

# LaMarsh Centre for Child & Youth Research Newsletter

Spring 2023 Issue | May 2023



The LaMarsh Centre for Child & Youth Research is a collaborative group of faculty and students that supports community-engaged interdisciplinary research in health, education, relationships, and development of infants, children, adolescents, emerging adults, and families everywhere. The Centre conducts leading edge research and mobilizes knowledge in ways that improve wellbeing and resilience for children and youth.

Our newsletter aims to share some of this incredible work and provide updates to the LaMarsh Community.

[Visit our website](#) to learn more about the research that is done at LaMarsh.

# Director's Message

Dr. Rebecca Bassett-Gunter, LaMarsh Centre Director



It feels hard to believe that another academic term and season have come to a close. Many of us will welcome the spring as a source of rejuvenation and enthusiasm! Although the winter can feel long and at times it is hard to find motivation, we can look back on all of the achievements of LaMarsh members to see that indeed we have had a successful winter!

We can also look forward to some of the exciting events planned for the spring. On Monday, June 12, 2023, we will host the annual Graduate Student Symposium and welcome Jennifer Steele and Jeffrey Hankey as guest speakers, in addition to hearing from all of the wonderful LaMarsh Graduate Student Research Awardees.

A couple of less exciting house-keeping things! A reminder to please identify LaMarsh as your home research unit if you are submitting any grant applications in 2023. This is important to ensure your work is highlighted in our annual report. You can also consider including research funds in your grant budget to come back to the Centre to support administration (which in turn can support your research team). If you have any questions about this matter please do not hesitate to reach out!

Please see below for some highlights that we have accomplished in the past few months. I wish you a wonderful spring and look forward to connecting with you at upcoming events where the LaMarsh community can come together!

## Recent Events

The following events were hosted through the Centre over the Winter term:

- As a part of the Faculty of Medicine, Office of Equity Diversity and Inclusion Seminar Series, **Dr. Nazilla Khanlou** held a talk at The University of Ottawa on International Women's Day (March 8, 2023) titled: *Mental health support for racialized women at risk of gender-based violence during a global pandemic: An intersectionality-informed approach.*
- York University hosted the second annual **Let's Talk About Youth: A Clinical Developmental Psychology Conference** on Friday, April 28, 2023. This was an excellent opportunity for faculty and trainees to learn about ongoing research in clinical developmental psychology and connect with current researchers and students in the area. The keynote speaker was Dr. Heather Henderson whose research focuses on social development in children. Moreover, the Child and Parent Resource Institute (CPRI) presented a clinical workshop on trauma-informed approaches to treatment.

- Visiting Scholar **Dr. Valerie Thompson** from the University of Saskatchewan (Psychology and Health Studies) held a talk on May 4, 2023 titled: *Meta-Reasoning is Everywhere*. This talk was an interesting opportunity for LaMarsh members to learn about the meta-reasoning framework, and its impacts on real-world contexts, such as medical and consumer decision-making.

## Upcoming Events

We are excited to host the following events in Spring 2023:

- **The LaMarsh Graduate Student Symposium** will be held in person on **June 12, 2023** from **10:00 am** to **3:00 pm**. The event will include research presentations from the LaMarsh Research Awardees, keynote talks by Dr. Jennifer Steele and Dr. Jeffrey Hankey, and an opportunity for trainees and faculty to network. Stay tuned for more details!

## Member Profiles

This year we have welcomed several new faculty to LaMarsh. We look forward to engaging and learning with the following new members!

### **Dr. Laina Y. Bay-Cheng**

**Title:** Professor & Associate Vice-President of Faculty Affairs

**York U Profile:** <https://www.yorku.ca/lamarsh/laina-y-bay-cheng/>

**Email:** [lainaybc@yorku.ca](mailto:lainaybc@yorku.ca)



Dr. Bay-Cheng dedicates her research program to examining the imprint of social forces and material conditions on young women's sexual lives, and adopting systemic models to examine the factors that are linked with sexual vulnerability, including gender, class, race, and age.

