The Department of Psychology at Virginia Tech is pleased to announce a new graduate training area in Developmental Science, beginning in Fall 2013. The Developmental Science graduate program aligns with faculty who study aspects of human functioning that change in important and substantive ways across a multitude of ages. We investigate topics such as speech and language perception, communication, learning, memory, emotion, self-regulation, executive functioning, personality processes, family systems, and developmental psychopathology using techniques from gene modeling, electrophysiology, and eye tracking to detailed observational studies of behavior in infants, children, adolescents and their families.

Department of Psychology’s Developmental Science primary training faculty:
Dr. Martha Ann Bell, Professor, Department of Psychology (mabell@vt.edu): Infant and child development; executive functions; emotion regulation; temperament; self-regulation; EEG; ECG; frontal lobe functions; also a member of the Neuroscience and Biological Psychology program. Research link: http://www.psyc.vt.edu/labs/caplab

Dr. Kirby Deater-Deckard, Professor, Department of Psychology (kirbydd@vt.edu): Child and adolescent social/emotional/cognitive development; gene/behavior relations; family environment; scholastics; also a member of the Neuroscience and Biological Psychology program. Research link: http://www.psyc.vt.edu/labs/idd

Dr. Julie Dunsmore, Associate Professor, Department of Psychology (jdnsmor@vt.edu): Parent emotion socialization; socio-emotional development in early to middle childhood; culture; positive emotions; also serves as Director of Graduate Studies. Research link: http://www.psyc.vt.edu/labs/socialdev

Dr. Kurt Hoffman, Senior Instructor, Department of Psychology; (khoffma@vt.edu): animal behavior and ecology; learning across the lifespan; also serves as Director of Undergraduate Studies.

Dr. Jungmeen Kim-Spoon, Associate Professor, Department of Psychology (jungmeen@vt.edu): Risk and protective factors in developmental psychopathology; resilience in psychopathology; child maltreatment; religiosity; adolescent risk-taking behaviors. Research link: http://www.psyc.vt.edu/labs/jklifespan

Dr. Thomas Ollendick, University Distinguished Professor, Department of Psychology (tho@vt.edu): Clinical child and adolescent psychology; internalizing and externalizing disorders; social learning and social cognition; also a member of the Clinical Science program. Research link: http://www.psyc.vt.edu/labs/csc

Dr. Robin Panneton, Associate Professor, Department of Psychology (panneton@vt.edu): Infant development; multimodal language learning; emotion processing; eye tracking; heart rate activity; discrimination. Research link: http://www.psyc.vt.edu/labs/infantperception

Dr. Craig Ramey, Professor, Department of Psychology (ctramey@vt.edu): evidence-based early intervention; risk and resiliency in early childhood; home environment and developmental risk; also a faculty member at the Virginia Tech Carilion Research Institute. Research link: http://research.vtc.vt.edu/employees/craig-ramey/

Dr. Sharon Landesman Ramey, Professor, Department of Psychology (slramey@vt.edu): academic achievement in children; children’s health; early intervention strategies; early learning and school readiness; also a faculty member at the Virginia Tech Carilion Research Institute. Research link: http://research.vtc.vt.edu/employees/sharon-ramey/