



Psychology Speaker Series

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Sept 15, 2017 - 2:00-3:00 PM - Walters Life Science M311

Winners and losers:

Effects of social stress on brain and behavior

Social stress is known to have pervasive effects on health and to be a primary risk factor for the development of psychiatric disorders such as depression and posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD). My lab uses Syrian hamsters to study a phenomenon called conditioned defeat, which is an ethologically relevant model of stress-induced behavioral plasticity wherein a single, brief exposure to a social stressor reliably induces profound and long-lasting changes in social behavior. An overarching goal in our lab is to identify the neural circuit mediating the conditioned defeat response. This seminar will address and neuroendocrine and neurochemical mechanisms that underlie social stress-induced changes in behavior.

