Fourth Year Psychology student Brendan Lam to attend the Diversifying Psychology Weekend at Chapel Hill

By Queen’s Psychology
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Brendan Lam, an undergraduate Honours thesis student in the Queen’s Emotions and Risky Behaviours in Youth (QuERBY) Laboratory (Director: Dr. Jeremy Stewart), was recently selected to attend the 2020 “Diversifying Psychology Weekend” at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

The award supports ethnic/racial minority undergraduates in pursuing doctoral level training in clinical or developmental psychology.

The Diversifying Psychology Weekend received over 160 applications for the 2020 event. Brendan is 1 of around 20 psychology undergraduate students selected to attend. The application included questions like, "Why are you interested in the UNC Diversifying Psychology weekend program?" and "What qualities, perspectives, and experiences (including clinical experiences) would make you a good clinical psychologist?" Applicants also submitted an academic transcript and two reference letters.

“Being selected really validates everything I've done with the Queen's Department of Psychology throughout my undergrad career,” Brendan explains. “I think the opportunities provided by the labs and mentors here really helped my application.”
According to the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill’s Diversifying Psychology Weekend website, the “Diversifying Psychology Weekend is an opportunity for talented ethnic/racial minority undergraduates and recent college graduates who are invested in pursuing doctoral-level training in clinical or developmental psychology. The program includes an intensive set of seminars, panel discussions, and workshops. Students will have the opportunity to learn how to develop a competitive application; meet psychology doctoral students and faculty in formal and informal settings; and receive an introduction to our Clinical and Developmental Psychology programs and graduate training. Travel, housing, and meals are provided for all attendees.”

“There will be seminars, panel discussions, and workshops that are tailored toward careers in clinical and developmental psychology”, Brendan adds. “There will also be opportunities to interact with, and learn from graduate students in formal and informal settings over the weekend.”

Brendan feels the award will add to his already promising career in psychology. “It is encouraging to know that I have opportunities like this available to me. Getting into graduate school can be very difficult, so getting the chance to learn from experts on the whole process will be extremely beneficial,” Brendan concludes. “UNC Chapel Hill also has a prestigious psychology program and it's very motivating to know that I'm receiving help from them!”

The Diversifying Psychology Weekend takes place March 26 to 28, 2020.

Go to the Diversifying Psychology Weekend website