

Connections Lab

{ Intro and such

- ⌘ Anna Jankowska is visiting professor and co-director
- ⌘ Marie-Michelle is lab coordinator

Welcome

- & Francis Galton and Wilhelm Wundt
- & James McKeen Cattell
- & E. L. Thorndike
- & Percival Symonds
- & Arthur Jensen
- & Jeffery Braden/Craig Frisby/ John Kranzler
- & S. Shaw
- & You

Academic Family Tree

- ⌘ Started studying 22q13 deletion syndrome
- ⌘ Other microdeletion syndromes
- ⌘ Autism and severe intellectual disabilities
- ⌘ Studying medical issues and academic performance

History of Connections Lab

- ⌘ Increased frustration with medical/wet lab collaboration
- ⌘ Little control
- ⌘ Few chances to really advance theory or practice
- ⌘ Need to change

History of Connections Lab

- ⌘ Contacted me about my former work on children with borderline intelligence
- ⌘ Guest scholar helped to develop a new approach to resilience, interventions, and borderline intelligence
- ⌘ Began changing lab over to new research
- ⌘ Developed relationships with schools
- ⌘ Began pilot project
- ⌘ The guest scholar is back

History of Connections Lab

- ⌘ Academic skills can be learned, but low achieving student still struggle
- ⌘ Success in school requires a set of behaviours that are not typically taught in school
- ⌘ High ability students learn or infer these behaviours
- ⌘ Low ability students do not learn these skills and often learn maladaptive skills
- ⌘ So they need to learn them
- ⌘ We need to teach them

The Model

- ⌘ Executive Functions
- ⌘ Social Skills
- ⌘ School Adaptation
- ⌘ Coping with Medical Issues
- ⌘ Coping with Mental Health Issues

The Model

- ⌘ We create, apply and evaluate curricular modules that teach these missing skills
- ⌘ We have completed some pilot studies
- ⌘ Now we are ready to do big studies

The Model

- ⌘ CSPI—8 schools, French language school board
 - ⌘ Laura Varona Prevez, Marie Michelle Boulanger, and Shalaka Shah are leaders
- ⌘ MacDonald HS—high school ethics program
 - ⌘ Michael Clyde is leader
- ⌘ St. Lawrence Academy—primary schools
 - ⌘ No project leader
- ⌘ Place Cartier—adult education
 - ⌘ No project leader
- ⌘ Centennial HS—private HS
 - ⌘ No project leader

Data Collection for this year

- ⌘ What works is important
- ⌘ We also work on when, where, how, and for whom this works
- ⌘ Developing a model of implementation analogous to open source software

Implementation

- ⌘ Free
- ⌘ Flexible implementation
- ⌘ Ownership shared
- ⌘ Self determination theory
- ⌘ Holds important and creative research opportunities
- ⌘ The science of how things are implemented is a critical need in psychology

Implementation

- ⌘ This year—begin thesis studies in a few schools and expand the modules in Montreal
- ⌘ Next year—expand number of modules and complexity and schools in and out of Montreal
- ⌘ I am often asked to speak to organizations—I accept about 3 per year. Used for recruiting.
- ⌘ Begin to franchise program to the rest of the world

Taking over the world

- ⌘ 10 submissions to refereed publications (Sept 1-August 31)
- ⌘ More the 20 presentations at national or international conferences
- ⌘ One book
- ⌘ Invited workshops, consultation and presentations
- ⌘ Grant funding

Goals

& Week 1

- ⌘ One manuscript submitted
- ⌘ Two grant proposals submitted
- ⌘ Key note address to CACAP on Monday
- ⌘ Two MMY test reviews due Monday
- ⌘ More to come

Progress

⌘ Lab meeting

- ⌘ Business and planning
- ⌘ Mentoring/Teaching
- ⌘ Journal Club
- ⌘ Practice/feedback

Lab life

⌘ Project meetings

- ⌘ Theses
- ⌘ Projects for publication
- ⌘ The team leader develops a team, sets up meetings, and makes everything happen

Lab life

⌘ Individual meetings

- ⌘ 30 minutes per week
- ⌘ Prepare questions for me
- ⌘ Prepare to give progress reports
- ⌘ E-mail a summary of the meeting to me

Lab life

⌘ Lab space

- ⌘ Student ID as key
- ⌘ Be secure
- ⌘ Be clear
- ⌘ Share
- ⌘ We share with Jake and Tara
- ⌘ Snack and such

Lab life

& Twitter

- ⌘ A lab diary
- ⌘ Must tweet at least weekly on what you did
- ⌘ Follow and allow all labbies to follow you
- ⌘ Suggest making account private, but follow all other labbies and me
- ⌘ No politics, sexism, racism
- ⌘ Read all linked papers
- ⌘ @Shawpsych

Lab Life

- ⌘ Dropbox file
- ⌘ We will share it with you
- ⌘ We will keep team projects there

Lab Life

- ⌘ Ideas matter
- ⌘ Everyone is expected to contribute
- ⌘ Undergrad volunteers work with a grad student
- ⌘ Their work is acknowledged—if you contribute, then you are a co-author
- ⌘ I want all of your stupid ideas. We even have stupid idea time. Brainstorming.

Lab Life

- ⌘ Website
- ⌘ Information and public face. So check it frequently.
- ⌘ www.mcgill.ca/connectionslab
- ⌘ You will have your own profile
- ⌘ Blog—How not to suck at Grad School. This comes out about monthly
- ⌘ Launching 2nd blog—Research to Practice. We will write research updates there. All will contribute.

Lab Life

- ⌘ We are in this together as a team
- ⌘ Competition happens, but use it to improve yourself
- ⌘ Take initiative
- ⌘ Serious ethical violations, repeated failure to meet objective, and not being a good team member will get you released from my supervision
- ⌘ Get along and have a good time

Lab Life

- ⌘ Students design their own theses
- ⌘ I want thesis to be related to some aspect of the model or implementation
- ⌘ Be creative, work together, chat

Thesis

- ⌘ Never say that you do not have enough time
- ⌘ Reschedule or renegotiate tasks if busy
- ⌘ Develop at least one annual wellness goal
- ⌘ I hate talking on the phone—e-mail
- ⌘ Always create a paper trail and remind me often
- ⌘ You can talk to me and challenge me—it is not personal, it is respectful
- ⌘ Personal issues are handled privately
- ⌘ Rewarded publically, reprimanded publically

Working with Steve

- ⌘ I really try Zen leadership: “humanity, clarity, and courage”
- ⌘ Call me out when I fail
- ⌘ Never say, “I need to be on a publication.” It doesn’t work that way—so don’t bother me or your colleagues. Say, “I have an idea for a publication” and we will make it happen.

Working with Steve

- ⌘ 100 page per day of reading
- ⌘ 1000 words per day of writing
- ⌘ 6 days per week

Working with Steve

- ⌘ I will populate the drop box with key papers to get everyone started
- ⌘ The website will be updated
- ⌘ Next week: Data collection organization

Over next week