

Christine Heim

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Curriculum vitae

- Since 2014 Professor, Biobehavioral Health, College of Health and Human Development, Pennsylvania State University, US
- Since 2011 Full professor (W3) and head, Institute of Medical Psychology, Center for Health and Human Sciences, Charité, Berlin
- 2008 – 2011 Associate professor, Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, Emory University School of Medicine, Atlanta, US
- 2001 – 2007 Assistant professor, Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, Emory University School of Medicine, Atlanta, US
- 1999 – 2001 Scientific associate (C1), Department of Clinical and Physiological Psychology, Universität Trier
- 1996 – 1999 Postdoctoral fellow, Emory University, Atlanta, US
- 1996 PhD (Dr. rer. nat.) in Psychology, Universität Trier
- 1987 – 1993 Studies in Psychology, Universität Trier

Research fields

Our research focus is in the field of clinical psychobiology with the following major areas:

- Developmental programming of health and disease, i.e. consequences of early-life stress
- Neural, neuroendocrine, immune, and molecular correlates of early-life stress
- Interactions of stress and genetic/dispositional factors across development
- Identification of risk versus resilience markers and targets for intervention
- Longitudinal multilevel studies of stress-regulatory systems in maltreated children

Activities in the scientific community, honors, awards

- 2019 Fellow, Max Planck School of Cognition
- 2019 Member, Scientific Advisory Board, Institute for Early Life Adversity Research, University of Texas Austin, US
- 2017 Member, Scientific Advisory Board, German Resilience Center, University Mainz
- 2017 Vice Secretary of Biomedical Class, Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences and Humanities (BBAW)
- 2017 Fellow, American College of Neuropsychopharmacology
- 2015 Member, Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences and Humanities (BBAW)
- 2015 Patricia R. Barchas Award in Sociophysiology, American Psychosomatic Association
- Since 2014 Member, Child Maltreatment Solutions Network, Social Science Research Institute, The Pennsylvania State University, US
- Since 2013 Member, Editorial Boards: Psychoneuroendocrinology (2013), Medical Psychology (2015), Personalized Medicine in Psychiatry (2016), Brain, Behavior, and Immunity (2019); Associate Editor: Journal of Medical Psychology (2016)
- 2012 – 2014 Member, Training and Education Committee, American College of Neuropsychopharmacology
- 2008 Member, American College of Neuropsychopharmacology
- 2007 Curt P. Richter Award, International Society for Psychoneuroendocrinology
- 2006 Research Scientist Career Development Award, National Institutes of Health (NIH)
- 2006 Junior Faculty Research Grant Award, Anxiety Disorders Association of America
- 2004 Chaim Danieli Award, International Society for Traumatic Stress Studies
- 2003 Scholarship, Society for Biological Psychiatry
- 2002, 2005 NARSAD Young Investigator Award, The Brain and Behavior Research Foundation, US
- 1998 Young Investigator Award, International Society for Psychoneuroendocrinology
- 1997 – 1998 Research Fellowship, German Research Foundation (DFG)
- 1997 Annual Award for Most Distinguished Dissertation, Universität Trier

Selected publications

- Moog, N. K., S. Entringer, J. M. Rasmussen, M. Styner, J. H. Gilmore, N. Kathmann, C. M. Heim, P. D. Wadhwa, and C. Buss. 2018. 'Intergenerational Effect of Maternal Exposure to Childhood Maltreatment on Newborn Brain Anatomy', *Biol Psychiatry*, 83: 120-27.
- Houtepen, L. C., C. H. Vinkers, T. Carrillo-Roa, M. Hiemstra, P. A. van Lier, W. Meeus, S. Branje, C. M. Heim, C. B. Nemeroff, J. Mill, L. C. Schalkwyk, M. P. Creighton, R. S. Kahn, M. Joels, E. B. Binder, and M. P. Boks. 2016. 'Genome-wide DNA methylation levels and altered cortisol stress reactivity following childhood trauma in humans', *Nat Commun*, 7: 10967.
- Heim, C. M., H. S. Mayberg, T. Mletzko, C. B. Nemeroff, and J. C. Pruessner. 2013. 'Decreased cortical representation of genital somatosensory field after childhood sexual abuse', *Am J Psychiatry*, 170: 616-23.
- Klengel, T., D. Mehta, C. Anacker, M. Rex-Haffner, J. C. Pruessner, C. M. Pariante, T. W. Pace, K. B. Mercer, H. S. Mayberg, B. Bradley, C. B. Nemeroff, F. Holsboer, C. M. Heim, K. J. Ressler, T. Rein, and E. B. Binder. 2013. 'Allele-specific FKBP5 DNA demethylation mediates gene-childhood trauma interactions', *Nat Neurosci*, 16: 33-41.
- Heim, C., and E. B. Binder. 2012. 'Current research trends in early life stress and depression: review of human studies on sensitive periods, gene-environment interactions, and epigenetics', *Exp Neurol*, 233: 102-11.
- Lupien, S. J., B. S. McEwen, M. R. Gunnar, and C. Heim. 2009. 'Effects of stress throughout the lifespan on the brain, behaviour and cognition', *Nat Rev Neurosci*, 10: 434-45.
- Heim, C., L. J. Young, D. J. Newport, T. Mletzko, A. H. Miller, and C. B. Nemeroff. 2009. 'Lower CSF oxytocin concentrations in women with a history of childhood abuse', *Mol Psychiatry*, 14: 954-8.
- Heim, C., D. Wagner, E. Maloney, D. A. Papanicolaou, L. Solomon, J. F. Jones, E. R. Unger, and W. C. Reeves. 2006. 'Early adverse experience and risk for chronic fatigue syndrome: results from a population-based study', *Arch Gen Psychiatry*, 63: 1258-66.
- Heim, C., D. J. Newport, R. Bonsall, A. H. Miller, and C. B. Nemeroff. 2001. 'Altered pituitary-adrenal axis responses to provocative challenge tests in adult survivors of childhood abuse', *Am J Psychiatry*, 158: 575-81.
- Heim, C., D. J. Newport, S. Heit, Y. P. Graham, M. Wilcox, R. Bonsall, A. H. Miller, and C. B. Nemeroff. 2000. 'Pituitary-adrenal and autonomic responses to stress in women after sexual and physical abuse in childhood', *JAMA*, 284: 592-7.