August 3, 2020 newsletter.
Dear Grey House team and esteemed colleagues,
153 days into our rather proooooooootracted team-building adventure.
MacBeth, Act 5, scene 8: “It seeming hath no end.”

As empirical evidence of how much time has passed:

Before our naming competition.

Today.

This week’s newsletter theme:
**Summer scenes in the northern hemisphere, and…**
**Happy Maori New Year in the southern hemisphere!**
Ngā mihi o te mātahi o te tau! Happy new year!

The Maori new year begins with the rising of the Matariki (Pleiades) star cluster in the southern hemisphere:

Here is a little video from Dunedin this New Year morning. Arohanui, Moana & Reuben
https://drive.google.com/file/d/17BK7XUNg0Sk5uuQrkof7bLJEUemLn5RX/view?usp=drivesdk
Meanwhile, here is the all the news I have that’s fit to print since 27 July:

FIRST THE HAPPY NEWS!

The books arrived!
The books arrived!

Tony the UPS man delivered enough for every team member.

BIG BIG HUGS to Jay Belsky for writing it!
More good news:

SSGAC (the social science genetics consortium) has provided Dunedin and E-Risk with about 40 new polygenic scores, from enormous GWAS incorporating UKBiobank and 23andMe. Honalee has been hard at work managing this new influx of valuable data. Daniel Belsky has been running analyses to validate the polygenic scores against key phenotypes. The new scores will feature in a paper to be submitted by SSGAC this month, and then shortly after will be available to our team for analyses.

Upcoming birthdays

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NEXT, THE UNHAPPY NEWS:

Temi and Avshalom are not going here on Friday.

Other unhappy news: it’s Tisha b’Av, the ninth day of the month of Av (in the Jewish Calendar; [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tisha_B%27Av](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tisha_B%27Av)), a day on which numerous tragedies occurred in history. Yikes! Well, we certainly don’t need more of THOSE.
Using your office at Grey House requires these 10 things:

1. **You want to use your office.** Official Duke policy is still this: If you do not need to be on campus, please do not come to campus. You do not have to give a reason to work from home.

2. **Masks.** Bring your own, or P&N has provided masks in individual envelopes, these are on your desks. Masks not essential in your office. But yes in the hallways and bathroom.

3. **Disinfectant spray** is there for you to use on hotspots such as door-knobs and light-switches, copy machine, printers. Spray when you arrive and when you touch stuff. Remember cleaners may have been in your room at night, and they are in an at-risk demographic group, so do spray first thing. Spray bottles are in the office. You spray the surface and allow to dry for 10 minutes.

4. **Hand sanitizer.** We don’t have this yet at Grey House, Robin Dunn will get back to us on disinfecting wipes and hand sanitizer bottles once she hears back from Facilities. Meanwhile, bring your own from home, and use it.

5. **If you need one-time access to spend a limited time in our space** (e.g., to pick up a book or restart a computer), you no longer need to request permission. Just follow the guidelines for logging entries, exits, and symptoms, either via the website (see [https://www.today.duke.edu/2020/06/video-how-complete-your-daily-covid-19-symptom-log](https://www.today.duke.edu/2020/06/video-how-complete-your-daily-covid-19-symptom-log)) or via the new app called SymMon (search for “Duke Symptom Monitoring”) in Apple or Google Play Stores.

6. **If you would like to work regularly in your office,** you need to request permission before coming regularly. If you are a graduate student, postdoc, or staff member, write the faculty mentor (TEMI). Once you have that permission you can go to campus at your discretion, but still follow the logging procedures.

7. If you moved your work station home, and need a **monitor** installed in your office, let me know. Happy to cover it.

8. **Many of our team members wish to use their offices just to get a break from home, and to resume the team social support they miss.** I think this is reasonable and good. One view is you want to stagger your days in the office, so others are not there. A different view is you all want to go at the same day(s) to benefit from human interaction. I get both views. May I ask those who do want to go in to coordinate amongst yourselves? If you want regular days at the office, with a “bubble group”, say other postdocs and students, let me know the days your group chooses. But if you want regular days at the office, with few or no other team members there, let me know that too. I will coordinate.

9. **It goes without saying that everyone must have a single office, and chatting together should take place from the hallway, or in the big conference room (with distancing).** Aaron is moving to Leah’s old office.

10. **Bring your own water and coffee.** Our SGDP building at KCL in London welcomed everyone back to the office, only to find toxic bacteria in the water system. Don’t take a chance.
Or you could just stay home and cook summer steaks.
summer temps reached 35 degrees in London, that’s 100 farenheit. Current mood at Essi Viding’s house in London, everybody is starting to lose it!

Jessie’s trip to her family sunny summer Devon. Looks sparkly.
Our colleague criminologist Callie Burt in Atlanta noticed she felt a bit hot, then discovered thieves had liberated her air-conditioning unit. Watch your back yard!
Science-visualizations: (thanks Honalee!)

NO MASK ON YOUR FACE
YOU BIG DISGRACE
SPREADING YOUR GERMS ALL OVER THE PLACE
RESEARCH-PROJECT PROGRESS SINCE 27 July:

This pandemic has been oddly good to us, productivity-wise. This week we have:

35 completed manuscripts submitted.

18 of them have already gotten an R&R (things appear to be moving again).

4 of them have been rejected, but we are not taking no for an answer (smile)

And a small handful of them are newly submitted papers that we don’t know yet if they are getting sent out for review. Keep fingers crossed please.