**Dr. Karl Erickson**

**Title:** Assistant Professor

**Department:** Kinesiology & Health Science

**York U Profile:** <https://health.yorku.ca/health-profiles/index.php?dept=&mid=1986784>

**Email:** [kerick@yorku.ca](mailto:kerick@yorku.ca)



Dr. Erickson's research explores how participation in sport and movement contexts contribute to psychosocial development, and how interpersonal processes in sport, particularly involving coaches and coaching, influence developmental outcomes for children and youth.

**Dr. Lara Pierce**

**Title:** Assistant Professor

**Department:** Department of Psychology

**York U Profile:** <https://health.yorku.ca/health-profiles/index.php?dept=&mid=1898034>

**Lab Website:** [www.pierce-lab.com](http://www.pierce-lab.com)

**Email:** [ljpierce@yorku.ca](mailto:ljpierce@yorku.ca) **Twitter:** @LaraJPierce



Dr. Pierce uses developmental cognitive neuroscience tools to explore how variation in the early environment (e.g., socioeconomic variation, early life stress) impacts the development of neural systems, and the role individual differences play in the development of language and cognitive abilities.

## Dr. Jennifer Steele

**Title:** Associate Professor

**Department:** Department of Psychology

**York U Profile:** <https://health.yorku.ca/health-profiles/index.php?mid=428411>

**Lab Website:** <http://www.yorku.ca/steeleje/research/index.php>

**Email:** [steeleje@yorku.ca](mailto:steeleje@yorku.ca) **Twitter:** @steeleje123



Dr. Steele's current research aims to increase our understanding of the development and consequences of intergroup bias (e.g., racial bias, gender stereotyping) among school-aged children and adolescents, and understand how we can challenge racial and gender biases at the intersection of multiple identities.

## Articles, Hot Off The Press!

- Arbour-Nicitopoulos, K. P., Kuzik, N., Vanderloo, L. M., Martin Ginis, K. A., James, M. E., Bassett-Gunter, R. L., Ruttle, D., DaSilva, P., Disimino, K., Cameron, C., Arthur, M., Shikako, K., & Latimer-Cheung, A. E. (2022). Expert Appraisal of the 2022 Canadian Para Report Card on Physical Activity for Children and Adolescents With Disabilities. *Adapted Physical Activity Quarterly*. <https://doi.org/10.1123/apaq.2022-0050>
- Bassett-Gunter, R. L., Tomasone, J. R., Latimer-Cheung, A. E., Nicitopoulos, K. P., Disimino, K., Larocca, V., Tristani, L., Martin Ginis, K. A., Leo, J., Vanderloo, L., Sora, D., & Allison, A. (2023). Evidence-informed recommendations for developing physical activity messages targeting parents of children with disabilities. *Adapted Physical Activity Quarterly*. <https://doi.org/10.1123/apaq.2022-0130>
- Gallant, C., Roudbarani, F., Ibrahim, A., Maddox, B.B., & Weiss, J.A. (2022). Clinician knowledge, confidence, and treatment practices in their provision of psychotherapy to autistic youth and youth with ADHD. *Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders*. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10803-022-05722>
- Lunskey, Y., Lai, M.C., Balogh, R., Chung, H., Durbin, A., Jachyra, P., Tint, A., Weiss, J., & Lin, E. (2022). Premature mortality in a population-based cohort of autistic adults in Canada. *Autism Research*, 15(8), 1550-1559. <https://doi.org/10.1002/aur.2741>

