



Happening in SRO

You can find this “Happening in SRO” and all similar newsletters on the SRO Intranet Home Page, located at: <http://isr-wp.isr.umich.edu/srointranet/> under Recent News.

If you have items for the newsletter, please let Ann Vernier or your unit director know.



Baby's First Years (Piotr Dworak, Stephanie Chardoul)

The objective of this new study is to examine the impact of unconditional cash transfers on brain development in the first three years of children's lives. Experiences early in life have profound influences on the developing brain. Family economic resources shape the nature of many of these experiences, yet the extent to which they affect children's development is unknown. This study aims to provide the first definitive understanding of the extent to which income support for families plays a causal role in determining early child cognitive, socio-emotional and brain development among low-income families. “Beyond its core contributions to science, the proposed large study will provide important evidence about the likely effects of tax and income-enhancement policies for young children, such as the Child and Earned Income Tax Credits, incentive-based employment programs, and related social policies designed to enhance family economic well-being.”¹

Perhaps the best introduction to the study would be to listen to the video (link below) by the study Principal Investigator, Dr. Greg Duncan. [Fun fact: Dr. Duncan used to be the Director of the PSID here at Michigan.

To what extent does poverty compromise children's development?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3NlyerjRJPA>

Greg Duncan, Professor at the University of California, Irvine.



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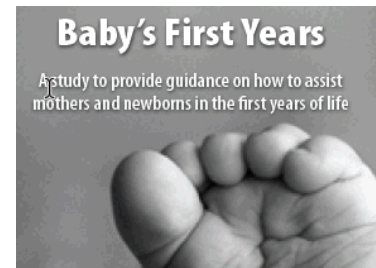
SRO will conduct the study on behalf of a large research team spanning researchers from a variety of institutions with expertise in a variety of disciplines including neuroscience, developmental psychology, economics, and education. The study will draw on a convenience sample of newborn infants and their mothers in four US locations: New York City; Omaha/Lincoln; New Orleans; and Minneapolis. Two hospitals were selected as recruiting sites at each location. Between April 2018 and March 2019, SRO interviewers will be posted at each hospital to determine eligibility, recruit, conduct Baseline interviews, and enroll Moms into the Randomized Control Trial (RCT). In the RCT, the experimental group of Moms will receive an unconditional “gift” of \$333 per month in the first 3 years of their baby's life. A control group of Moms will receive a smaller monthly gift of \$20. Researchers expect that the difference in the cash transfers will be significant enough to produce different patterns in the early childhood cognitive development.

The Baseline goal is to recruit 1,000 Moms across all four locations who will be asked for repeat participation in Waves 1 – 3 on their baby's birthday. In Wave 1 (baby is 12 months old) we plan to conduct a telephone interview with Mom. In Wave 2 (baby is 24 months old) we plan to interview Moms at home in person, at which point we will conduct developmental assessments, collect biomarkers, and record video of behavioral interactions. In Wave 3 (baby is 36 months old), SRO interviewers will meet Mom and the baby at a local lab and conduct one last in-person interview before the lab researchers conduct a series of neuro-cognitive tests. Our goal is to retain at least 800 Moms in the study through Wave 3.

¹ Adapted from: “Income and the Developing Brain During the First Three Years of Life”

<http://sites.uci.edu/gduncan/files/2013/06/Poverty-brain-project-summary-December-2016.pdf>

Some of the challenges in implementing the project include coordination of human subject protection reviews across multiple institutions (both collaborating universities and the hospital sites), ensuring appropriate mix of interviewers to conduct interviews in English and Spanish (especially during the Baseline, when we have a very short window to identify and interview the Moms before they leave the hospital), and ensuring that participating Moms' eligibility for social services are not negatively affected by receiving the large "gift." The research team and the SRO team are dedicated to making sure those challenges do not delay production!



