

Psychobiologisches Kolloquium Prof. Dr. Markus Heinrichs

Herzliche Einladung zum Vortrag:

Prof. Dr. Megan Gunnar (University of Minnesota, USA)

The social regulation of stress in human development

Dienstag, 05.09.2017, 16 c.t. - 18 Uhr

Konferenzraum - Lehrstuhl für Biologische und Differentielle Psychologie, Stefan-Meier-Str. 8, 3. OG

ABSTRACT

In this presentation, Professor Gunnar will cover research studies on the emergence of social buffering of the HPA axis by parents in the first year of life, the continued potency of parents as social buffers of the axis throughout childhood, and the waning of parental effectiveness as stress buffers with puberty. She will then present work examining whether peers take over as stress buffers as parental stress buffering wanes and the question of whether urinary oxytocin tracks the waning of parental stress buffering with puberty.

VITA

Megan R. Gunnar is a Regents Professor and Distinguished McKnight University Professor at the University of Minnesota. She is the Director and Chair of the Institute of Child Development and the Associate Director of the Center for Neurobehavioral Development. She received her Ph.D. in Developmental Psychology at Stanford University and then completed a post-doctoral fellowship in stress neurobiology with Seymour Levine at Stanford Medical School. In 1979 she came to the Minnesota as an Assistant Professor moving through the ranks to Full Professor by 1990. Professor Gunnar has spent her career studying how stress affects human brain and behavioral development and the processes that help children regulate stress. She is the recipient of lifetime achievement awards from the American Psychological Association, Division 7 Developmental Psychology, and the Society for Research in Child Development and a lifetime mentor award from the Association for Psychological Science. Nationally she is a member of the Harvard National Scientific Council on the Developing Child that translates developmental science into language that communicates with policy makers. Internationally she is a member of the Canadian Institute for Advanced Research's Program on Child and Brain Development, a group working on how early experiences 'gets under the skin' to influence lifelong health and well-being.