Looking back on the Friedman Center’s Summer Research Experience in Aging and Neurological Diseases

On July 26, the Harvey A. Friedman Center for Aging’s second annual eight-week Summer Research Experience concluded with a poster session where participating students presented their findings to an audience of their peers, faculty mentors, and other Washington University research staff.

This year, eleven undergraduate students from six universities and colleges within the St. Louis metropolitan region were selected to participate in the immersive eight-week, full time summer research experience.

The summer program is intended to help undergraduate students with limited exposure to research develop transferrable skills through working directly with faculty and other students in research labs. Students also attended presentations and workshops where they learned about a wide range of topics related to aging, including three neurological conditions and diseases that often affect older adults: Parkinson’s disease, stroke, and Alzheimer’s disease and other dementias. The program culminated with an opportunity for students to design and present posters detailing their research findings.
2019 Participants and Poster Presentations:

Chidera Agwu (Mentor: Denise Head) | Potential Moderators of Age Differences in Egocentric Perspective Taking
Home institution: Saint Louis University

Zainab Ali (Mentor: Gammon Earhart) | Determining Barriers and Feasibility of Telehealth Interventions That Promote an Active Lifestyle Among People Living with Parkinson Disease
Home institution: Saint Louis University

Gaby Cornejo (Mentor: Julie Bugg) | The Effect of Conditioned Reward on Cognitive Control in Older Adults
Home institution: Saint Louis University

Keersten Heinrich (Mentor: Ellen Binder) | rRAD: Reducing Risk for Alzheimer’s Disease
Home institution: Lindenwood University

Hannah Holmes (Mentor: Susan Stark) | Influence of Participation in Daily Living and Social Activities on Level of Recovery in Stroke Survivors
Home institution: Harris-Stowe State University

Ellie Martin (Mentor: Patrick Hill) | The Associations of Religion and Purpose in Older Adults
Home institution: Lindenwood University

Asia Parson (Mentor: Brian Carpenter) | Knowledge Among Adult Children About Their Parents’ Future Care Preferences
Home institution: Washington University in St. Louis

Haylie Santos (Mentor: Alex Wong) | Mobile Assessment to Measure Daily Behaviors and Symptoms in Real-World Time
Home institution: Saint Louis University

Kayla Thomas (Mentor: Phyllis Stein) | 24-Hour Holter-Based Measures Add to Clinical Risk Category for Prediction of Incident Dementia
Home institution: Missouri Baptist University

Kendall Werhane (Mentor: Catherine Lang) | Compensatory Movement Analysis – Post Stroke
Home institution: Saint Louis University

Steven Yoon (Mentor: Mary Politi) | Examining the Performance of Subjective Health Literacy Measures in Young Adults
Home institution: University of Missouri - Columbia