

## WELCOME TO THE SCHOOL!

Dear Incoming Psychology & Neuroscience Students,

I would like to extend a very warm welcome to those of you joining the School of Psychology & Neuroscience this year. Whether you are going to be staying with us for one semester or for four years, it is important that you know that you are joining an extended academic family which takes pride in helping you make the most of your time in St Andrews. As the current Head of School, I feel a strong sense of privilege in helping to ensure that you progress, and eventually leave, knowing that you made absolutely the right choice in studying here.

This can be a daunting time, as you meet new people and familiarise yourselves with new and perhaps very different surroundings. However, I am confident that you will quickly fall in love with both the town and the School and that you will make many new friends. The School has a long tradition of high standards in everything that we do. We adopt the pedagogy of Benjamin Franklin (1759), one of the University's honorary graduates (1759): "*Tell me and I forget, teach me and I may remember, **involve me and I learn***". You will be taught by the very best academic psychologists and neuroscientists in the country. You will also experience cutting edge research in the areas that you find fascinating and will have the opportunity to learn hands-on about the latest techniques. You will leave as very different, talented and fulfilled people and with an entirely new perspective on life. However, don't be surprised if, years from now, when you have successful careers in your chosen field, you still find yourself drawn back to St Andrews. The coming years will fly past so please enjoy every moment and every experience that is on offer!

All of us in the School, from current students and postgraduate researchers to the amazing academic support team of administrative and technical staff, are here to assist you in getting the most from your studies. You will find that we are all very approachable so please do contact myself or any of my colleagues for help or advice if you need it.

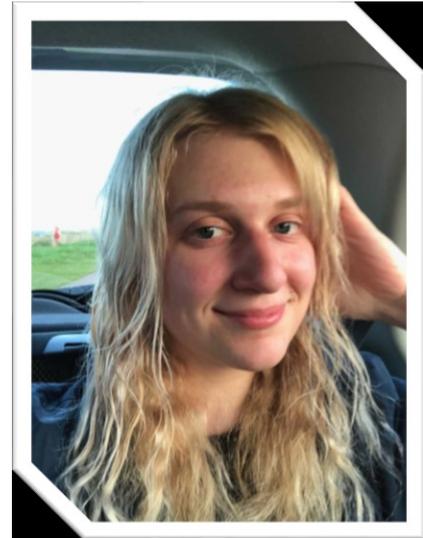
I look forward to meeting as many of you as possible after you arrive.



Gareth Miles  
Professor of Neuroscience

Dear Psychologists and Neuroscientists,

Greetings! My name is Natalia, and I have been elected to be your School President for the academic year 2019-20. First off, I'd like to extend a very warm welcome to you all. I'm also extremely pleased to tell you that you're about to embark upon one of life's most exciting journeys. University will challenge your preconceptions, engage your mind in the art of critical thinking, and expose you to an abundance of knowledge and new ideas. Congratulations, by the way, for choosing the best School in which to do this—the School of Psychology and Neuroscience is a vibrant, diverse, and academically-invigorating place, which you'll find is reflected by our students and staff. I'm so happy that you've joined us.



You're probably wondering what exactly my job as School President entails. First and foremost, I am a student representative, which means that my top priority is to foster connection and collaboration between students and staff. I will endeavour to make your voice heard, and also to give you as many opportunities as possible to participate in the happenings of the School. To this end, I encourage you to run for Class Representative positions, for which you'll be able to nominate yourself at the start of your first semester. This is a fantastic way to get involved, meet other students and academic staff, and make a solid impact on the way we do things around here.

Finally, I'd like to emphasise that your university experience matters greatly to me. If you have any questions, comments, or just want to chat, feel free to contact me at any point in the year. The University of St Andrews also offers a variety of services to help students—be it related to careers, wellbeing, learning differences, or disabilities. Staff are dedicated to creating an environment of openness and inclusion, so if you ever find yourself in need of anything, please don't hesitate to reach out.

Once again, congratulations on joining our buzzing academic community here at St Andrews. I can't wait to meet you all!

All the best,  
**Natalia Zdorovtsova**

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