

The Owens Observer

Spring 2024

Newsletter of the
Owens Institute for
Behavioral Research

www.oibr.uga.edu

FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK

As we conclude another successful year at OIBR, it is time to reflect on the accomplishments of our distinguished scholars and affiliates. This issue of the Owens Observer features the many OIBR faculty who received university awards during Honors Week in early April, as well as OIBR faculty who received promotions. The range of awards and the range of departments represented by those who received awards and/or promotions reflects the breadth of OIBR. Congratulations to these faculty! Speaking of award-winning faculty, the newsletter features a story on recent Meigs Professor recipient Erin Dolan, a distinguished scholar who is known widely for her work training and mentoring post-docs. In this edition of the newsletter, we also bid a bittersweet goodbye to Paula McIntyre, our amazing post-award manager who has accepted an exciting new position at Memorial Sloan Kettering. Be sure to also check out the *Tips from the Experts* and *Policy Updates* columns, where you'll find information relevant for faculty PIs and those who are applying for grants. Finally, take note of the *31 faculty* who have affiliated with OIBR since January. This is a record number of new affiliates in a single semester. We are excited to welcome each of these faculty to OIBR. See you all at the Gathering in the Garden on April 30th!.



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Building Better Biologists: A New Program Trains the Next Generation of Science Educators

Interviewed by Andrea Horsman

The University of Georgia (UGA) is home to a large and robust group of biology education researchers (BER). Collectively, this group has a long and strong record of training postdoctoral fellows who go on to pursue a variety of careers, including research and teaching intensive positions in higher education, positions in faculty professional development, and others. One of the reasons for the success is the diverse and collaborative environment in the social and behavioral sciences. Many faculty at UGA with research programs in biology education have ongoing collaborations with faculty in educational psychology, psychology, science education, higher education, and other disciplines.

A team co-led by Dr. Erin Dolan, an OIBR distinguished scholar, Georgia Athletic Association Professor of Innovative Science Education, and professor of biochemistry and molecular biology, and Dr. Logan Fiorella, also an OIBR distinguished scholar and associate professor of educational psychology, is fostering a new generation of BER through an exciting initiative funded by the National Science Foundation (NSF).

This project, titled “Preparing the Next Generation of Biology Education Researchers through Interdisciplinary Co-mentorship and Evidence-based Professional Development,” tackles a crucial challenge in the field of BER. Traditionally, BER research has been criticized for being isolated from other disciplines, limiting its impact, and hindering the development of robust theories on teaching and learning biology.

“Given the rich scholarly and training environment at UGA, and our collective networks and collaborations, we thought we could put together and facilitate a rigorous and supportive postdoctoral training program that was focused on cross-disciplinary research in biology education,” said Dr. Dolan.

She explains, “Imagine studying how students make decisions about careers in the life sciences or how students learn to solve life science problems without considering the science of motivation or problem-solving. That’s the kind of isolation we’re aiming to bridge.”

This new program directly addresses this issue. Biology education research investigates teaching and learning in life science fields by combining the priorities, worldviews, knowledge, and practices of biology with the research methods, tools, approaches, and theory from the social sciences. By leveraging UGA’s wealth of BER faculty and experts in social and behavioral sciences, the project will train postdoctoral fellows in a truly interdisciplinary environment.

Why is this important?

BER plays a vital role in improving how biology is taught and learned. It investigates how students develop as life scientists and come to understand life science concepts and their applications and implications. But without a strong foundation in other disciplines like psychology and education, BER research can struggle to build a comprehensive picture.

This research project aims to change that. Postdocs in the program will be co-mentored by BER faculty and researchers from other relevant fields. This unique approach will equip them with the tools and perspectives to conduct more impactful and theoretically grounded BER research.

Collaboration is Key

Dr. Dolan highlights a particularly rewarding aspect of the project: the collaborative spirit among faculty. “It has been such a pleasure to work with the faculty involved in the project,” she says. “Everyone is coming to the project with an open mind, generative spirit, and collegial ethos.”

This collaboration extends beyond the faculty. The project prioritizes equity and inclusion in its recruitment process. Potential applicants can participate in virtual office hours and submit “curiosity statements” instead of traditional research statements. This approach focuses on aligning applicants’ interests with the program’s goals, fostering a diverse and dynamic learning environment for the incoming postdocs. Dr. Dolan stated, “Applicants are responding very favorably to these elements,” pointing out “that it is one of the reasons they were attracted to apply to the program.”

