# **UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER'S PHD PROGRAM:**



# **DEVELOPMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY**

### Welcome to our Developmental Graduate Training Program!

The Department of Clinical & Social Sciences in Psychology is home to outstanding scholars and offers an intellectually stimulating environment for Developmental, Clinical, and Social PhD students. As UR is a top-ranked research university, our psychology graduate students have access to experts in related fields and a wealth of professional development resources.



The Developmental Psychology Ph.D. program\* specializes in examining social and emotional development in context while offering rigorous training in developmental theory and methods. The program produces strong developmental scholars and prepares students for careers that combine research and teaching at the university level.

\*From our program students will earn a sequential M.A. and a Ph.D., currently we do not offer either a terminal Masters or admission directly into a Ph.D. program The Developmental Psychology Ph.D. program specializes in examining social and emotional development in context while offering rigorous training in developmental theory and methods. The program produces strong developmental scholars and prepares students for careers that combine research and teaching at the university level.



## **Our Strengths**

- Small student-to faculty-ratio, allowing for extensive interaction and mentorship from program faculty.
- Expansive research opportunities, including affiliation with the Mt. Hope Family Center, a nationally recognized research center for child development research.
- Five years of financial support, including grant-funded opportunities for many of our students.
- Exceptional ranking: Our program ranks as one of the top Developmental Psychology Programs in North America.

The small size of the Developmental Psychology Ph.D. program cultivates a cohesive, supportive, and personal training environment that insures that graduate students receive individualized attention from their faculty mentors. We operate from a junior colleague model of graduate training where students are regarded as invaluable, integral members of the program. We encourage students to develop their own identity as researchers and scholars.

## Students may earn their degree through one of two training tracks:

#### **Developmental Psychology Track**

Our traditional track specifically focuses on normal and atypical development during the first two decades of life.

#### **Developmental Psychopathology Track**

Students have additional opportunities and training experiences in methods of understanding and improving human development across a range of normative and risk conditions.

The training experience is designed to facilitate mastery of the scientific skills in the substantive knowledge area of the program faculty while allowing students to develop a research program that uniquely reflects their own interests. This process, in our view, is best fostered by intensive collaborative exchanges with faculty.

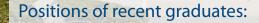
#### NEW: Quantitative Methods Certificate:

For students wishing to broaden statistical and quantitative skills, we offer advanced classes in methodological techniques specifically geared towards analyzing developmental research questions.



## **Placement Post Graduation**

One of the most important indices for evaluating graduate programs in developmental psychology is their ability to place graduate students in top academic and research positions after graduation.



- Post-Doctoral Associate at Columbia University
- Visiting Assistant Professor at the Rochester Institute of Technology
- Tenure-track Assistant Professor at Virginia Commonwealth University
- Tenured Associate Professor at the University of Missouri
- Tenure-track Assistant Professor at West Virginia University

Original Strong Memorial Hospital Entrance

## Core Faculty

## **Dr. Patrick Davies**



Dr. Patrick Davies' research is concerned with the nature, antecedents, and consequences of children's reactivity to family conflict using evolutionary models. Other interests include understanding the nature and sequelae of children's temperamental and neurobiological reactivity to risky contexts.

www.psych.rochester.edu/research/rcf patrick.davies@rochester.edu

# Dr. Laura Elenbaas



Dr. Laura Elenbaas investigates social cognition, intergroup attitudes, and morality in childhood and adolescence. Her research examines developing conceptions of fairness, perceptions of social groups, and peer relations, in three main areas: 1) Children's perceptions of social and economic inequality, 2) norms and status in intergroup contexts, and 3) developing moral concerns.

www.psych.rochester.edu/psy/people/faculty/elenbaas\_laura laura.elenbaas@rochester.edu

# Dr. Judith Smetana



Dr. Judith Smetana's research focuses on children's and adolescents' social and moral reasoning and development. She examines this in the context of early moral development and behavior, adolescent-parent relationships in different cultural and ethnic/racial contexts, with a focus on autonomy development, and parenting beliefs and practices.

www.psych.rochester.edu/research/socialdev judith.smetana@rochester.edu

## Dr. Melissa Sturge-Apple



Dr. Sturge-Apple's research focuses on children's adaptation within family relationships with an emphasis on children's neurobiological and psychological functioning. In addition, her work examines contextual-cognitive influences on parenting behaviors.

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