- Lunsky, Y., Redquest, B., Albaum., C., Hutton, S., Share, M., Share-Strom, D., & Weiss, J. (2022). Virtual group-based mindfulness intervention for autistic adults: a feasibility study. *Mindfulness*, 13, 1706-1718. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s12671-022-01909-4>
- Pathman, T., Dekker, L., Parmar, P. K., Adkins, M. C., & Polyn, S. M. (2023). Children’s memory “in the wild”: Examining the temporal organization of free recall from a week-long camp at a local zoo. *Cognitive Research: Principles and Implications*, 8(1), 6. <https://doi.org/10.1186/s41235-022-00452-z>
- Roudbarani, F., Tablon Modica, P., Maddox, B. B., Bohr, Y., & Weiss, J. A. (2023). Clinician factors related to the delivery of psychotherapy for autistic youth and youth with attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder. *Autism*, 27(2), 415–427. <https://doi.org/10.1177/13623613221106400>
- Vashi, N., Bohr, Y., & Weiss, J.A. (2023). Transdiagnostic symptoms in children with neurodevelopmental disabilities and perceived parent-child relationship quality: A pilot study. *Journal of Child and Family Studies*. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10826-023-02570-8>
- Yamaguchi, S., Zerbo, A., Putterman, C., Russell, K., Cardoso, R., Boychuck, Z., Weiss, J., Shikako, K. (2022). Evolving partnerships for building communities: Experiences from the knowledge translation innovation incubator. In J. Reszel, C. McCutcheon, A. Kothari, I.D. Graham (Eds.). *How We Work Together: The Integrated Knowledge Translation Casebook*, Volume 6. (pp. 34-38). Integrated Knowledge Translation Research Network. Available from: <https://iktrn.ohri.ca/projects/casebook/>



## Recent Presentations

- Andreasen, S., Tint, A., Ames, M., Weiss, J., Payne, C., Payne, T., Payne, M., McMorris, C. A., & Redquest, B. (2022, June). Exploring the mental health benefits of participating in Special Olympics: Preliminary results [Poster presentation]. The Owerko Centre Conference, Calgary, Alberta.
- Disimino, K., Rassi, S., Vanderloo, L. M., & Bassett-Gunter, R. L. (2023). Developing and disseminating inclusive physical activity messages for people with physical and sensory disabilities: A scoping review. Eastern Canada Sport and Exercise Psychology Symposium, Sherbrooke, QC.
- Ferreira Gomes, J., Hayhurst, L. M. C., McSweeney, M., Sinclair, T., Darroch, F. (2023, March). Trauma- and violence-informed physical activity and sport for development for victims and survivors of gender-based violence: A scoping study. Center for Sociocultural Sport and Olympic Research Annual Conference, California, United States.
- Ferreira Gomes, J., Hayhurst, L. M. C., Darroch, F. (2023, June). Sport for development: Considering a trauma- and violence-informed approach. Federation for the Humanities and Social Sciences, Congress 2023. Toronto, Ontario, Canada.
- Roudbarani, F.H, Gallant, C., Maddox, B.B., Tablon-Modica, P., & Weiss, J.A. (2023, May). Factors associated with clinicians' attitudes toward the delivery of psychotherapy for autistic youth [Poster Presentation]. International Society for Autism Research (INSAR) 2023 Annual Meeting, Stockholm, Sweden
- Sellitto, T., Fraser-Thomas, J., Bassett-Gunter, R., Lee, V., Lunskey, Y., Baogh, R., & Weiss, J.A. (2023, April). The role of thriving in well-being among youth and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities during the COVID-19 pandemic [Poster Presentation]. The 2023 Gatlinburg Conference on Research and Theory in Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities, Kansas City, Missouri, United States.
- Sellitto, T., Fraser-Thomas, J., Bassett-Gunter, R., Lee, V., Lunskey, Y., Baogh, R., & Weiss, J.A. (2023, May). Well-being among autistic and non-autistic people with intellectual disability during the COVID-19 pandemic [Poster Presentation]. International Society for Autism Research (INSAR) 2023 Annual Meeting, Stockholm, Sweden
- Vashi, N., Ibrahim, A., Pouyandeh, A., & Weiss, J. A. (2023, May). Coherence of parental representations following therapy for autistic children [Poster Presentation]. International Society for Autism Research 2023 Annual Meeting, Stockholm, Sweden.