The Road Ahead

The project is funded for three years, with postdocs receiving two-year appointments. While future funding from the NSF is uncertain, the potential for expansion is exciting. Dr. Dolan envisions recruiting additional cohorts in the coming years, allowing the program to continue its mission of building a new generation of well-rounded BER researchers. This initiative promises to revolutionize BER by fostering a collaborative and interdisciplinary approach. By training the next generation of researchers to think outside the box, the program paves the way for a brighter future in biology education, ultimately benefiting students and the field.

2024 UGA AWARDS

Josiah Meigs Distinguished Teaching Professor

The professorship is the university's highest recognition for instruction at the undergraduate and graduate levels.



Dr. Melissa Cahnmann-Taylor
Language & Literacy Education
OIBR Affiliate



Dr. Erin Dolan
Biochemistry & Molecular Biology
OIBR Distinguished Scholar



Dr. Leslie Gordon Simons
Sociology
OIBR Distinguished Scholar



Dr. Julie Stanton
Cellular Biology
OIBR Distinguished Scholar

Creative Research Medal

This award recognizes a distinct and exceptional research or creative project, performed by a mid-career faculty member, with extraordinary impact and significance to the field of study.



Dr. Logan Fiorella
Associate Professor, Educational Psychology
OIBR Distinguished Scholar



Dr. Juliet Sekandi
Associate Professor, Epidemiology & Biostatistics
OIBR Affiliate

2024 UGA AWARDS

Creative Teaching Award

This award is presented to faculty who have demonstrated exceptional creativity in using either an innovative technology or pedagogy that extends learning beyond the traditional classroom or for their creative course design or implementation of subject matter that improves student learning outcomes in their courses.



Dr. Leslie Gordon Simons

Meigs Professor, Sociology
OIBR Distinguished Scholar



Dr. Nandana Weliweriya

Lecturer, Physics & Astronomy
OIBR Affiliate

Creative Research Award

This award recognizes established investigators whose overall scholarly body of work has had a major impact on the field of study and has established the investigator's international reputation as a leader in the field.



Dr. Christina Boyd

Professor, Political Science
OIBR Affiliate

Early Career Scholar

This award recognizes junior faculty whose research, creative and scholarly achievements indicate a trajectory toward an exceptional, sustained research career and an imminent rise to international stature in their field of study.



Dr. Drew Abney

Assistant Professor, Psychology
OIBR Distinguished Scholar

2024 UGA AWARDS

University Professor

This title is awarded to faculty members who have made a substantial impact beyond their academic duties. This recognition acknowledges their contributions to policy, teaching, curriculum development, innovation, and academic leadership. It honors individuals who, through research or service within the university, community, or professional spheres, have enhanced the university's mission and overall quality of service.



Dr. Paula Lemons

Professor, Biochemistry & Molecular Biology
OIBR Distinguished Scholar

Non-Tenure Track Faculty Excellence Award

This award recognizes exceptional research productivity and commitment to excellence by a non-tenure track faculty member.



Dr. Lydia Aletraris

Associate Research Scientist, Social Work
OIBR Distinguished Scholar

UGA TEAM IMPACT AWARD

The Team Impact Award recognizes the critical contributions made by crosscutting teams in addressing today's complex challenges. Specifically, the award recognizes a team for excellence in innovative and impactful scholarship that either has or soon promises to fundamentally advance knowledge, understanding and/or applications in ways not achievable by individual investigators or single disciplinary approaches alone.



OIBR Affiliates picture left to right:
Lydia Aletraris (Distinguished Scholar); Jody Clay-Warner (Distinguished Scholar & OIBR Director); Hui Yi (Affiliate);
David Okech (Distinguished Scholar).
Also shown: Laura Zimmermann; Claire Bolton

The Center on Human Trafficking, Research & Outreach (CenHTRO) is an interdisciplinary effort based at the UGA School of Social Work and comprising faculty, staff, and students on three continents and operating in 10 countries. The center, formally established in 2021, has built a global community of human-trafficking scholars, an unprecedented achievement in this field. Garnering \$30 million in funding, CenHTRO supports rigorous and innovative trafficking studies incorporating the expertise of faculty in economics, international affairs, law, political science, public health, social work, sociology, and statistics. Center researchers collaborate with multiple arms of the United Nations to encourage evidence-based interventions to prevent trafficking, support survivors, and strengthen prosecution of traffickers. With the center's guidance, governments have passed and enforced anti-trafficking laws and helped NGOs and nonprofits remove victims from slavery-like conditions. CenHTRO has trained almost 4,000 individuals—including judiciary members, law enforcement, social workers, educators, students, and community groups—to improve local action against human trafficking.

