# Alyssa Brooke Sasia

Department of Psychology, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI, USA
Waisman Center, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI, USA
Center for Demography of Health and Aging, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI, USA
sasia@wisc.edu • 661-747-5384 • she/her/hers • ORCiD: 0000-0002-1311-6606
Website: https://lilab.waisman.wisc.edu/staff/sasia-brooke/

#### **Education**

#### Expected 2027 Doctor of Philosophy in Clinical Psychological Science

University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI

Advisor: James J. Li, Ph.D.

Committee: João Guassi Moreira, Ph.D., Brittany G. Travers, Ph.D., Kate Walsh, Ph.D., and James J. Li, Ph.D.

(Chair)

Dissertation: "The Missing Dimension: Incorporating Development into the Hierarchical Taxonomy of

Psychopathology"

#### 2021 Master of Science in Psychology

University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI

Advisor: James J. Li, Ph.D.

Committee: Jason Fletcher, Ph.D., Michael Koenigs, Ph.D., Qiongshi Lu, Ph.D., and James J. Li, Ph.D. (Chair)

Thesis: "Examining a Mechanism of Polygenic Scores on Trajectories of Antisocial Behaviors"

#### 2019 Bachelor of Science in Psychology

California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, CA

Minor: Child Development

Honors: cum laude

## Fellowships, Awards, and Honors

2025-2026 2025	Wisconsin Distinguished Graduate Fellowship (\$38,000), Waisman Center, University of Wisconsin-Madison Psychiatry-Psychology Summer Fellowship (\$8,500), Departments of Psychology and Psychiatry, University of Wisconsin-Madison
	Hertz Foundation Travel Award (\$1,000), Department of Psychology, University of Wisconsin-Madison
2024	Ramona O. Messerschmidt Award (\$860), Department of Psychology, University of Wisconsin-Madison Early Excellence in Teaching Award (\$1,000), Campus-Wide Teaching Awards, University of Wisconsin-Madison
	Student Research Grants Competition: Conference Presentation Award (\$1,500), University of Wisconsin-
	Madison
	Psychiatry-Psychology Summer Fellowship (\$6,000), Departments of Psychology and Psychiatry, <i>University</i>
	of Wisconsin-Madison
	Ramona O. Messerschmidt Award (\$130), UW-Madison Department of Psychology
	Hertz Foundation Travel Award (\$1,000), UW-Madison Department of Psychology
2023	Psychology Department Distinguished Service Award (\$1,000), UW-Madison Department of Psychology
	Ramona O. Messerschmidt Award (\$680), UW-Madison Department of Psychology
	Hertz Foundation Travel Award (\$750), UW-Madison Department of Psychology
	Scholarship (\$550), 2023 International Statistical Genetics Workshop
2022	Student Research Grants Competition: Conference Presentation Award (\$1,200), UW-Madison
	Conference Travel Award (\$850), University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill

	Ramona O. Messerschmidt Award (\$200), UW-Madison Department of Psychology
	Genomics for Social Scientists Workshop Travel Award (\$1,500), University of Michigan
2021	Travel Award (\$400), Integrating Genetics and the Social Sciences Conference
	Hertz Foundation Travel Award (\$750), UW-Madison Department of Psychology
2020-2021	University Fellowship (\$22,909), UW-Madison
2020	Western Psychological Association Regional Travel Grant (\$90), Psi Chi Western Steering Committee
2019	Best Research Project, Student Choice, Senior Project Symposium, Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo
	Outstanding Senior in Psychology Award, Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo
2018-2019	Psychological Science Scholarship Endowment (\$2,000), Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo
2015	Jason George Memorial Scholarship (\$2,500), Jason George Memorial Foundation
	Scholarship (\$750), Tehachapi Valley Gem & Mineral Society
	Higher Education Scholarship (\$1,000), Tehachapi Area Association of Realtors
	Community Service Award (\$500), Tehachapi Heritage League

#### **Publications**

- 1. Dong, L., Sasia, A. B., & Li, J. J. (revise and resubmit). Gene-environment interplay beyond interactions: Psychosocial environments mediate genetic effects underlying externalizing behavior trajectories.
- 2. **Sasia, A. B.**, Jonas, K. G., Waszczuk, M. A., & Li, J. J. (2025). Associations of polygenic scores and developmental trajectories of externalizing behaviors. *Development and Psychopathology*, 1-15. doi:10.1017/S0954579424001962
- 3. **Sasia**, **A. B.**, & Cacciamani, L. (2021). High-definition transcranial direct current stimulation of the lateral occipital cortex influences figure-ground perception. *Neuropsychologia* 155. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.neuropsychologia.2021.107792
- 4. Pandey, M., Subramonyam, H., Sasia, A. B., Oney, S., & O'Modhrain, S. (2020). Explore, create, annotate: Designing digital drawing tools with visually impaired people. *Proceedings of the 2020 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems*. https://doi.org/10.1145/3313831.3376349

### **Papers in Preparation**

- \* denotes shared first authorship
- 1. **Sasia, A. B.**, Feltman, S., He, Q., Kotov, R., Lord, C., Travers, B. G., & Li, J. J. (in preparation). Autism, neurodevelopment, and Hierarchical Taxonomy of Psychopathology Across Early Childhood, School Age, and Adolescence.
- 2. \*He, Q., \*Sasia, A. B., & Li, J. J. (in preparation). Longitudinal trajectories of HiTOP dimensions in the ABCD dataset.

#### **Oral Presentations**

- \* denotes shared first authorship, + denotes mentee
- 1. **Sasia, A. B.**, Feltman, S., He, Q., Kotov, R., Travers, B.G., & Li, J. J. (2025, March). Autism, neurodevelopment, and Hierarchical Taxonomy of Psychopathology in Childhood and Adolescence. Flash talk presented at the annual meeting of the Hierarchical Taxonomy of Psychopathology Conference, Denver, CO.

