

2021 2021 SPRING EVENT LIST

JAN 27

General Interest Meeting

MIND Mentoring Network with Keith Perkins

FEB 3

FEB 10

Speaker Series: Dr. David Zald

Speaker Series: Dr. Anthony Tobia

FEB 17

FEB 24

Speaker Series: Dr. Adam Aron

Alumni Mini Lecture: Lucie Vleugels

MAR 3



MAR 10

Speaker Series: Dr. Steve Ramirez

Interdisciplinary Research Conference

MAR 20

MAR 24

Speaker Series: Dr. Derrick Darby

Speaker Series: Jai Amanda

MAR 31

APR 7

Speaker Series: Allysa Kemraj

Speaker Series: Dr. Daniel Dennett

APR 14

APR 21

Speaker Series: Jordan Harrod

Trivia Night

APR 28

FEB 3: MIND MENTORING NETWORK WITH KEITH PERKINS

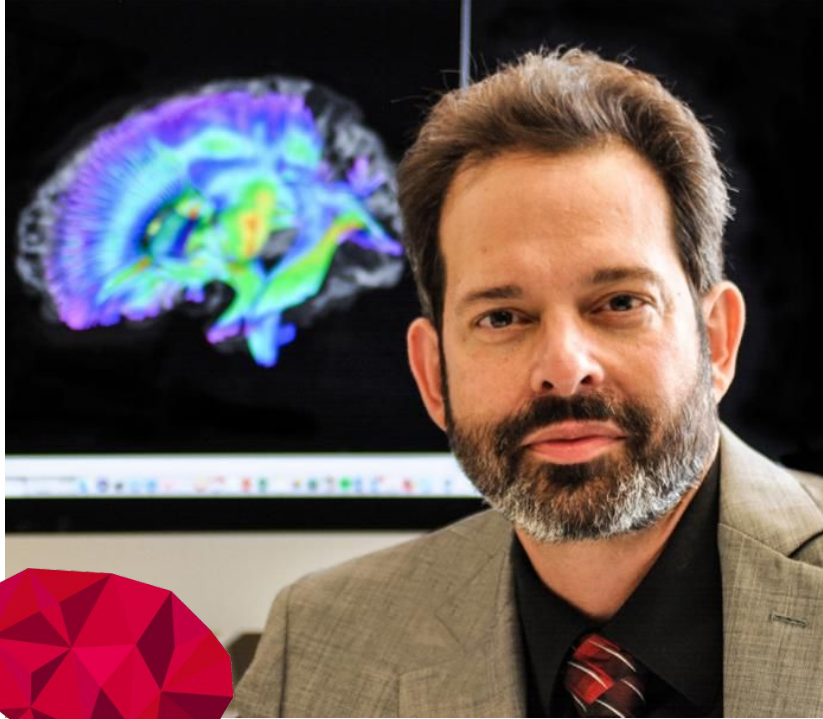


Keith Perkins is a third-year PhD student at the Psychology Department at Rutgers University

- Currently researching at The McGann Laboratory on the Neurobiology of Sensory Cognition
- He has studied the neurobiology of different perceptual systems— from the visual and auditory to his current project in the olfactory system
- Founded the MIND Mentoring Network, inspired by the mentors in his own life and aimed to serve underrepresented minorities interested in studying various aspects of the physical and abstract mind and nervous system



FEB 10: DR. DAVID ZALD



Dr. David Zald is the Director for the new Center for Advanced Human Brain Imaging Research at the Rutgers Brain Health Institute

- Also serves as a Henry Rutgers Term Chair in department of psychiatry at Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School
- International leader in the field of human brain imaging, conducting pioneering work in how the brain regulates emotions.
- He uses functional neuroimaging and neuropsychological techniques to examine and map the cognitive, affective and sensory functions of the orbitofrontal cortex, amygdala and the mesolimbic dopamine system, which regulate motivation and the desire for reward.



