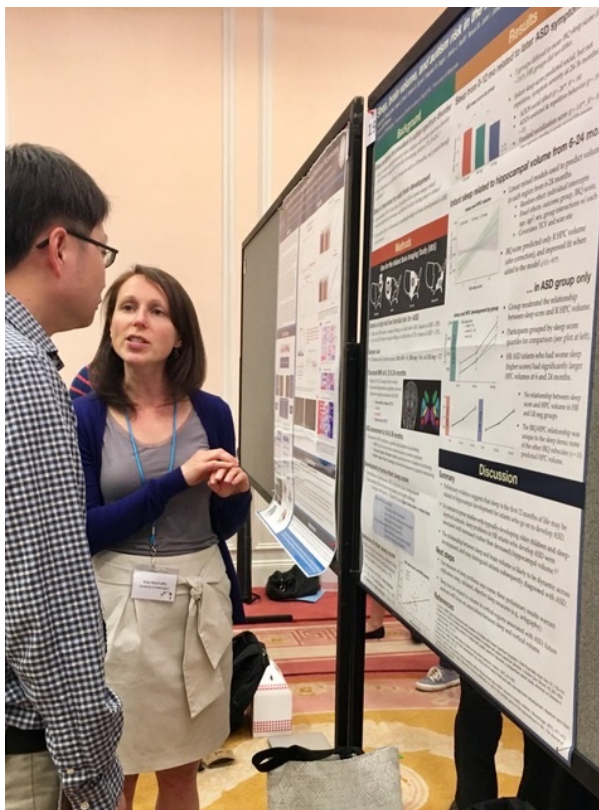




Introductions & Announcements

Congratulations to **Dr. Kate MacDuffie** on being awarded the UW Postdoctoral travel award in order to present at the Flux Satellite Conference in Chapel Hill, NC (below). The title of Dr. MacDuffie's presentation was: "Sleep, brain volume, and autism risk in the first 12 months of life"



The UWAC welcomes one of the newest members of our team, **Dr. Natasha Lewis Harrington**! A message from Natasha: "I am a new postdoctoral fellow at the Autism Center. I am autistic myself, and will be working with staff and clients around issues of neurodiversity and positive autistic identity. I previously conducted evaluations as a LEND fellow at UW's Child Development Clinic."

Natasha Lewis Harrington, Psy.D.
NLHarr@uw.edu

Summer Workshops



UWAC is proud to provide summer trainings and workshops at our Seattle and Tacoma campuses, as well as across Washington State! Click the image to read more!

Clinical Services



AAC Evaluations

The AAC services at the UW Autism Center aim to support communicators with limited or no

speech in learning to communicate more successfully. Augmentative & Alternative Communication- more commonly called “AAC”-refers to the tools and services offered to individuals who struggle to express their wants, needs, and ideas using speech. AAC includes gestures and manual sign language (ASL or SEA), picture communication cards, boards, and books, and Speech generating devices with communication software and spoken voice, such as a tablet with a communication app.

Children and adults with ASD benefit from AAC support when:

- They are not fully able to communicate effectively with speech
- Speech is inconsistent or poorly understood
- Spoken language is disorganized and difficult for others to understand, such as with prominent use of echolalia or “scripted” language

Why Include AAC in Therapy Programming?

- AAC systems provide an active means of communication when verbal skills are not adequate, which improves verbal outcomes over time.
- Effective AAC training starting at an early stage in communication development helps improve long-term language and literacy outcomes and reduce challenging behaviors.

[More about AAC](#)

Research



BCBA, **Robin Finlayson** practices her protocol for the IBIS School-Aged study with study coordinator, **Sydney Kamm**.

[Read more about our research](#)

As one study comes closer to a conclusion, another is ramping up for a next phase! We have begun preparation for the Infant Brain Imaging Study School-Aged Follow up (pictured left), just as members of our TADPOLE team meet to discuss preliminary data analyses (below).



South Sound Autism Needs Survey 2018

We are members of the South Sound Autism Community seeking input from individuals with Autism and their families on the services they use, barriers they experience, and supports they need. We hope to use this information to help inform future service development and fundraising efforts for the South Sound.

To take the survey, use the QR code or link below:



https://uwt.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_8D2HprE4DopLw5n



Your individual information will remain confidential and will not be shared. A summary of the autism needs survey will be available to the community and general public upon completion. If you have questions about this survey, please contact uwaitism@uw.edu

Just for Fun



Dr. Fritz Reitz had the opportunity to meet Zela, a visiting llama being used to demonstrate therapy animals to UW Medical Students!