- 2. \*He, Q., \*Sasia, A. B., & Li, J. J. (2024, March). Longitudinal trajectories in HiTOP dimensions in the ABCD dataset. Paper presented at the inaugural meeting of the Hierarchical Taxonomy of Psychopathology Conference, San Diego, CA.
- 3. **Sasia**, **A. B.**, & Li, J. J. (2024, March). Investigating the structure of psychopathology in autistic youths. Paper presented at the inaugural meeting of the Hierarchical Taxonomy of Psychopathology (HiTOP) Conference, San Diego, CA.
- 4. Dong, L. Sasia, A. B., & Li, J. J. (2024, March). Gene-environment interplay underlying developmental trajectories of disinhibition and antagonism in Add Health. Flash talk presented at the inaugural meeting of the Hierarchical Taxonomy of Psychopathology (HiTOP) Conference, San Diego, CA.
- 5. +Walker, G. N., Dong, L., Sasia, A. B., & Li, J. J. (2023, August). Gene-environment interactions on trajectories of externalizing behaviors in African Americans. Paper presented at the annual Psychology Research Experience Symposium, Madison, WI.
- 6. **Sasia, A. B.**, & Li, J. J. (2023, June). Examining a mechanism of polygenic scores on developmental trajectories of externalizing behaviors. Paper presented at the inaugural meeting of The Advances in Social Genomics Conference, Madison, WI.
- 7. **Sasia**, **A. B.**, Lu, Q., Wu, Y., & Li, J. J. (2022, July). Estimating "genetic nurture" effects in polygenic scores for trajectories of antisocial behavior. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Add Health Users Conference, Chapel Hill, NC.
- 8. **Sasia, A. B.**, Lu, Q., Wu, Y., & Li, J. J. (2021, October). Genetic and environmental associations with trajectories of antisocial behavior. Flash talk presented at the annual meeting of Integrating Genetics and the Social Sciences, Boulder, CO.
- 9. +Cunningham, O., Sasia, A. B., & Li, J. J. (2021, August). Polygenic scores for ADHD and the role of parenting for Black and white youth. Paper presented at the annual Psychology Research Experience Symposium, Madison, WI.
- 10. **Sasia, A. B.**, & Cacciamani, L. (2020, October). High-definition transcranial direct current stimulation enhances figure-ground perception for part-rearranged images. Paper virtually presented at the annual meeting of the Western Psychological Association.
- 11. \*Le, Mytien T., \*Sasia, A. B., & Bennion, K. A. (2020, October). Sleep promotes long-term memory retention, particularly when highlighting content within reading passages. Paper virtually presented at the annual meeting of the Western Psychological Association.
- 12. **Sasia, A. B.**, & Cacciamani, L. (2020, February). Brain stimulation enhances figure-ground perception. Paper presented at the annual California State University Research Competition, California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, CA.

#### **Poster Presentations**

- \* denotes shared first authorship, + denotes mentee
- 1. +Choi, J., **Sasia, A. B.**, & Gaudiano, B. (2025, November). Relationship between HiTOP spectra and ACT processes in adults with schizophrenia-spectrum disorders. Poster accepted to present at the annual meeting of the Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies in New Orleans, LA.

- 2. **Sasia, A. B.**, & Li, J. J. (2025, June). HiTOP dimensions vs. *DSM* diagnoses of externalizing behaviors: Predicting school performance in adolescence. Poster presented at the biennial meeting of the International Society for Research in Child and Adolescent Psychopathology in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada.
- 3. **Sasia**, **A. B.**, Feltman, S., He, Q., Kotov, R., Travers, B.G., & Li, J. J. (2025, March). Autism, neurodevelopment, and Hierarchical Taxonomy of Psychopathology in Childhood and Adolescence. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Hierarchical Taxonomy of Psychopathology Conference, Denver, CO.
- 4. **Sasia, A. B.**, & Li, J. J. (2024, October). Extending the Hierarchical Taxonomy of Psychopathology to neurodiverse youths. Abstract accepted to present to the annual meeting of the Society for Research in Psychopathology, Montreal, Canada.
- 5. He, Q., \*Sasia, A. B., & Li, J. J. (2024, October). Longitudinal trajectories in mental health and behavioral problems in the ABCD dataset. Abstract accepted to present to the annual meeting of the Society for Research in Psychopathology, Montreal, QC, Canada.
- 6. Dong, L., Sasia, A. B., & Li, J. J. (2024, October). Gene-environment interplay isn't just moderation: Simultaneously testing moderation. Abstract accepted to present to the annual meeting of the Society for Research in Psychopathology, Montreal, Canada.
- 7. Dong, L. Sasia, A. B., & Li, J. J. (2024, March). Gene-environment interplay underlying developmental trajectories of disinhibition and antagonism in Add Health. Poster presented at the inaugural meeting of the Hierarchical Taxonomy of Psychopathology (HiTOP) Conference, San Diego, CA.
- 8. +Walker, G. N., Dong, L., **Sasia, A. B.**, & Li, J. J. (2023, November). Gene-environment interactions on trajectories of externalizing behaviors in African Americans. Poster presented at the annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minoritized Students, Phoenix, AZ.
- 9. Dong, L., Sasia, A. B., & Li, J. J. (2023, June). Polygenic-environment interactions of developmental trajectories of externalizing behaviors from age 13 to 41. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Behavior Genetics Association, Murcia, Spain.
- 10. **Sasia, A. B.,** & Li, J. J. (2022, September). Externalizing behavior polygenic scores and developmental trajectories of antisocial and substance use behaviors in Add Health. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Society for Research in Psychopathology, Philadelphia, PA.
- 11. **Sasia, A. B.**, Lu, Q., Wu, Y., & Li, J. J. (2022, June). Estimating "genetic nurture effects in polygenic scores for trajectories of antisocial behavior. Poster accepted for presentation at the biannual meeting of the International Society for Research in Child and Adolescent Psychopathology in Athens, Greece (conference canceled).
- 12. **Sasia, A. B.**, & Cacciamani, L. (2020, November). High-definition transcranial direct current stimulation of the lateral occipital cortex influences figure-ground perception. Poster virtually presented at the annual meeting of the Psychonomic Society.
- 13. **Sasia, A. B.**, & Cacciamani, L. (2019, June). The effects of high-definition transcranial direct current stimulation on visual object perception. Poster presented at the Department of Psychology and Child Development's annual Senior Project Symposium, San Luis Obispo, CA.
- 14. **Sasia, A. B.**, Buchanan, B., Oseguera, C., Pauly, J., Lavezzi, G. D., Tower, C., & Cacciamani, L. (2019, May). The effects of brain stimulation on haptic object processing. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the UCLA Psychology Undergraduate Research Conference, Los Angeles, CA.

