

Clark M. Rivinoja Award



COGNITIVE BEHAVIORAL RESEARCH & TREATMENT PROGRAM
DUKE UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER
DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHIATRY & BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES

Spring, 2013

Clark M. Rivinoja Award Recipients, 2009-2013

In Memory of Clark M. Rivinoja, M. Div., (1979-2008)



Clark Rivinoja, M.Div.

We lost Clark five years ago. But we remember him well. His smile fills the halls of our program. His generosity remains legendary. His humor—well, you had to know him...

Clark was a Study Coordinator in our program, and when he passed away his family and friends graciously contributed to a fund at Duke, developed in his name, which is called the Clark M. Rivinoja Award.

The award is given once per year to a student

who is preparing for graduate school in psychology or a related field, has worked in our lab, and best exemplifies several core qualities of Clark:

- (1) Dedication to learning at work that is well beyond what is expected
- (2) Generosity with time and genuine attention to others
- (3) A unique sense of humor

The \$500 award is used for travel to conferences, books, or other expenses in the pursuit of a career in the field of mental health.

We have given this award each of the past 5 years. Each year, I receive nominations from the faculty, staff, and students in our program. I tally the votes, and then have the pleasure of seeing the joy on the

faces of the award recipient when he or she learns that they have been selected.

I encourage you to take the time to read in the next few pages about our award winners. They are a terrific bunch that I have had the honor to mentor and watch develop into graduate students and colleagues.

Ryan, Paul, Caitlin, Shian-Ling, and, now, as of 2013, Kayla...These are a few of the best and brightest to follow Clark's unforgettable footsteps over the past 5 years.

From my heart, and with deep gratitude, I thank everyone involved with funding and the supportive development of our award winners.

If you are interested in contributing to this fund, please go to: www.dukescience.org/contribute.

Recent Award Recipients

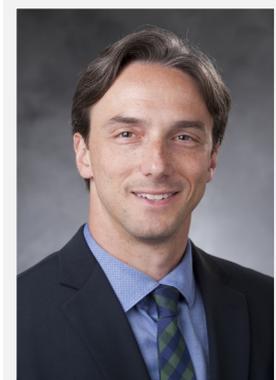
2009 RYAN PERDOMO

2010 PAUL GEIGER

2011 CAITLIN FANG

2012 SHIAN-LING KENG

2013 KAYLA HERNANDEZ



Dr. Rosenthal

Program Director

Clark M. Rivinoja Award

Ryan Perdomo, 2009



I am affiliated with the Department of Surgery at the Columbia University Medical Center (CUMC) with the Center for Liver Disease and Transplantation. As Chief Clinical Research Coordinator I manage a team of research coordinators, research assistants, post-doctoral fellows, and regulatory coordinators.

My biggest research project contributions have dealt with the coordination of novel drug development for the treatment of the Hepati-

tis C Virus infection with the aim to increase treatment efficacy and tolerability. Furthermore, I have developed my own research protocols looking at the use of social media by medical staff in the transplant setting.

Recently, I took the Medical College Admission Test and I look forward to submitting my application to medical school this year with plans to matriculate in August of 2014.

Being recognized as the first recipient of the Clark Rivinoja Award is one of my proudest accomplishments at Duke University. I truly aspire to emulate Clark's enthusiasm and dedication to his work as I continue with my own success and participation in academia and medical research. I want to personally thank Clark's family and friends for allowing Clark to continue to smile and inspire the lives of undergraduate research students.

Paul Geiger, 2010



I am currently a 3rd year graduate student in Clinical Psychology at the University of Kentucky. I received my undergraduate degree from Duke University and had the privilege of working with Clark. I have lasting memories of him. He always gave me a warm smile and greeted me by name. As an undergraduate, this was incredibly meaningful. Simply put,

he made others feel special. I remain grateful for his kindness.

Receiving this award gave me the opportunity to travel to San Francisco, CA, to present two posters at the Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies conference. Without this award, I would not have been able to travel across the country as a first-year graduate student.

The award gave me a sense of confidence as I embarked on my journey to graduate school. Dr. Rosenthal's program is a place where Clark's influence continues to be felt, and I thank the program for shaping me into the researcher and clinician I am today. I am indebted to the family and friend's of Clark who made this award possible, and I am very grateful for their generosity.

Clark M. Rivinoja Award Recipients, 2009-2013

Caitlin Fang, 2011

I am a 1st year Ph.D. student in Clinical Psychology at Duke University under the mentorship of Dr. Rosenthal. I have worked at the Cognitive Behavioral Research and Treatment Program for 5 years, and I am delighted to be able to continue my research on emotion and psychopathology here.

I was very fortunate to receive the Clark M. Rivinoja award. With the funding provided by this award, I was able to attend my first Associa-

tion for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies conference in Toronto and present my two posters on emotion dysregulation in clinical populations. This experience allowed me to have conversations with many of the professors in my field who have inspired me academically. This inspired me to creatively engage with new research questions and envision my future within this field. In addition to providing financial support, without which I

would not have been able to have this eye-opening experience, the Clark Rivinoja award helped to bolster my confidence, enabling me to truly view this place as an academic home.

In sum, receiving this award was a big stepping stone that got me to where I am today, and I am immensely grateful to all of Clark's friends and families who have made it possible for young researchers to continue to be inspired by his memory.



Shian-Ling Keng, 2012

I am a 5th year graduate student in the Clinical Psychology Ph.D. program at Duke University currently on internship at the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health in Toronto. This fall I will begin as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Psychology in the National University of Singapore.

I completed my undergraduate studies at Duke University and have

been a member of Dr. Rosenthal's program since 2006 as a research assistant, study coordinator, and clinician.

I call this program my academic home, as it is the place where my passion for clinical psychology was nurtured and grew.

I feel incredibly honored and grateful to be a recipient of this award, as it signifies the very special place that this pro-

gram holds in me. It is a heart-warming reminder of years of mentorship, support, and wonderful training that I received from the program. The award also strengthens my confidence in my ability and potential as a young researcher and clinician. I am deeply grateful to all of Clark's family and friends for establishing this award in his honor.



Clark M. Rivinoja Award
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To contribute to this fund please go to: www.dukescience.org/contribute.

Clark liked to eat loaf for breakfast. Mexican for lunch. He liked to drink coffee too. All day long. He loved his fiancé Julie deeply. We talked for endless hours about his newest big plans, how things were going to “blow up” (in a good way) for him soon. He was interested in you, and he made each moment you shared with him better. He was hysterically funny, brilliant, and had a bright future. One evening as I was hurrying home he said to me “good night, boss.” He died peacefully in his sleep that night to unknown natural causes. I still miss him. I will never forget how he enriched the lives of everyone in our program.

Dr. Rosenthal

www.dukescience.org

Kayla Hernandez, 2013



I am a Clinical Trials Assistant in the Healthy Childhood Brain Development Research Program at Duke University. In the near future, I plan to go to a clinical psychology graduate program to receive my doctorate.

When I was an undergraduate, I had the pleasure of working two and half years in Dr. Rosenthal’s lab at the Cognitive Behavioral Re-

search and Treatment Program. I was so captivated by this wonderful collection of people that I continued to volunteer after graduating in May 2012.

As a volunteer, I believe my growth was exponential. My educational experiences and increased responsibilities solidified my love of psychological research. My departure from the program was bittersweet,

but I have experience and confidence gained from over 3 years in clinical research to push me forward.

I owe much of my success to the program, and to be given the Clark M. Rivinoja Award by them is honor beyond words. I thank the Rivinoja family and friends of Clark for establishing this award. I am deeply thankful for their act of pure and selfless generosity.