FEB 17: DR. ANTHONY TOBIA



Dr. Anthony Tobia, MD is a Professor of Psychiatry at Rutgers University

- He analyzes popular films from a psychiatric lens. He offered his medical students "[31 Knights of Halloween](#)" a month of infusing horror films into the curriculum.
- Tune in to his fascinating discussions on Periscope @**atobiamd** and on Instagram @**thepsychiatristslens**
- Dr. Tobia will tell us more about his career and journey as a psychiatrist. We will be discussing the movie **Donnie Darko** as well!



FEB 24: DR. ADAM ARON






Dr. Adam Aron is a Professor at the Dept. of Psychology at UC San Diego

- His research has two parallel streams: cognitive neuroscience and social psychology of the climate crisis
- At the Aron Lab, researchers study how people control themselves. In experimental psychology, this is the field of “executive function” or “cognitive control”.
- He is also involved in Teaching, Organizing and Researching around the climate crisis.
- In April 2020, Professor Aron also published a [paper](#) in Neuron on how neuroscientists need to put emissions reduction into the fabric of all their operations.
- In order for urgent action at a large societal scale to prevent the worst consequences of climate change, there are many cognitive questions that need answering and studying. Better understanding the prospects for such action can come from human psychology.

MARCH 3: LUCIE VLEUGELS



Lucie Vleugels is a Rutgers alumnus working at Microsoft

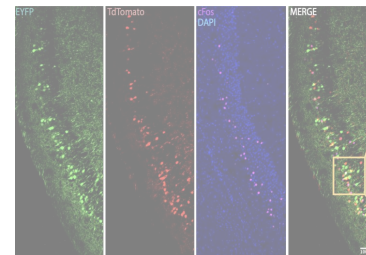
-  She graduated from Rutgers in 2018 back when her "Cognitive Science Major" wasn't even a button in degree navigator!
-  She majored in Spanish and Cog Sci (with a specialization in Linguistics)
-  Now, she is working on one of Microsoft's various Conversational AI teams (Semantic Machines) doing computational linguistics/product analysis.

MARCH 10: DR. STEVE RAMIREZ



Dr. Steve Ramirez is an Assistant Professor of Neuroscience at the Department of Biomedical Engineering at Boston University

- The mission of his lab is twofold: to reveal the neural circuit mechanisms of memory storage and retrieval, and to artificially modulate memories to combat maladaptive states
- He presented an amazing TED talk with Dr. Xu Liu titled '[A mouse. A laser beam. A manipulated memory](#)'
- Check out a recent [paper](#) he worked on, 'Hippocampal cells multiplex positive and negative engrams'



MARCH 24: DR. DERRICK DARBY



Dr. Derrick Darby is a Henry Rutgers Professor of Philosophy

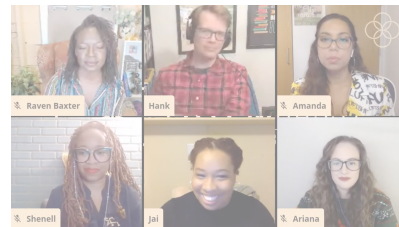
- He is the founding director of the Rutgers Social Justice Solutions Research Collaboratory and also directs its renowned Summer Institute for Diversity in Philosophy founded by Howard McGary, Jr.
- Dr. Darby discovered his passion for philosophy growing up in the Queensbridge public housing projects in Long Island City, NY. For the backstory see his TEDx talk, aptly titled “Doing the Knowledge.”
- In social and political philosophy, he writes about rights, inequality, and democracy. He thinks about how race and racism bear on theoretical, normative and practical philosophical questions.
- Recently launched a [podcast](#) ‘A Pod Called Quest’, where he analyzes justice issues.

MARCH 31: JAI AMANDA



Jai Amanda is a UX Researcher pursuing her Master's in International Psychology.

- Passionate about women empowerment, artificial intelligence, and research in the technology space, Jai uses her platform to provide a fresh perspective of what an Engineer and a Psychologist looks like.
- She also co-hosts the Youtube series of shows by [STEMBassy](#), a science communication organization that involves the public in conversations with accomplished STEM professionals and discussions about socio-cultural issues and events that impact the STEM community. Guests include Hank Green and Emily Calandrelli!