WELL DONE JENS! Jens Petersen, Line Rasmussen, and Avshalom’s paper was published this week in BMJ Open: Soluble urokinase plasminogen activator receptor (suPAR) as a prognostic marker of mortality in healthy, general and patient populations: protocol for a systematic review and meta-analysis.

Tracy D’arbeloff’s Major Area review paper is accepted in Geroscience! FANTASTIC ACHIEVEMENT TRACY! Cardiovascular fitness and structural brain integrity: An update on current evidence.

Max and Avshalom’s paper was submitted this week to Nature Aging. Hurrah!: Disparities in the pace of biological aging among midlife adults of the same chronological age: Implications for early frailty risk and policy.

YAY!!!! Leah, Stephanie and Barry’s new NZIDI paper was submitted this week, and transferred immediately to JAMA-Network Open: Richmond-Rakerd et al. Mental disorder forecasts physical disease and mortality: 30-year analysis of 2.3 million New Zealanders.

Jessie Baldwin and Andrea Danese submitted their revised paper this week to JAMA-Pediatrics. ‘Population versus individual prediction of poor health from Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) screening’ Fingers crossed Jessie!

Helen, Chloe, and Rhadika’s paper got an R&R at Epigenetics. Good luck with your revisions!!!! DNA methylation signatures of adolescent victimization: Analysis of a longitudinal monozygotic twin sample.

Kyle’s paper is provisionally accepted, pending tweaks, which he did this week and resubmitted. Intimate Partner Violence and Lower Relationship Quality Are Associated with Faster Biological Aging. Psychology and Aging.

Maria Gehred’s first-year project paper was submitted to Biological Psychiatry. “Long-term neural embedding of adverse childhood experiences: a population-representative birth cohort followed for five decades.” Good luck Maria!
Jasmin’s new paper is out for mock reviews, due back 10 August. THANKS TO ALL DOING MOCKS. History of psychiatric illness as a risk factor for accelerated aging: Evidence from a population-representative longitudinal cohort study.

Christina Carlisi and Essi Viding’s paper will be submitted this week: Associations between life-course-persistent antisocial behavior and subcortical brain volume in a population-representative longitudinal birth cohort. To JAMA-Psychiatry.

Projects underway and making good progress on the march toward mock review:
Aaron Reuben and Helen Fisher, air pollution and mental health (E-Risk).
Leah and Signe Andersen, education disrupts the intergenerational transmission of disadvantage (Danish registers)
Jasmin Wertz, parenting genomics in multiple cohorts (many cohorts)
Kyle Bourassa and Line Rasmussen, stressful life events and suPAR (Dunedin)
Max Elliott & Line Rasmussen brain and suPAR (Dunedin)
Karen Sugden, education and the methylation pace of aging (many cohorts)
Geli Ronald and Lizzie, Autism Q and p (Dunedin)
Franky Happe and David, Autism Q and midlife health (Dunedin)

Late entry from Leah’s farewell party…
Honalee prepared a mega-dataset for Madeline Meier. It’s so wonderful that Madeline has tenure and can now collaborate again! Welcome back Madeline!

Daniel Belsky is running validation analyses on 47 new polygenic scores from SSGAC. Derived from 23-and-me and UK Biobank, these are whoppers. Go Dan go!

Barry and Stephanie in Auckland are doing the initial runs in the NZIDI for the new paper with Leah on deaths of despair.

Ben finished analyzing polygenic scores for Jorim Tielbeek’s antisocial meta-GWAS in E-risk and Dunedin. Delivering amazing findings to Jorim and JC Barnes this week.

Ben is also deriving the education3 polygenic score in the ALSPAC data that Jasmin has obtained, as soon as ALPAC Deliver their data Thanks Ben!

Ben is further investigating brain biomarker plasma assays, investigating UK data sets that have methylation data for validating the DunedinPoAm, and reviewing methodology for Dunedin and E-Risk telomere work.

Jon and Eilis are analyzing DunedinPoAm derived from postmortem brain tissue.

Sean Hogan in Dunedin is searching admin register data for Dunedin Study members.

Susan is doing a budget for a new application to NIA, chasing up Max’s fellowship, developing different budget scenarios to handle any potential cuts to the cannabis grant, working on Stephanie’s visa, and maintaining our website. www.moffittcaspi.com

Honalee’s creating a spreadsheet table of reasons for missing data at Phase 45 in Dunedin. 94% of Study members took part at 45. However, variable by variable, there are a few data missing for many different reasons. Before phase 52, we want to inform PI’s about opportunities to improve their data-collection and avoid missing data.
Antony Ambler in London is doing the reproducibility stat check for Stephanie’s Lewis’s paper on trauma.

Annchen, Maria, Max are working on characterizing gradients of brain organization.

Jasmin’s working with Sara Jaffee on an application to study the Next Gen sample of Study member’s children in Dunedin.

Aaron and Max are writing applications for clinical hospital internships while also starting new clinical rotations. We wish you stamina, guys!

Jo Newbury is updating some of the neighbourhood data on E-Risk twins, because now she can reduce missing data.

Susan reminds you to visit your blurb on the website and see if it needs a refresh.

If you are working on something you want others to know about, but I missed it, please let me know.

Remember the American presidential race poll being updated daily by the Economist.

https://projects.economist.com/us-2020-forecast/president
A gorgeous summer night on the Macon Farm. Taken by Jens.

Wishing you all a serene week, wherever you are, Temi

Apples from the Macon Farm, taken by Avshalom