2024 OIBR AWARDS

CONGRATULATIONS!

Three awards were presented at the OIBR annual meeting in December.



DREW ABNEY

RISING STAR AWARD

Dr. Abney was recognized for his research productivity and excellence on developmental trajectories from infancy to toddlerhood. Using multi-modal measures and tools from complexity science, his studies across various settings have developed novel methods for capturing complex behavioral data. With an impressive publication record and recent major grants, including one from the James S. McDonnell Foundation and another from the Army Research Institute, Drew will further build his already outstanding research program.



ERIN DOLAN

LILLIAN EBY MENTORING AWARD

Dr. Dolan has not only contributed significantly to the science of science mentoring but has also been a dedicated mentor herself. She has earned widespread recognition, having served on the National Academies consensus committee on mentoring in STEM. Her stellar contributions have garnered prestigious awards, including the American Society for Cell Biology Bruce Alberts Science Education Award and the Award for Exemplary Contributions to Education from the American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology.



STEVEN R. H. BEACH

SERVICE LEGACY AWARD

Dr. Beach was recognized for an exemplary 35-year record of outstanding contributions to the scholarship, teaching, and service at UGA. "From his service as first associate director and then director of OIBR, to his efforts on issues as high profile as the hiring of upper-level administrators and as hidden as the development of ways to allocate grant credit to Institutes, Steve has had a lasting positive effect on social and behavioral sciences at UGA," says OIBR Director Jody Clay-Warner.

2024 FACULTY PROMOTIONS



Dr. Drew Abney

Associate Professor,
Psychology



Dr. Kelly Happe

Professor,
Communication
Studies



Dr. Amanda Abraham

Michael & Caroline
Fierman Professor,
Public Administration &
Policy



Dr. Itai Himelboim

Professor,
Advertising & Public
Relations



**Dr. L. Jason
Anastasopoulos**

Associate Professor,
Public Administration &
Policy



Dr. Justin Lavner

Professor,
Psychology



Dr. Rachel Cagliani

Associate Professor,
Communication Sciences
& Special Education



**Dr. Rebecca
Lieberman-Betz**

Professor,
Communication Sciences
& Special Education



Dr. Adam Chen

Professor,
Health Policy &
Management



Dr. Laura McAndrews

Associate Professor,
Textiles, Merchandising
& Interiors



Dr. Allison Dunnigan

Associate Professor,
Social Work



Dr. Katherine Melcher

Professor,
College of Environment
+ Design



Dr. Lu Fan

Associate Professor,
Financial Planning,
Housing & Consumer
Economics



Dr. Assaf Oshri

Professor,
Human Development &
Family Science



Dr. Jeremy Gibbs

Associate Professor,
Social Work



Dr. Heather Padilla

Associate Professor,
Health Promotion &
Behavior

Faculty Promotions Cont.



Dr. Emily Rosenzweig

Associate Professor,
Educational Psychology



Dr. Lilian Sattler

Associate Professor,
Nutritional Science &
Clinical & Administrative
Pharmacy



Dr. Aaron Schechter

Associate Professor,
Management
Information Systems



Dr. Greg Strauss

Professor,
Psychology



Dr. Justine Tinkler

Professor,
Sociology



Dr. Calvin Ye

Associate Professor,
Genetics



Grants-on-the-Edge

Announcement for FY2024-FY2025



Thanks to our generous endowment from Bill and Barbara Owens, OIBR announces the availability of funding to aid investigators whose external research proposals submitted through OIBR narrowly missed falling within the funding range due to lack of preliminary data. Small grants will be provided to help an investigator strategically improve the proposal's viability upon resubmission. Allocated funds must be spent within one year of award date. Proposal submissions may be sent at any time to Kim Cherewick (ksilvis@uga.edu), OIBR Assistant Director. We will review proposals on a rolling basis and anticipate making funding decisions within three weeks of receipt. Awards will be up to \$10,000. The revised grant proposal must also be submitted through OIBR.

**HAVE YOU
CONNECTED WITH
OIBR YET?**

LinkedIn

We invite you to connect with our new Owens Institute for Behavioral Research LinkedIn page.

Our goal is to use this resource to promote the research efforts of our affiliated faculty and provide information that supports our mission.

If you post anything about a project where OIBR was involved, please be sure to tag us!

