




Slide 1

**University of Maryland Autism Research Consortium (UMARC)**

Social Interaction Group Network for UMD Students with Autism (SIGNA).  
Teen PEERS® and EFFECT Groups




Slide 2



- Who we are: Faculty and students from multiple departments –
  - Partial listing:
    - Department of Hearing and Speech Sciences (HESP): Ratner, Dow-Burger, Edwards, Garbarino, Huang, Newman, Siskin,
    - College of Education: Yakubova, Rubin, Bolger
    - Department of Psychology: Redcay,
    - Linguistics, Neuroscience and Cognitive Sciences (NACS), Engineering, etc.

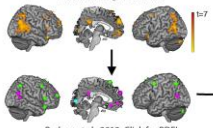
- What we do:
- Community learning about autism seminar series (CLASS)
- Advocacy and information:
  - e.g. working with major employers at the Career Center
- Professional training at low cost
  - PEERS®
- Research portal and referral center, including cross-lab collaboration
  - Siblings at risk seen by Psychology, HESP and Linguistics



Slide 3

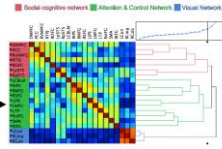
**SAMPLE RESEARCH PROJECTS: REDCAY LAB [NEURAL BASES OF SOCIAL COGNITION]**

Joint attention regions of interest



Redcay et al., 2012. Click for PDF


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■ Social cognitive networks ■ Attention & Control Network ■ Visual Network

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**SAMPLE RESEARCH: YAKUBOVA LAB – MAXIMIZING INSTRUCTIONAL EFFECTIVENESS IN ASD**



Improving Problem-Solving Performance of Students With Autism Spectrum Disorder

Katerina Yakubova, PhD and Travis Tamm-Engelby, PhD

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**SAMPLE RESEARCH: DIR/FLOORTIME PROGRAM IMPACTS ON LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT IN EARLY ASD [RATNER LAB]**



**PLAY, Autism, and The PLAY Project**

Richard Solomon, MD  
Medical Director, The PLAY Project  
Developmental and Behavioral Pediatrician

**Autism**  
THE POTENTIAL WITHIN

The PLAY Project Approach to Helping Young Children with Autism

Richard Solomon, MD

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**VIRTUAL REALITY RESEARCH INITIATIVES**

- Virtual Reality using PEERS Young Adult Dating and Romantic Relationships Lessons (Yakubova, Redcay & Dow-Burger)
- Augmented Reality using PEERS Teen Teasing and Bullying Lessons (Yakubova, Dow-Burger, et. al)
- Virtual Reality Empathy Tool (Redcay, Dow-Burger, UMD students in computer engineering, computer science)



UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND  
AUTISM RESEARCH CONSORTIUM

University of Maryland  
DEPARTMENT OF HEARING AND SPEECH SCIENCES

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UMARC's Community-wide Learning about Autism Speaker Series: CLASS



Do you have questions about your child with autism? Come to CLASS and let's talk! UMARC's Community-wide Learning about Autism Speaker Series: CLASS brings in outside speakers and our faculty board members to inform parents, professionals, and students about hot topics related to autism as well as answer questions during audience led discussions. Our upcoming lectures are listed below; other talks will be posted as the dates are finalized. Learn about our past events and testimonials here, and view information from past CLASS lecture powerpoint slides.

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June 14-16, 2017: UMARC held the first ever PEERS for Young Adults Training at the University of Maryland with Elizabeth Laugeson, Psy.D.



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UPCOMING PEERS® SCHOOL-BASED PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATION TRAINING





University of Maryland  
Wednesday, June 7 to Friday, June 9, 2018

Registration opens in January, 2018

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**HESP CLINIC SERVICES**

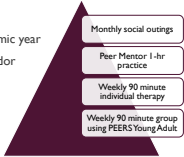
- SIGNA: Social skills & broader services—UMD students
- Support for students with academic promise but at high risk of social and academic failure due to:
  - Primary ASD symptoms and/or other social communication difficulties
  - Anxiety
  - Lack of self-management skills due to executive functioning difficulties



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**HESP CLINIC SERVICES**

- SIGNA's 4 Tiers
- Fee \$3500/academic year
- HESP DORS vendor



Individual treatment includes:



- Full social communication and executive function testing
- Semester initial therapy plan report
- End of semester progress report



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**OTHER HESP CLINIC SERVICES**

- PEERS: Social skills-high schoolers who are diploma/college-bound using the PEERS teen curriculum
- EFFECT: Executive function-high schoolers who are also diploma/college-bound using high school coursework and high interest topics to teach skills in a group and individual setting



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