## Awards & Achievements

Congratulations to **Dr. Jonathan Weiss** for receiving a New Frontiers in Research Fund:

- Weiss, J. A., Desai, S., Azadeh, K., Meng-Chuan, L., Langdon, P., Lunskey, Y., Tint, A., Monette, G., Tiliczek, K., Flicker, S., Ritvo, P., Gray, K., Brown, H., McMorris, C., & Khanlou, N. (2023-2024). *Mobilizing environments to improve psychological and physiological experiences of thriving in Autistic people*. New Frontiers in Research Fund.

## In the Media

LaMarsh member **Dr. Thanjeni Pathman** shares interesting findings regarding how kids are surprisingly adultlike in their memory recall:

<https://www.yorku.ca/news/2023/01/27/kids-are-surprisingly-adultlike-in-their-memory-recall-york-research-shows/>

## Partner Stories

**Dr. Rebecca Pillai Riddell** leads **DIVERT (Digital, Inclusive, Virtual, and Equitable Research Training) in Mental Health Platform**, a research and training platform designed to support a more inclusive and accessible approach to mental health. This project brings together the leadership of nine principal investigators across Canada. In addition, five non-for-profit organizations, Indigenous Friends, Knowledge Institute on Child and Youth Mental Health and Addictions, 360° Kids, Strongest Families Institute, and Strong Minds Strong Kids Canada are also serving as core leaders, alongside additional co-investigators from across other Canadian and non-Canadian universities. To learn more about this excellent initiative, check out the following link:

<https://www.yorku.ca/news/2022/05/12/prof-rebecca-pillai-riddell-leads-divert-mental-health-a-research-and-training-platform-designed-to-support-a-more-inclusive-and-accessible-approach-to-mental-health/>

## Announcements

### Join the NEW LaMarsh LinkedIn Group!

We have recently established a LinkedIn group for the LaMarsh Community. The goal of this group is to provide a platform for LaMarsh members to support one another.

You're invited to actively engage with this virtual community in ways that are most meaningful to you. For example, you can use the LinkedIn group to contribute to discussions, ask questions, share announcements, seek out mentors, schedule meetups, and network with fellow LaMarsh members.

We hope this platform will serve as a helpful tool to foster communication among our Community. This group will evolve based on your contributions and needs, and we welcome your suggestions to improve the service.

Please use this link to join the LaMarsh LinkedIn group:

<https://www.linkedin.com/groups/14155534/>

## Follow Us On Social Media



Be sure to **follow** LaMarsh on social media to stay up-to-date with the latest news and events from the Centre. We also encourage you to **tag @LaMarshCentre** in your posts, so that we can re-share your work with our community!

**Instagram:** [@LaMarshCentre](#)

**Twitter:** [@LaMarshCentre](#)

**LinkedIn:** [LaMarsh Centre for Child & Youth Research at York University](#)

## Call for Newsletter Content

Would you like to be featured in the next edition of the LaMarsh newsletter or have your research highlighted as the article of the season? Kindly send content and photos to [lamarshmedia@gmail.com](mailto:lamarshmedia@gmail.com) by **June 30, 2023**. This newsletter is designed to highlight YOUR accomplishments, including:

- Scholarships/grants you've been awarded
- Articles/books you've published
- Conferences you've presented at
- Community partnerships you've developed
- Past events you've hosted
- Upcoming events you're planning to host
- Any other newsletter-worthy materials!

We look forward to continuing to circulate the LaMarsh newsletter each quarter.

## Interested In Joining Our Trainee Network?

The LaMarsh Trainee Network is a group of undergraduate students, graduate students, and post-doctoral fellows studying in the area of child and youth research from a variety of disciplines at York University. The aim of the Trainee Network is to help students establish meaningful academic relationships with researchers in their field of interest, share research with peers, and give talks at symposium events for learning and development purposes. The Network is also designed to broaden interest and awareness of child and youth research, encourage multi-disciplinary research, and provide a means for skill development.

To get involved, email the LaMarsh Centre for Child & Youth Research [lamarsh@yorku.ca](mailto:lamarsh@yorku.ca)

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