Social Skills Program for Children with ASD

Elizabethtown Healthcare Foundation has funded a third year of Kean’s successful “Social Skills Facilitation Program for Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders”. This program, located in the Speech Clinic on the East Campus, provides opportunities for children with Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD) aged six to twelve to develop the social and pragmatic skills necessary to live well-rounded, enjoyable lives.

Dr. Barbara Glazewski (right), Professor and Coordinator of the Graduate Program in Speech-Language Pathology, and Susan Mandel (left), Clinic Coordinator for the Center for Communication Disorders, are the Principal Investigators and also serve as Program Coordinators. Laura Gray (center), a licensed speech-language pathologist, works directly with the children in the program. Services to children are also provided by graduate students in the Speech-Language Pathology Program during the fall, spring and summer semesters.

Activities this past semester included bowling and building with LEGOS® and magnetic blocks. Children used iPads® to research areas of interest and the results were used in promoting group discussion activities. Games such as Guess Who, Jenga and Bananagrams were also used to promote language and social skills. Near the end of the semester the children created cooperative holiday crafts projects through following directions, sequencing activities, and peer modeling.

The children in the program are grouped by language skills and level of social and pragmatic development. Individual goals are developed for each child based on parental input, formal and informal assessments, and observation. Progress is monitored continuously and results in the development of activities necessary for clients to meet individual goals. At the end of each semester, objectives are reviewed and the results are used to measure progress and to plan for future goals.

Parents are encouraged to periodically observe group sessions and participate in activities. They are also provided with guidance to carryover learned skills into the home and school or community settings. While the children are participating in group activities, parents are provided with a support and training group.

Future plans for the program include collaborating with other units within the University and expanding services to include such initiatives as team sports and dramatic arts activities. Ideas to enhance and expand the social interaction opportunities for children with ASD are endless, and they will allow them to experience the success and pleasure that comes from "just being a kid!"
Research Compliance Matters

IRB Review Categories

It is the responsibility of applicants to the Institutional Review Board to identify which type of review they are seeking. There are three different review categories: Exempt, Expedited, and Full. Each of the three categories have specific features which are worth highlighting:

The exempt category is only for those projects that do not involve any degree of risk to participants or involve data from anyone under the age of 18 years. Applicants must fit into one of the six specific and unique categories of exempt research. Only when there is a fit can the applicant apply via exempt review.

The expedited review category is for those projects that involve no more than a minimal risk to participants. This research can involve participants under 18 years of age. There are 9 specific categories of expedited research that applicants must fit into. Failure to do so will result in ineligibility for the expedited review.

The full review category is for all other research that does not fit into the exempt or expedited categories. For more information about the review categories, please visit the ORSP webpage and select the IRB link.

Contact Dr. Joseph Cronin jcronin@kean.edu or ext. 73464 for questions and guidance related to research compliance.

Grant Administration Topics

Grant Funded Released Time and Summer Salary

Released time is calculated as a percentage of the academic base salary of a full-time faculty member and the required full teaching load of 24 credits. For example: A faculty member is requesting 6 credits academic released time. 6 credits are 25% of the full teaching load of 24 credits; therefore 25% of the faculty academic base salary plus fringe benefits must be requested from the grant budget.

Summer salary will be calculated at the current negotiated overload rate for the faculty plus fringe benefits.

Anyone receiving released time from any internally or externally funded project cannot also receive overload payments during the academic year for teaching or research. Summer salary and released time can be paid from multiple funding sources.

Contact Brenda Dunlop bdunlop@kean.edu or ext. 73345 in the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs for questions and guidance relating to grant administration.

Deadlines & Reminders

Tuesday, January 8 - IRB applications for January due

Sunday, January 13 - Application deadline for UFRI

Friday, January 18 - Application deadline for SpF

Sunday, January 20 - Application deadline for RTR

Friday, February 15 - Application deadline for FFRA

April 23 and 24, 2013 - University Research Days
Student Spotlight

It’s Not Too Early to Start Planning for Summer!

This will be the 10th year that Kean student-faculty teams will spend their summer engaged in research and creative projects. The deadline for applications to the 2013 Students Partnering with Faculty (SpF) summer research program is January 18.

The Students Partnering with Faculty (SpF) summer research program was established in 2004 to support and advance student-faculty research, scholarship and creative activity at Kean University. Since then, over 240 students have participated in the program.

The Kean SpF program is designed around an intensive research or creative project which begins in the summer and continues into the academic year. The key is that the project is both student-centered and high-quality with personalized attention from the faculty mentor throughout the project timeline. SpF projects can encompass a wide range of activities: in a laboratory, in a studio, in the field, on a computer. Students learn to work independently on a project that is meaningful for their discipline.

Undergraduate research opportunities are especially important to students with graduate school expectations, since the project may result in publication opportunities. SpF projects have been the basis of over 30 student presentations at major regional and national conferences, and a number of student publications in peer-reviewed journals.

The SpF summer experience must be a minimum of six weeks. Teams can be two or three students. The project should be different from research done in fulfillment of a requirement of an academic program and cannot be used to earn academic credit. Both undergraduate and graduate students are eligible to participate. All full-time tenured and untenured faculty are eligible to apply.

Student researchers and faculty mentors each receive $3,500 stipends. A maximum of $2,000 may also be awarded to cover research and project supplies and local travel.

The application process is a collaboration between the faculty member who will serve as the advisor and a team of two or three students. The deadline for SpF13 is January 18, 2013. Awards will be announced in February.

Applications are available online at orsp.kean.edu

ORSP News

Registration Open for Student Presentations

For more information about this event and to register click here

Deadline for all student registrations
Deadline for faculty advisor review and approval
Deadline for submission of poster files for free printing

February 25
March 08
March 25

There is a limit to the number of presentations and posters that can be accommodated in the space available. Students are encouraged to register early. Registration may close before the deadline if limits have been reached.

This annual event provides students the opportunity to present their preliminary or completed research and creative activities to the campus community. Presentation formats include posters, oral presentations, performances, exhibits and demonstrations. All undergraduate and graduate students are invited. Individual or team projects are welcome. All Kean University graduate or undergraduate students who are conducting original research, original data collection, or creative work under the supervision of a Kean University faculty member are eligible to present.

Students presenting research posters at Kean University Research Day 2012
## Government Grant Opportunities

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<td>1/24/13</td>
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<td>National Science Foundation – Science, Technology and Society</td>
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<td>National Institutes of Health – Exploratory/Developmental Research Grant Program R21</td>
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<td>National Institutes of Health – Small Grant Program R03</td>
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<td>National Science Foundation – Promoting Research and Innovation in Methodologies for Evaluation</td>
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<td>National Institutes of Health – Academic Research Enhancement Award (AREA) R15</td>
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<td>National Science Foundation - Research Coordination Networks</td>
<td>Various deadlines</td>
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## Foundations and Corporations

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<td>Alzheimers Association - New Investigator Research Awards</td>
<td>Letter of intent due 2/1/13</td>
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<td>The Harry Frank Guggenheim Foundation – Research Grants</td>
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<td>Ford Foundation – Various interests related to social change</td>
<td>Rolling deadlines</td>
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<td>Spencer Foundation – Education Research Grants</td>
<td>No deadline</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alfred P. Sloan Foundation – Sloan Foundation Grants</td>
<td>No deadline</td>
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Office of Research and Sponsored Programs

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