15. Bennion, K. A., **Sasia**, **A. B.**, Chang, W., Aung, A., Altman, S., Goryl, S., Le, M., Tanner, K., Lei, D., Robles, F., & Jackson, J. (2019, April). Effects of sleep, testing, and highlighting on memory for passages. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Western Psychological Association, Pasadena, CA.

#### Academic and Professional Talks

#### 2025 Staff Training, Mendota Juvenile Treatment Center

"Adolescent mental health: Diagnosis, structure, and person-centered care" Mendota Mental Health Institute, August 26 and 28, 2025

#### Guest Lecture, Assessing Children's Development and Environments

"Assessments in the juvenile legal system: Court, conceptualization, and context" California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, May 12, 2025

#### Invited Research Talk, Clinical Area Group Proseminar

"Autism, neurodevelopment, and Hierarchical Taxonomy of Psychopathology in childhood and adolescence" Department of Psychology, University of Wisconsin-Madison, March 10, 2025

### 2024 Invited Professional Talk, Psi Chi Chapter Meeting

"Navigating the Psychology Major and exploring career options" Psi Chi Honor Society, University of Wisconsin-Madison, November 21, 2024

#### Guest Lecture, Assessing Children's Development and Environments

"Assessments in the juvenile legal system" California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, May 20, 2024

#### Research Talk, Spring Research Symposium

"Capstone presentation: Externalizing behaviors across development" Department of Psychology, University of Wisconsin-Madison, April 26, 2024

#### 2023 Invited Research Talk, Clinical Area Group Proseminar

"Investigating the structure and development of psychopathology in autistic youths" Department of Psychology, University of Wisconsin-Madison, December 11, 2023

#### Guest Lecture, Autism in Society: Past, Present, and Future

"Autism, ADHD, and the UW-LINK Study"
University of Wisconsin-Madison, November 14, 2023

#### Guest Lecture, The Criminal Mind: Forensic and Psychobiological Perspectives

"How genes impact the development of externalizing behaviors across the lifespan" University of Wisconsin-Madison, October 19, 2023

#### Invited Professional Talk, Psychology Board of Visitors

"The graduate student experience: Highlights and challenges" University of Wisconsin-Madison, May 19, 2023

#### Invited Professional Talk, School of Pharmacy

"Resiliency and compassion fatigue"
University of Wisconsin-Madison, February 2, 2023

#### Guest Lecture, The Criminal Mind: Forensic and Psychobiological Perspectives

"Externalizing behaviors: Development, risk and protective factors, and clinical applications" University of Wisconsin-Madison, March 2, 2023

#### 2022 Guest Lecture, Critical Issues in Child Psychopathology

"Implementing HiTOP in clinical settings"
University of Wisconsin-Madison, December 12, 2022

#### Guest Lecture, The Criminal Mind: Forensic and Psychobiological Perspectives

"Externalizing behaviors across development: Risk and protective factors" University of Wisconsin-Madison, October 18, 2022

#### Invited Professional Talk, School of Pharmacy

"Identifying and overcoming test anxiety" University of Wisconsin-Madison, October 4, 2022

#### Guest Lecture, Behavioral Disorders in Childhood

"Development and externalizing behavior"
California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, May 3, 2022

#### Invited Professional Talk, Psi Chi Chapter Meeting

"Graduate school in psychology: How to choose and prepare for a program" Psi Chi Honor Society, University of Wisconsin-Madison, April 6, 2022

#### 2021 Research Talk, First Year Project Defense

"Examining a mechanism of polygenic scores on developmental trajectories of antisocial behaviors" First Year Project Committee, University of Wisconsin-Madison, December 15, 2021

#### Research Talk, First Year Project Symposium

"Examining a mechanism of polygenic scores on developmental trajectories of antisocial behaviors" Department of Psychology, University of Wisconsin-Madison, December 3, 2021

#### Invited Research Talk, Consortium Meeting

"Examining a mechanism of polygenic scores on developmental trajectories of externalizing behaviors" The Externalizing Consortium, November 17, 2021

#### Invited Research Talk, Psychology Research Experience Program Brownbag

"Polygenic scores and the Social and Behavioral Development Lab" Department of Psychology, University of Wisconsin-Madison, July 1, 2021

#### Invited Research Talk, Weekly Brown Bag

"Direct and indirect polygenic scores for risk-taking and trajectories of externalizing behaviors" Adolescent Brain Cognitive Development (ABCD) Study Interest Group, University of Wisconsin-Madison, June 16, 2021

