

Beyond Perceptual Development: Infant Responding to Social Categories

Paul C. Quinn will review a program of research that investigates how infants respond to social category information in faces (e.g., gender, race) based on differential experience. Whereas some aspects of behavioral performance (visual preference, discrimination, and scanning) are consistent with traditional models of perceptual development (induction, maintenance, and attunement), other aspects (category formation, association with valence, and selective learning) suggest the need for an account that links perceptual processing with social-emotional processing. His talk will also consider how responding to social categories in infancy may support subsequent responding to these categories in childhood and adulthood.

About Paul C. Quinn

Paul C. Quinn (PhD, Brown University, 1986) is Trustees Distinguished Professor of Psychological and Brain Sciences at the University of Delaware. Quinn studies how infants form concepts, and most recently has been investigating how infants extract category information from faces (e.g., gender, race) with the goal of understanding how early cognitive organization may impact subsequent conceptual and social development. The work has been supported by NICHD and NSF, and has generated over 200 journal and book chapter publications. Quinn is an APA, APS, and Psychonomic Society Fellow, and he received the 2013 Francis Alison Award (UD's highest faculty honor). He has been Editor of *Developmental Science* since 2009.