A Fond Farewell to Paula McIntyre



After a decade of service, our fantastic Post Award Operations Manager, Paula McIntyre, bids farewell to the Owens Institute for Behavioral Research (OIBR) to begin an exciting new chapter in her career with Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center.

Paula's research administration journey with the University of Georgia (UGA) started fifteen years ago when she worked on an extramurally funded sponsored project as an Administrative Specialist in the Institute on Human Development and Disability within the College of Family and Consumer Sciences.

Throughout the past ten years with OIBR, Paula contributed significantly to all aspects of financial management at the Institute. Paula had a knack for all things numbers and quickly took on more responsibility and greater challenges. Paula was energized at the prospect of new systems and better methods for data tracking. During the PeopleSoft OneSource transition, she jumped on board with the Change Champions to be a part of the system development and to pilot and test functionality. In addition to her never-

ending quest for better reporting methods, cleaner data, and clearer policies, she was one of the most intelligent, organized, helpful, and pleasant people with whom we worked.

Paula demonstrated a knack for teaching and mentoring others. Helping others to learn and excel and grow in their careers came easily to her and brought her joy and personal satisfaction. She has mentored countless business persons in grants accounting across campus and, we have no doubt, that the university community benefitted greatly from her time here.

For several years, Paula served as the OIBR human resources manager. In this role, she was the primary HR contact for dozens of sponsored research projects. Her responsibilities included navigating the complexities of employment administration and offering guidance on UGA HR policies and procedures.

In the realm of financial and post-award management, Paula's expertise was a great benefit to the Institute. Paula managed our state accounts, sales, and service accounts, as well as her project caseload while leading the post-award team. She listened closely in BSAG and RADG and OneSource meetings for upcoming changes in policies and procedures and worked hard to ensure compliance in all areas, providing valuable insight to both colleagues and faculty. Her collaborative approach, kind and helpful demeanor, and eye for detail enhanced the efficiency and success of OIBR's fiscal affairs. Paula's mentorship and hard work contributed to a culture of excellence within the organization, and she leaves in place a terrific post-award team.

As Paula embarks on a new chapter in her career, we are filled with gratitude for the time we shared with her. We greatly appreciate her invaluable contributions, hard work, dedication, and service to the Owens Institute and UGA. We wish Paula all the best in her new position!

UGA Ranked #9 Nationwide for R&D Expenditures in Social and Behavioral Sciences



COSSA recently released its annual College and University Rankings for Federal Social and Behavioral Science R&D, which highlight the top university recipients of research dollars in the social and behavioral sciences. In their rankings, the University of Georgia came in ninth place, up from sixteenth place in FY2021, with over \$35 million in social and behavioral science research and development.

Based on federally collected data, the COSSA rankings use an inclusive selection of fields representing the breadth of the social and behavioral sciences to calculate the total federal R&D funding received by universities in the social and behavioral sciences. The 2024 rankings reflect spending from fiscal year 2022, the most current available data. More information on how they produce their rankings is available on their website. COSSA's website also features a rankings dashboard with an interactive map of recipients of social and behavioral science R&D funding so you can see how UGA stacks up among 533 U.S. institutions.

POLICY UPDATES



- The NIH salary cap has been updated to \$221,900 for 12 month positions, or \$166,425 for 9 month positions.

- NIH is simplifying their peer review process to help focus reviewers on the key questions needed to assess the proposed research. A summary of the updated process can be found [here](#), and additional guidance is expected later this year.

- Effective May 20, 2024, the NSF biosketch is being updated to remove both the 3-page limit as well as the Synergistic Activities section. The information that would previously be included in the Synergistic Activities section should now be included as part of the senior/key personnel documents in research.gov.

- Both NSF and NIH are working towards common forms for both the biosketch and current and pending support documents. These are estimated to be released in January of 2025. These can be previewed on the NSF website.

TIPS FROM THE EXPERTS



Kim Cherewick
OIBR Assistant Director



Training For Supervisors

Did you know that next year's performance evaluations will be based on the staff competency model? If you are a PI or soon to be a PI who will be hiring and managing staff, we recommend taking the [UGA Journeys training](#) for supervisors.

Research Compensation Funds

Petty cash fund management guidelines are changing rapidly. Please be sure to consult with the Grants Manager on your sponsored project if you have any questions or concerns. Going forward, please be aware that ClinCard is the University's preferred method for compensating human subjects. You can find more information [here](#).