APRIL 7: ALLYSA KEMRAJ



Allysa Kemraj is a Rutgers alumna and PhD Student at SUNY Upstate Medical University

- She majored in Cognitive Science, graduating in 2018.
- She has been researching Ehlers-Danlos Syndrome, a rare disorder that she has as well. She believes that every weakness is also a strength, and hopes to spread her love of life to others.
- She was an [Ignite Speaker at the Mark Conference!](#)
- Fun Fact: She made Rare Disease Day—which is observed worldwide on the last day of February—an annual tradition at Rutgers

APRIL 14: DR. DANIEL DENNETT

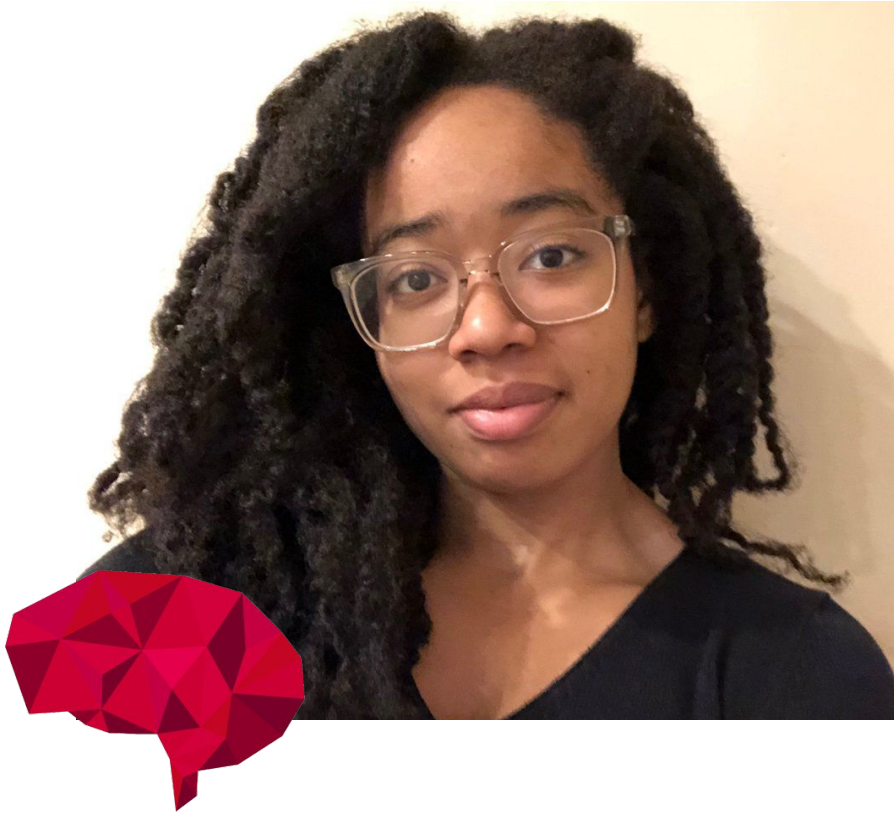


Dr. Daniel Dennett is the co-director of the Center for Cognitive Studies and the Austin B. Fletcher Professor of Philosophy at Tufts University

- He is an American philosopher, writer, and cognitive scientist whose research centers on the philosophy of mind, philosophy of science, and philosophy of biology— particularly as those fields relate to evolutionary biology and cognitive science
- He wrote many research papers and books like ‘[From Bacteria to Bach and Back: The Evolution of Minds](#)’, which was about consciousness.



APRIL 21: JORDAN HARROD



Jordan Harrod is a PhD Student in the Harvard-MIT Health Sciences and Technology program.

- 🧠 Her research focuses on focuses on neuroengineering, brain-machine interfaces, and machine learning for medicine.
- 🧠 Outside the lab, she is a prominent Youtuber with 60K subscribers, who creates amazing videos related to artificial intelligence (AI) and the ways that we increasingly interact with AI and algorithms, from social media and education to the military.

