

## For Immediate Release

Contact: Jody Cofer March 3, 2009

## Fannin and Farney to Present at APS Annual Meeting

Ashley Fannin and Michelle Farney have both been accepted to present their undergraduate research at the 2009 annual meeting of the Association for Psychological Science, which will be held in San Francisco, CA in May.

Fannin, a senior psychology major from Murray, KY, will be presenting her research project titled "Implicit and Explicit Memory for Numerical Rule Learning". Fannin is a 2008-2009 Research Scholar Fellow. Her research explores the effects of time delays and intervening tasks on implicit learning (learning that occurs without conscious effort or awareness).

Farney, a senior psychology major from Evansville, IN, will be presenting her research project titled "The Effect of Victim Impact Statements on Sentencing in Capital Murder Cases". Farney is also the recipient of a 2008-2009 Undergraduate Research Grant. Her research focuses on the use of victim impact statements, which allow those affected by murder to describe their victimization to those sentencing the perpetrators. Farney is assessing the correlation between the presence of victim impact statements and severity of sentencing.

The Association for Psychological Science (previously the American Psychological Society) is a nonprofit organization dedicated to the advancement of scientific psychology and its representation at the national and international level. Its mission is to promote, protect, and advance the interests of scientifically oriented psychology in research, application, teaching, and the improvement of human welfare.

Those interested in learning more about the APS can visit their website at <u>http://www.psychologicalscience.org/</u>. More information about undergraduate research and scholarly activity at Murray State University can be found online at <u>http://campus.murraystate.edu/services/URSA</u>.