Welcome New OIBR Affiliates



Dr. Emily Adah Miller

Assistant Professor
Math, Science, and Social
Studies Education

Research Interests: Culture, Diversity, Education and Learning, Environment and Ecosystems, STEM



Dr. Jon Calabria

Professor
Landscape Architecture

Research Interests: Assessment and Evaluation, Culture, Diversity, Education and Learning, Environment and Ecosystems, Geographic Information Systems, Survey Methods



Dr. Daehwan Ahn

Assistant Professor
Financial Planning, Housing
and Consumer Economics

Research Interests: Computational Methods, Education and Learning, Experimental Methods, Higher Education, Infant and Child Development, Mental Health, Mental Illness and Disorders, Organizations, STEM, Work and Occupations



Dr. Dustin Chacon

Assistant Professor
Linguistics

Research Interests: Cognition, Experimental Methods, Infant and Child Development, Neuroscience



Dr. Effie Antonoudi

Professor
Financial Planning, Housing and
Consumer Economics

Research Interests: Bias, Discrimination, and Inequality, Diversity, Education and Learning, Immigration, Marriage, Family, and Close Relationships, Mental Health, Substance Use and Addiction



Dr. Collette Chapman-Hilliard

Associate Professor
Counseling and Human Development
Services

Research Interests: Bias, Discrimination, and Inequality, Culture, Diversity, Higher Education, Identity, Mental Health, Mental Illness and Disorders, Survey Methods, Youth, Adolescence, and Emerging Adulthood



Dr. Lauren Bagdy

Assistant Professor
Workforce Education and
Instructional Technology

Research Interests: Assessment and Evaluation, Education and Learning, Higher Education, Youth, Adolescence, and Emerging Adulthood



Dr. Amy Ellis

Professor
Math, Science, and Social
Studies Education

Research Interests: Cognition, Education and Learning, Youth, Adolescence, and Emerging Adulthood



Dr. Leon Banks

Assistant Professor
Social Work

Research Interests: Bias, Discrimination, and Inequality, Culture, Diversity, Mental Health, Youth, Adolescence, and Emerging Adulthood



Dr. Lu Fan

Assistant Professor
Financial Planning, Housing
and Consumer Economics

Research Interests: Aging and Gerontology, Assessment and Evaluation, Cognition, Education and Learning, Emotion, Gender, Mental Health, Personality, Social Psychology, Survey Methods, Youth, Adolescence, and Emerging Adulthood

Welcome New OIBR Affiliates



Dr. Yimin He

Assistant Professor
Psychology

Research Interests: Culture, Mental Health, Networks, Organizations, Physical Health and Well-being, Survey Methods, Work and Occupations



Dr. Sakhavat Mammadov

Associate Professor
Educational Psychology

Research Interests: Education and Learning, Emotion, Experimental Methods, Personality, Physical Health and Well-being, STEM, Youth, Adolescence, and Emerging Adulthood



Dr. Jeyeon Jo

Assistant Professor
Textiles, Merchandising, and Interiors

Research Interests: Computational Methods, Exercise, Physical Health and Well-being, Work and Occupations



Dr. Katherine Melcher

Associate Professor
College of Environment + Design

Research Interests: Aging and Gerontology, Cognition, Culture, Environment and Ecosystems, Ethnography, Gender, Geographic Information Systems, Group Processes and Intergroup Relations, Identity, Mental Health, Obesity, Organizations, Physical Health and Well-being, Policy, Regulation, and Compliance, Prevention and Implementation Science, Youth, Adolescence, and Emerging Adulthood



Dr. Hilda Kurtz

Professor
Geography

Research Interests: Communication, Environment and Ecosystems



Dr. Kevin Moore

Professor
Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies Education

Research Interests: Cognition, Education and Learning



Dr. Peng Lu

Assistant Professor
Agricultural Leadership, Education, and Communication

Research Interests: Communication, Education and Learning, Emotion, Environment and Ecosystems, Experimental Methods, Food & Nutrition, Higher Education, STEM



Dr. Lan Mu

Professor
Geography

Research Interests: Bias, Discrimination, and Inequality, Computational Methods, Environment and Ecosystems, Food & Nutrition, Geographic Information Systems, Mental Health, Physical Health and Well-being, STEM



Dr. Ania Majewska

Assistant Professor
Physiology and Pharmacology

Research Interests: Culture, Education and Learning, Higher Education, Infectious Disease, STEM, Survey Methods



Dr. Emily Noble

Associate Professor
Nutritional Sciences

Research Interests: Cognition, Exercise, Food & Nutrition, Neuroscience, Obesity, Substance Use and Addiction, Youth, Adolescence, and Emerging Adulthood

