

**Department of Psychology
COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES**

**SUMMER RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES
FOR UNDERGRADUATE WOMEN**

APPLICATION DEADLINE: March 3, 2008

The Department of Psychology is pleased to offer the following research project for the summer of 2008. Interested students are urged to contact the faculty member(s) directing the project that most interests them. By contacting the faculty member, you can discover more about the project, learn what your responsibilities will be and, if possible, develop a timetable for the twelve-week research period.

Lifespan Dynamics of Cognition and Action

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Project Description

This group of researchers investigates humans' ability to think during locomotion, their ability to effortlessly walk and talk at the same time, for example. We look specifically at how this ability develops in young children, and how it changes as people grow old. Children between 3 and 14 years of age, as well as adults of a wide range of ages, are invited to participate as human subjects. They are asked to walk on a treadmill and complete a cognitive task at the same time. For example, while walking, they are asked to press a button every time they think a second has passed. We then take detailed measures on their performance to analyze the structure of coordination between the two tasks. The goal is to understand how mind and body become coordinated during development.