## **COLLOQUIUM SERIES**

TITLE: Origins of cognitive risk for depression: Mother can you help me build the wall?

Date: March 27<sup>th</sup>, 2009 Location: Somerville House, Room 3345 Time: 3:00 - 4:00 p.m.

(Please join us after the talk for light refreshments.)



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## Abstract:

Cognitive models of depression are widely acknowledged as contributing important insights into the nature of depressive disorders. Viewed within a diatheses-stress context, these models predict that certain patterns of negative cognitions arise during stressful circumstances and provide a gateway

to depression. In line with this approach, much of my works focuses on understanding the cognitive features of high-risk individuals. This research examines the cognitive mechanisms of risk in adults, but also assesses processes linked to the possible developmental origins of cognitive risk. Although efforts to understand the origins of vulnerability to depression have pursued a number of different avenues, the role of parenting has emerged as focal point in many analyses. In this presentation, I will provide a brief historical context for efforts to understand the role of cognition in depression, and will also provide an overview of the evidence for the validity of cognitive models. I will also examine the link between certain kinds of parenting and cognitive vulnerability to depression. Accordingly, this presentation will highlight empirical findings from our lab that show an association between parenting variables and cognitive risk for depression.

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