#### Invited Research Talk, Social Genomics Seminar

"Direct and indirect polygenic scores for risk-taking and trajectories of externalizing behaviors" Initiative in Social Genomics, University of Wisconsin-Madison, June 15, 2021

#### Research Talk, First Year Project Proposal

"Direct and indirect polygenic scores for risk-taking and trajectories of antisocial behaviors" First Year Project Committee, University of Wisconsin-Madison, February 10, 2021

## **Research Experience**

#### 2021-Present

# Research Assistant, The University of Wisconsin Longitudinal Imaging and Neurogenetics in Kids (UW LINK) Study

Waisman Center, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI

Principal Investigators: James J. Li, PhD, and Brittany G. Travers, PhD

- Design and implement research projects under supervision of principal investigators
- Contribute to data collection for an NIH-funded grant examining co-occurring autism and ADHD in children aged 4-7 across three years (P50 center grant to Waisman Center, P50HD105353, PI: Li and Travers)
- Administer a battery of psychological and neuropsychological assessments (e.g., Differential Ability Scales-II, Schedule for Affective Disorders and Schizophrenia, NIH Toolbox, Pediatric Quality of Life Inventory, Minnesota Executive Function Scale App) to children and their families
- Develop training materials and train new research assistants and graduate students
- Work to incorporate aspects of neurodiversity into the study (e.g., creating a minimally speaking protocol for assessments)

#### 2020-Present

#### Graduate Researcher, Social and Behavioral Development Lab

Waisman Center, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI

Principal Investigator: James J. Li, PhD

- Design and implement research projects under supervision of principal investigator
- Mentor research assistants (RAs) and assign weekly tasks related to literature searching, data analysis, figure and table creation, and research writing
- Select articles and moderate discussions for biweekly lab meetings

#### 2019-2020

#### Laboratory Manager, Multisensory Perception Lab

California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, CA

Principal Investigator: Laura Cacciamani, PhD

- Supervised RAs and acted as a liaison between RAs and PI
- Oversaw current projects and monitored their progress
- Communicated with participants and monitored eligibility requirements for each study
- Created weekly running schedules for each project
- Managed supplies (e.g., electrodes, electrode gel, batteries) and ensured the laboratory and its equipment were kept in an orderly manner

#### 2019-2020

#### Research Assistant, Health and Culture Lab

California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, CA

Principal Investigator: Julie Rodgers, PhD

- Assisted with a project examining the psychological and physiological effects of discriminatory news articles
- Collected physiological data from participants, including saliva samples, systolic and diastolic blood pressure, and heart rate
- Coded verbal responses to questionnaires and prepared data for analysis

#### Summer 2019

#### Lab Assistant, Palpable Interactions Group

The Smith-Kettlewell Eye Research Institute, San Francisco, CA

Principal Investigators: Sile O'Modhrain, PhD, and James Coughlan, PhD

• Assisted in design and implementation of a series of studies aimed to create user-friendly systems for accessing braille and tactile graphics

- Collected data through conducting questionnaires, making audio recordings of participants interacting with hardware/software prototypes, and creating video recordings of participants' hand movements
- Developed comprehensive communication skills by working with an interdisciplinary team (e.g., individuals with backgrounds in computer science, engineering, neuroscience, psychology)
- Aided with data analysis by transcribing questionnaire responses, coding audio recordings, and analyzing hand movement data

# 2019-2021 Senior Project, "The Effects of High-Definition Transcranial Direct Current Stimulation on Visual Object Perception"

California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, CA

Advisor: Laura Cacciamani, PhD

- Developed an empirical study investigating figure-ground perception through stimulation of the lateral occipital cortex
- Created behavioral task and prepared materials to run the experiment
- Analyzed data for 46 participants using SPSS and presented findings at the Department of Psychology and Child Development's annual Senior Project Symposium
- First authored a manuscript published in *Neuropsychologia* (Sasia & Cacciamani, 2021)

#### 2018-2020 Project Lead, Multisensory Perception Lab

California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, CA

Principal Investigator: Laura Cacciamani, PhD

- Collaborated in design and implementation of a study assessing the role of high-definition transcranial direct current stimulation in haptic object perception. Key responsibilities included:
  - o Drafting Institutional Review Board (IRB) documents and creating the research protocol, debriefing, and post-experiment questionnaires
  - o Conducting pilot testing to identify and rectify issues in the original protocol
- Provided training to new research assistants on experimental procedures and the operation of HD-tDCS
- Conducted a comprehensive empirical literature on HD-tDCS to the lateral occipital cortex (LO) and the LO's role in perception and memory

#### 2018-2019 Research Assistant, Sleep, Learning, Affect, and Memory (SLAM) Lab

California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, CA

Principal Investigator: Kelly Bennion, PhD

- Administered anxiety, sleep, and cognitive assessments for a study analyzing the effects of sleep and learning with anxiety as a moderator variable
- Contributed to the preparation of materials for a poster presentation and currently working on manuscript for publication
- Trained new research assistants to carry out study procedures
- Managed all scheduling for experimenters and participants using Sona Systems Participant Management Software

## **Clinical Experience**

#### 2024-2025 Practicum Student, Mendota Juvenile Treatment Center

Mendota Mental Health Institute, Madison, WI

Supervisor: Alix Shepherd, PsyD

• Devoted 16-20 hours per week at a hybrid maximum security correctional facility/secure mental health treatment facility