With respect to the IRB, we are getting close to signing reliance agreement with participating IRBs to cede protocol review to one of the collaborating institutions. With this complex protocol, you can imagine the human subjects review has been extensive and has raised lots of questions! On the field interviewer front, our Data Collection Services staff has succeeded in finding the right mix of Spanish-speaking interviewers in Omaha, Minneapolis/St. Paul, and in New York. Finally, a tremendous amount of work has been done by the research team to ensure Moms participating in the study will not lose eligibility for any state or federal support programs. Researchers have gone as far as to secure passing of special state legislation and/or administrative rulings to protect study participants.

Baby's First Years will be using MSMS for sample management and Blaise 4.8 for the survey instruments. The project will be one of the first studies using MSMS offline for decentralized field interviews, and the project's characteristics make it very suitable for the system. Baby's First Years sample comes with no preload -- interviewers create their listings as they encounter Moms at hospitals, immediately after they have given birth. After launching the eligibility Screener, the MSMS task structure leads interviewers through the process of presenting the research consent, conducting the Baseline interview, and enrolling Moms for the RCT (which includes calling out to a third-party financial vendor to register for the debit card that will be used for the monthly transfers). The Technical Services Group is doing an excellent job balancing the needs of this project with the needs of several other projects launching this spring. Preliminary work on setting up the system components has been completed and we are currently testing the interface.

Interviewer training will be held in Ann Arbor and is scheduled for mid-March. The team is working hard to get all these complicated pieces in place! The research team has been great to work with – they are extremely appreciative of SRO's experience and knowledge, and they are very excited, too, to be launching this ground-breaking study.

Our Work in the World (Stephanie Chardoul)

SRO is contributing to the Adolescent Brain Cognitive Development (ABCD) project through school and respondent recruitment for the Michigan-based site, and sample development and monitoring for the entire national project. [See our October 2016 edition of *Happening in SRO* for a full project description.] ABCD was featured in a segment on *The Today Show* on January 31st -- the video highlights the scope and importance of the project, citing it as "...the **biggest** study ever on teenage brains"! Check it out -- it provides an interesting look at what happens to the kids after we recruit them!

<https://www.today.com/video/new-study-looks-at-how-teen-brains-function-1150262339631>

SRO Steps Up Fun

Some members of the **SRO Steps Up** group gather for a group photo for the first Swag Photo contest through M-Healthy's Active U program.



Nancy Knows (Nancy Bylica)

Welcome to a new and periodically reoccurring column in the SRO Happenings. In this column, we will receive useful tips on general importance from Nancy Bylica, our SRO Admin contact for many, many things...

Is your voice-mailbox full? You might need to read below:

You can find the full user guide here: <http://its.umich.edu/communication/telephone/voicemail/support>

Once you log in you will be able to delete voice-mail messages.

NOTE: If you do not have your OWA Password, please email itcom.csr@umich.edu and request that your OWA Password be reset. Include your 10-digit phone number in your message. ITS recommends you change your password after you sign in for the first time.

Getting Started

Go to Outlook Web App (OWA) at <https://exchange.umich.edu/>

OWA connects you to your Exchange mailbox via the web.

OWA Login:

- Enter your 10-digit phone number (no spaces or dashes) in the User Name field.
- Enter your OWA Password.

Example

- User Name: 7349876543
- Password: OWA password

Removing Items from Exchange Deleted Items Folder

There are three ways messages in your Deleted Items Folder are removed:

- You can set a Rule to remove all deleted messages upon log off.
- You can manually remove individual or all messages from your Deleted Items Folder.
- The system will automatically remove deleted messages from Voicemail Only accounts once a week on Saturday except for those messages put into the folder the day before.

Deleting voicemail messages or attachments from within an email program does not delete them from your voice mailbox. To delete messages from your voice mailbox, you can use your phone or OWA—or you can set up a rule to delete each voicemail message from your Exchange voice mailbox just after it is transferred to your email mailbox. See [Setting Up a Rule to Delete Voicemail Messages](#).