - 11am	Families can explore the museum before the doors open. Bring your costume!
Buddy Walk - Charleston	Sun, October 15 12 - 4pm (walk: 3pm)	CAN will be walking as a Team! Contact us to learn more.
SC State Fair Sensory Friendly Morning	Thu, October 19 10am - 12pm	Families can explore the fair with less sensory stimulation.
EdVenture Halloween Sensory Night 	Fri, October 20 5:30 - 7pm	Bring your best costume and join in the festivities!
Soda City	Sat, October 28 9am - 1pm	Meet the community and tell them about the work we do
Buddy Walk - Columbia	Sun, October 29 12 - 3pm (walk: 2pm)	CAN will be walking as a Team! Contact us to learn more.

## JOIN US!

CAN is always looking for volunteers to help us table at events. If you're interested, please email [can@sc.edu](mailto:can@sc.edu).