- Conducted individual therapy with male and female adolescents aged 14 to 18 who were selected for transfer from state juvenile corrections facilities based on violent, aggressive, or disruptive behaviors and/or mental health needs
- Generated Safe Social Integration Plans based on data from prior corrections facility upon youth admission to reduce aggressive behaviors, increase prosocial interactions and behaviors, and gradually decrease security measures over time
- Integrated principles of dialectical behavior therapy, motivational interviewing, cognitive behavioral therapy, and restorative justice, tailored to youth's individual needs
- Designed and implemented a standard assessment battery for all admissions to aid in treatment planning (included Personality Assessment Inventory, Adolescent, Wide Range Achievement Test Fifth Edition, and Wechsler Abbreviated Scale of Intelligence Second Edition)
- Contributed to program development and administrative initiatives, including planning for a new female unit, revising behavior programming, and participating in policy, staff education, and grant-related projects

#### 2023-2024 Practicum Student, Forensic Maximum Unit

Mendota Mental Health Institute, Madison, WI

Supervisor: Katelyn Grusecki, PsyD

- Devoted 16 hours per week at a state psychiatric hospital
- Conducted comprehensive psychological evaluations for patients with serious mental illness on a
  maximum-security competency unit, utilizing diagnostic, neuropsychological, personality, achievement,
  and forensic measures, tailored to referral concerns
- Completed shadow competency to stand trial evaluations for pre-trial patients
- Coordinated with a multidisciplinary team comprised of psychologists, psychology interns, psychiatrists, occupational therapists, nurses, and social workers to develop, implement, and review treatment plans for patients
- Facilitated psychoeducation group therapy and individual competency restoration sessions for patients awaiting assessment for competency to stand trial, receiving treatment for competency to stand trial, and adjudicated not guilty by reason of mental disease or defect (NGI)
- Completed psychological evaluations on additional units, including Admission Treatment Unit (ATU), Intensive Treatment Unit (ITU), Management and Treatment Unit (MTU), Medium Admission and Rehabilitation Unit (MARU), Secure Assessment and Treatment Unit (SATU), and Treatment Rehabilitation Unit (TRU)
- Observed expert testimony in competency to proceed hearings

#### 2022 Graduate Clinician, Court Ordered Evaluation Program

RISE, Madison, WI

Supervisor: Patricia Coffey, PhD

• Conducted a court-ordered psychological evaluation for an adolescent involved in the Dane County Court system to inform treatment planning and placement decisions

### 2022 Graduate Clinician, Legal Assistance to Incarcerated People Project (LAIP)

University of Wisconsin-Madison Law School, Madison, WI

Supervisor: Patricia Coffey, PhD

- Offered consultation on mental health matters to law students and professors representing incarcerated individuals seeking relief from excessive sentences
- Reviewed court and prison records to assess the mental health status of an incarcerated individual
- Prepared a concise summary report addressing the primary referral question, intended for use in court proceedings

#### 2021-2023 Graduate Clinician, Psychology Research and Training Clinic (PRTC)

University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI

Supervisors: Christopher Gioia, PhD and Linnea Burk, PhD

- Devoted 15 hours per week for year-long internal practicum rotation
- Conducted intake interviews with clients from the community, ranging from childhood to early adulthood, to determine presenting problems, conceptualize potential diagnoses, and propose treatment plans
- Utilized principles of cognitive behavioral therapy, motivational interviewing, and dialectical behavior therapy to improve clients' mental health
- Administered comprehensive diagnostic, personality, and cognitive assessments and wrote integrated reports based on results
- Actively participated in weekly one-on-one supervision meetings with supervisor to protect clients and ensure integrity of therapeutic services
- Successfully advocated for use of the Hierarchical Taxonomy of Psychopathology Digital Assessment Tracker (HiTOP-DAT) in all clinic intakes, which is an electronically administered battery of measures used to assess the HiTOP model (a dimensional psychiatric nosology) in adults

#### 2021-Present

# Graduate Clinician, The University of Wisconsin Longitudinal Imaging and Neurogenetics in Kids (UW LINK) Study

Waisman Center, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI

Supervisor: Alyssa Walsh, PhD

- Contribute to data collection for an NIH-funded grant examining co-occurring autism and ADHD in children aged 4-7 across three years (P50 center grant to Waisman Center, P50HD105353, PI: Li and Travers)
- Administer a battery of psychological and neuropsychological assessments (e.g., Differential Ability Scales-II, Schedule for Affective Disorders and Schizophrenia, NIH Toolbox, Pediatric Quality of Life Inventory, Minnesota Executive Function Scale App) to children and their families
- Develop training materials and train new research assistants and graduate students
- Work to incorporate aspects of neurodiversity into the study (e.g., creating a minimally speaking protocol for assessments)

#### 2019-2020

# *Psychometrist*, Psychological & Educational Assessments for Kids and Students (PEAKS) Clinic San Luis Obispo, CA

Supervisors: Jessica Kaczorowski, PhD, and Taylor Smith, PhD

- Scored psychological and neuropsychological assessments (e.g., WISC-V, NEPSY-II, ADOS, ChAMP, D-KEFS etc.) and compiled scores for use in client's report
- Administered academic assessments (e.g., WJ-IV, NDRT) to clients of various ages and with a variety of psychological or learning difficulties (e.g., ADHD, ASD, Dyslexia, etc.)
- Provided administrative support including communicating with clients, sending rating scales, and regulating supply levels

#### 2018-2020

#### County Jail & Juvenile Hall Volunteer, Restorative Partners

San Luis Obispo, CA

Supervisor: Vivien Devaney-Frice, MA

• Worked directly with youth and adults in-custody to incorporate trauma care, address responsibility and accountability, and reduce violence and recidivism rates through restorative justice practices

#### 2017-2020

#### Suicide/Crisis Hotline Operator, SLO Hotline

San Luis Obispo, CA

Program Manager: Ileara Brown, LMFT

- Provided mental health support, crisis intervention, and suicide prevention telephone services to callers
- Supplied relevant community resources and maintain confidentiality
- Updated community resource databases with current information

### 2016-2019 Therapeutic Learning Coach, Brain Boost Academy

Arroyo Grande, CA

Executive Director: Karyn Lutes, MA, CCC-SLP

- Assisted with treatment of clients to improve learning and communication difficulties, weak attention, and cognitive skills in a one-on-one setting
- Coordinated with staff members and Executive Director to update and improve existing programs

### **Teaching Experience**

#### 2024 Graduate Teaching Assistant, Psychology, Social Policy, and Law

University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI

Professors: Gregory J. Van Rybroek, Ph.D., J.D.; Michael F. Caldwell, Psy.D.