Welcome New OIBR Affiliates



Dr. Jeffrey Olenick

Assistant Professor
Psychology

Research Interests: Bias, Discrimination, and Inequality, Computational Methods, Diversity, Education and Learning, Organizations, Work and Occupations



Dr. Trevor Tuma

Postdoctoral Research Associate
Biochemistry & Molecular Biology

Research Interests: Assessment and Evaluation, Diversity, Education and Learning, Marriage, Family, and Close Relationships, Mental Health, STEM



Dr. Aaron Schechter

Assistant Professor
Management Information Systems

Research Interests: Computational Methods, Experimental Methods, Networks, Organizations



Dr. Alfred Vick

Professor
College of Environment + Design

Research Interests: Environment and Ecosystems, Exercise, Geographic Information Systems, Obesity, Physical Health and Well-being



Dr. Ari Schlesinger

Assistant Professor
School of Computing

Research Interests: Bias, Discrimination, and Inequality, Communication, Computational Methods, Culture, Diversity, Education and Learning, Ethnography, Gender, Group Processes and Intergroup Relations, Identity, Media, Organizations, Policy, Regulation, and Compliance, Sexuality and Sexual Identity, STEM, Work and Occupations



Dr. Christopher Weatherly

Assistant Professor
Social Work

Research Interests: Environment and Ecosystems, Ethnography, Mental Health, Mental Illness and Disorders



Dr. Nandana Weliweriya

Lecturer
Physics & Astronomy

Research Interests: Assessment and Evaluation, Education and Learning, Higher Education, STEM



Dr. Gaurav Sinha

Assistant Professor
Social Work

Research Interests: Computational Methods, Higher Education, Mental Health



Dr. Nicholas Young

Assistant Professor
Physics

Research Interests: Assessment and Evaluation, Education and Learning, Higher Education, STEM



Dr. Jill Stefaniak

Associate Professor
Workforce Education and Instructional Technology

Research Interests: Education and Learning



Dr. Xiaoming Zhai

Associate Professor
Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies Education

Research Interests: Assessment and Evaluation, Bias, Discrimination, and Inequality, Education and Learning, STEM

Exploring the Power of Connection: A Recap of the 2024 William A. Owens Lecture



(Pictured left to right: Alan Flurry, Dani Bassett, Perry Zurn. Photo Credit: Jason Thrasher)

The 2024 William A. Owens Lecture, titled "Curious Minds: The Power of Connection," brought together an audience of students and faculty from across campus. Hosted by Alan Flurry, director of communications for the Franklin College of Arts and Sciences, the event featured a conversation with Dr. Perry Zurn and Dr. Dani Bassett, identical twins whose collaborative work transcends disciplinary boundaries to explore the intricate dynamics of curiosity.

"Curious Minds: The Power of Connection," a book by co-authors Dr. Zurn and Dr. Bassett served as the focal point of the discussion.

Dr. Zurn, a Provost Associate Professor of Philosophy at American University, is a distinguished scholar in the fields of philosophy and critical theory and provided unique perspectives on curiosity studies that enriched the dialogue.

Dr. Bassett, the distinguished J. Peter Skirkanich Professor at the University of Pennsylvania, and renowned for their groundbreaking work in neural and systems engineering, emphasized the pivotal role of curiosity in unraveling the complexities of human brain networks.

From philosophical reflections to innovative neuroscience, Dr. Zurn and Dr. Bassett explained the transformative power of curiosity, emphasizing its role in strengthening the bonds that tie us together as a society.

OIBR & Franklin College Research Speed Networking Event



On April 18th, OIBR and the Franklin College of Arts & Sciences collaborated to host a research speed networking event, fostering interdisciplinary connections. The event facilitated interactions between OIBR-affiliated faculty and a diverse range of other faculty members, promoting team formation crucial for NSF and NIH grant applications.

"It was great to see many new faces at this event and to hear conversations between faculty representing so many different disciplines," said Dr. Jody Clay-Warner, OIBR Director and co-host of the event.





Have something to share?

Do you have an interesting project that you are working on? Did you recently publish your work? Did you receive an award? Let us help promote you and your research. We love sharing the accomplishments and successes of our faculty!

Please contact Andrea Horsman with anything that you would like to share.



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@Owens Institute for Behavioral Research



Follow us on X
(formerly Twitter)
@OIBR_UGA

Coming this Fall...

2nd Annual Research Speed Networking

Stay tuned for more details.

