

May Spring 2008

Dear LaGuardia Community

The Psychology Club would like to invite everyone to a talk by Larry Nelson, Ph.D., on the psychological implications of recent changes in the transition to adulthood in American society. Dr. Nelson will talk about the results from *Project R.E.A.D.Y.* (Researching Emerging Adults' Developmental Years), a consortium of scholars from across the country that has examined the lives of young people attending mainly large universities across the country. The event will take place this Wednesday, May 07, at 2:30 in room M-114.

Below is a description of the talk.

The Transition from Adolescence to Adulthood

Until the late 1990s, researchers have specified events such as marriage, completion of education, and starting a career as markers of adulthood. However, recent research reveals that those individuals who are actually in the process of making the transition to adulthood do not consider marriage and other *events* as important markers or criteria for adulthood. Instead, these studies of 18-25 year olds have found that young people (emerging adults) use more internal and individualistic qualities as their criteria for adulthood

*Project R.E.A.D.Y.* (Researching Emerging Adults' Developmental Years) is a consortium of scholars from across the country who are working together to examine the factors related to successful development in emerging adulthood. Specifically, this project is intended to examine the attitudes, beliefs, behaviors, and relationships of young people and their parents during the transition to adulthood.

The work that has been published so far from *Project R.E.A.D.Y.* has examined the lives of young people attending mainly large universities across the country, including community colleges around the country. In his talk Dr. Nelson will discuss results from *Project R.E.A.D.Y.* and how those results are particularly important to our understanding of emerging adulthood in the United States.