- Graded all course assignments and exams for 180 students
- Attended all lectures and was available for weekly office hours
- Coordinated course accommodations and alternate testing for students with disabilities

#### 2022 Graduate Teaching Assistant, Critical Issues in Child Psychopathology

University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI

Professor: James J. Li, PhD

- Taught three one-hour discussion sections every week (~18 students per class) to complement material learned in lectures
- Graded short answer questions on exams as well as final research papers for 58/160 students
- Attended all lectures and was available for weekly office hours
- Coordinated course accommodations and alternate testing for students with disabilities
- Student evaluations ("Considering everything, class size, course objectives, etc., the TA was an effective teacher"): 4.90/5

#### 2022-2023 Reader Grader, The Criminal Mind: Forensic and Psychobiological Perspectives

University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI

Professor: Patricia Coffey, PhD

• Read and gave detailed feedback on polished and final drafts of student research papers for Spring 2022, Fall 2022, Spring 2023, and Fall 2023

#### 2021 Graduate Teaching Assistant, The Criminal Mind: Forensic and Psychobiological Perspectives

University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI

Professor: Patricia Coffey, PhD

- Taught three one-hour discussion sections every week (~19 students per class) to complement material learned in lectures
- Graded a portion of take-home exams and final research papers for 160 students
- Attended all lectures and was available for weekly office hours
- Coordinated accommodations and alternate testing for students with disabilities
- Student evaluations ("Considering everything, class size, course objectives, etc., the TA was an effective teacher"): 4.80/5

#### 2021 Graduate Teaching Assistant, Abnormal Psychology

University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI

Professor: Diane Gooding, PhD

• Attended lectures and held weekly office hours to clarify and elaborate on course concepts

- Graded all assignments and midterm exams (including short-answer questions) and moderated weekly online discussion boards for 58 students
- Student evaluations ("Considering everything, class size, course objectives, etc., the TA was an effective teacher"): 4.06/5

#### 2020 Teaching Assistant, Cognitive Neuroscience

California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, CA

Professor: Laura Cacciamani, PhD

#### 2019 Teaching Assistant, Orientation to the Psychology Major

California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, CA

Professor: Kelly Bennion, PhD

#### 2019 Undergraduate Tutor, Educational Opportunity Program

California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, CA

Supervisor: Debi Hill, EdM

## **Mentoring Experience**

#### Mentor, Climate & Diversity Committee's Buddy System 2023-2024

University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI

- Provided support and guidance to a first-year doctoral student in clinical psychology to facilitate a smooth transition into the program and city
  - 2023-2024: Aggie Laboe

#### 2023-2024 Pre-Grad Mentor, Project SHORT (Students for Higher-Ed Opportunities and Representation in Training)

- Worked with graduate school applicants one-on-one to improve applications, give general feedback and advice, and conduct mock interviews to strive to reduce structural inequities in STEM
  - 2023-2024: Alexis Krause, Sarah Elizabeth Stoeckl, Abigail Cirelli

#### 2021, 2023 Mentor, Psychology Research Experience Program (PREP)

University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI

Director: Brad Postle, PhD

- Provided 10 weeks of intensive mentoring to undergraduates from historically underrepresented populations and oversaw design and implementation of mentees' independent research projects
  - 2023: Gabrielle Walker
  - 2021: Omari Cunningham

#### 2020-Research Mentor, Social and Behavioral Development Lab

Present University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI

Principal Investigator: James Li, PhD

- Train undergraduate RAs in clinical science and psychiatric genetics research, facilitate open and regular communication, develop RAs' increased independence through scaffolding, and guide post-graduation goals and professional development
  - 2025-2026: Zibby Lunger, Macy Goldfarb, Caitlin Proffitt
  - 2024-2025: Zibby Lunger, Anna Gillespie, Macy Goldfarb 0
  - 2023-2024: Angelica Chang, Anna Gillespie, Maddie Washburn 0
  - 2022-2023: Weijia Liang, Penny Peng, Olivia Zalog
  - 2021-2022: Allison Block, Zach Buehler, Sydney Stoker, Sheyenne Tung
  - 2020-2021: Olivia Berley, Lina Riaz, Sheyenne Tung

#### **Academic and Professional Service**

# 2024-2025 *Committee Member*, Hierarchical Taxonomy of Psychopathology (HiTOP) Conference Committee HiTOP Society

- Helped organize the 2025 HiTOP Conference in March 2025 in Denver, CO
- Attended committee meetings, reviewed and scored abstracts, edited the conference program, collected
  and collated slides for all presenters, facilitated audiovisual technology during the conference, and
  organized trainee networking event

#### April 2025 Organizer, Clinical Area Group Research Talk

Department of Psychology, University of Wisconsin-Madison, WI

Organized a research talk for the Clinical Area Group (including faculty members and graduate students)
with Johanna Folk, Ph.D., Assistant Professor at the University of California San Francisco Department of
Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital and Trauma Center

#### 2023 Ad hoc reviewer, Psychological Medicine

#### Dec. 2023 Panelist, Graduate School Panel

Orientation to the Psychology Major Course, Cal Poly SLO, CA

#### Aug. 2023 *Panelist*, Service Roles Panel

Psychology PhD Student Orientation, University of Wisconsin-Madison, WI

### 2023-2024 *Member*, HiTOP Trainee Engagement Committee

Chair: Timothy A. Allen, PhD

Hierarchical Taxonomy of Psychopathology (HiTOP) Consortium

• Established structure for involving trainees in HiTOP, addressed heterogeneity in trainee experiences, increased trainee involvement in HiTOP conferences and workgroups, provided training resources and support for trainees, and revised membership criteria to be more inclusive of trainees

#### April 2023 Organizer, Clinical Area Group Research Talk

Department of Psychology, University of Wisconsin-Madison, WI

• Organized a research talk for the Clinical Area Group (including faculty members and graduate students) with Craig Rodriguez-Seijas, Ph.D., Assistant Professor in Clinical Science at the University of Michigan

#### Nov. 2022 Panelist. Graduate School Panel

Orientation to the Psychology Major Course, Cal Poly SLO, CA

#### 2022-2023 Graduate Student Representative, Department of Psychology Faculty Meetings

Director of Graduate Studies: C. Shawn Green, PhD

University of Wisconsin-Madison, WI

- Participated in faculty meetings to ensure representation of graduate student perspectives
- Informed the broader graduate student community about departmental matters

#### 2022-2023 *Member*, Department of Psychology Colloquium Committee

Faculty Advisor: Seth Pollak, PhD University of Wisconsin-Madison, WI

• Identified and invited potential speakers for the Sharon M. Guten Colloquium series

 Orchestrated the logistics of speakers' visits, ensuring smooth coordination and execution of the colloquium series

#### 2022-2023 Graduate Student Representative, Department of Psychology's Board of Visitors

Board Chair: Andrea Konz, PhD University of Wisconsin-Madison, WI

• Provided input on graduate student experiences and learn how academic departments engage in fundraising

#### Apr. 2022 Panelist, Graduate School Panel

Psi Chi, Cal Poly SLO, CA

### Mar. 2022 Organizer, Clinical Area Group Research Talk

Department of Psychology, University of Wisconsin-Madison, WI

• Organized a research talk for the Clinical Area Group (including faculty members and graduate students) with Roman Kotov, Ph.D., founder and lead of the Hierarchical Taxonomy of Psychopathology (HiTOP) Consortium

#### Aug. 2021 Panelist, Graduate School Panel

Psi Chi, Cal Poly Pomona, CA

#### Nov. 2020 Panelist, Graduate School Panel

Psi Chi, Cal Poly SLO, CA

#### Nov. 2020 Panelist, Graduate School Panel

Orientation to the Psychology Major Course, Cal Poly SLO, CA

### 2020 Workgroup Member, Department of Psychology Applied Training Workgroup

Associate Chair: Linnea Burk, PhD University of Wisconsin-Madison, WI

- Worked to identify clinical practicum sites with diverse populations
- Reached out to campus groups to share information about Psychology Clinic and determine the group's needs

#### 2020-2021 Workgroup Member, Department of Psychology Workgroup on Recruitment of Black Faculty

Associate Chair: Seth Pollak, PhD University of Wisconsin-Madison, WI

• Took part in discussion and creation of an action plan to improve the department's ability to successfully recruit and retain Black faculty to improve racial diversity and extend range of classes and research programs

#### 2018-2019 Committee Member, Department of Psychology & Child Development Student Advisory Committee

Advisors: Jasna Jovanovic (Dept. Chair), PhD, and Carrie Langner, PhD California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, CA

#### Apr. 2019 Student Reviewer, 2019 APS Student Research Award

Association for Psychological Science

#### 2018-2019 Notetaker Volunteer, Disability Resource Center

Supervisor: Cheryl Westfall

California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, CA

Oct. 2018	Panelist, Orientation to the Major Panel Orientation to the Psychology Major Course, Cal Poly SLO, CA
Apr. 2018	Panelist, Psychology Major Q&A Panel Psychology Club, Cal Poly SLO, CA
2018-2019	Mentor, Psychology Club Mentorship Program Advisor: Kelly Bennion, PhD California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, CA
2017-2019	Committee Member, College-Based Fee Committee Advisor: Jasna Jovanovic (Dept. Chair), PhD California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, CA

## **Leadership Positions**

2018-2019	President, Psi Chi Advisors: Laura Cacciamani, PhD, and Julie Rodgers, PhD California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, CA
2018-2019	President, Psychology Club  Advisors: Kelly Bennion, PhD, and Jay Bettergarcia, PhD  California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, CA
2018-2019	Vice President, Undergraduate Research Association Advisor: Scott Eagon, PhD California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, CA
2017-2018	Event Coordinator, Psychology Club Advisors: Kelly Bennion, PhD, and Jay Bettergarcia, PhD California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, CA

### **Workshops and Professional Trainings**

# 2025 Scientific Advancements and Best Practices for Diagnosing and Treating Autism and ADHD Behavioral Health Training Partnership, University of Wisconsin-Green Bay

Four-hour workshop that provided a comprehensive overview of autism and ADHD, covering diagnostic
and treatment considerations, best practices, and the clinical significance of their co-occurrence, while
integrating emerging research and neurodiversity-informed perspectives to enhance understanding and
clinical applications

# 2024 Rorschach Performance Assessment System (R-PAS): Administration, Coding, and Interpretation Wisconsin Department of Corrections

- Day-long training focused on purpose and design, standardized administration procedures, and coding and interpretation guidelines of the R-PAS
- Engaged in administration and coding demonstrations to apply theoretical knowledge and enhance proficiency

The Fundamentals of Competency Evaluations and Treatment

#### Mendota Mental Health Institute

• Day-long training that provided an overview of the competency statute in the State of Wisconsin and relevant case law, along with discussion about various tools and methods used by forensic examiners to evaluate defendants' competency

# 2023 International Statistical Genetic (ISG) Workshop for Human Complex Traits: The Molecular Genetics Course

Institute for Behavioral Genetics, University of Colorado Boulder

• Five-day workshop that provided hands-on analysis training in the following areas: causes of variation; biometrical genetics; UNIX/R scripting; whole-genome data generation, cleaning and QC; population genetics, GWAS; imputation; stratification; family-based association; meta-analysis, polygenic risk scores; SNP-heritability and correlation; ascertainment; mendelian randomization; biological annotation; pathway analysis; fine mapping; colocalization; HAIL; responsible conduct of research

#### 2022 Integrating HiTOP into Clinical Practice Workshop

HiTOP Consortium

- Two-day, six-hour workshop that provided training in applying HiTOP principles into clinical practice
- Covered assessment and conceptualization of symptoms through a HiTOP lens, integration of findings into treatment planning and monitoring, applying principles for working with diverse and underserved populations, and practical considerations (e.g., billing and reporting)

#### **Genomics for Social Scientists Workshop**

Survey Research Center & Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan

• Week-long workshop focused on familiarizing researchers with genetic data and providing hands-on training to incorporate genetic information into social science analyses

#### Advancing Learning Through Evidence-Based STEM Teaching

Delta Program, University of Wisconsin-Madison

 Eight-week training detailing college teaching strategies and the research that supports them, including strategies like peer instruction, problem-based learning, inquiry-based labs, cooperative learning, and flipped classrooms

#### 2021 Research Mentor Training

Delta Program, University of Wisconsin-Madison

• Five-week training exploring strategies to become a more effective, culturally responsive research mentor

#### **Introduction to Structural Equation Modeling**

CenterStat

- Three-day workshop discussing the application and interpretation of statistical models designed for the analysis of multivariate data with latent variables
- Introduced the core components of structural equation modeling and demonstrated detailed examples using the lavaan package in R

## **Specialized Skills**

**Software:** Git/GitHub, PLINK, PRSice-2, Mplus, R, R Markdown, R Studio, Sona Systems Participant Management Software, Stata, Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS), Quarto

#### **Psychological Assessments:**

Achievement: Gray Oral Reading Test Fifth Edition (GORT-5); Wide Range Achievement Test Fifth Edition (WRAT5); Nelson-Denny Reading Test (NDRT); Wechsler Individual Achievement Test Fourth Edition (WIAT-4)

Cognitive & Neuropsychology: Adult ADHD Self-Report Scale (ASRS); Behavior Rating Inventory of Executive Function (BRIEF); Conners Continuous Auditory Test of Attention (CATA); Conners Continuous Performance Test Third Edition (CPT 3); Delis-Kaplan Executive Function System (D-KEFS); Differential Ability Scales-II (DAS-II); Kaufman Brief Intelligence Test Second Edition (KBIT-2); Minnesota Executive Function Scale (MEFS); Montreal Cognitive Assessment (MoCA); National Institutes of Health (NIH) Toolbox; Repeatable Battery for the Assessment of Neuropsychological Status (RBANS) Update; Wechsler Abbreviated Scale of Intelligence Second Edition (WASI-II); Wechsler Adult Intelligence Scale Fourth Edition (WAIS-IV); Wechsler Intelligence Scale for Children Fifth Edition (WISC-V); Wechsler Memory Scale Fourth Edition (WMS-IV); Wechsler Preschool & Primary Scale of Intelligence (WPPSI); Woodcock-Johnson IV (WJ IV)

Forensic: Inventory of Legal Knowledge (ILK); Memory Validity Profile (MVP); Miller Forensic Assessment of Symptoms Test (M-FAST); Structured Interview of Reported Symptoms Second Edition (SIRS-2); Validity Indicator Profile (VIP); Test of Memory Malingering (TOMM)

Functional: Independent Living Scales (ILS); World Health Organization Disability Assessment Schedule (WHODAS) 2.0

*Personality:* Personality Assessment Inventory (PAI); Personality Assessment Inventory-Adolescent (PAI-A); Minnesota Multiphasic Personality Inventory-3 (MMPI-3)

Projective: Thematic Apperception Test (TAT)

Psychodiagnostic/Symptom Measures: Alcohol Use Disorders Identification Test (AUDIT); Barkley Adult ADHD Rating Scale-IV (BAARS-IV); Beck Depression Inventory-2 (BDI-2); Behavior Assessment Scale for Children Third Edition (BASC-3); Child Behavior Checklist (CBCL); Computerized Adaptive Test of Personality Disorder (CAT-PD); Community Assessment of Psychic Experiences (CAPE); Drug Abuse Symptom Test (DAST); Drug Use Disorders Identification Test (DUDIT); Generalized Anxiety Disorder 7 (GAD-7); Hierarchical Taxonomy of Psychopathology Digital Assessment Tracker (HiTOP-DAT); Inventory for Depression and Anxiety Symptoms (IDAS-II); Kiddie Schedule for Affective Disorders and Schizophrenia Computerized Version (K-SADS-COMP); Multidimensional Anxiety Scale for Children Second Edition (MASC 2); Patient Health Questionnaire-9 and 15 (PHQ-9, PHQ-15); Social Responsiveness Scale Second Edition (SRS-2); Social Skills Improvement System (SSIS); Structured Clinical Interview for DSM-5, Clinician Version (SCID-5-CV); Suicidal Ideation Questionnaire (SIQ); Trauma Symptom Inventory-2 (TSI-2); Vineland Adaptive Behavior Scale-Third Edition (Vineland-3)

Outcome: Assessment for Signal Clients (ASC); Outcome Questionnaire (OQ) 45.2

Other: Ask Suicide-Screening Questions (ASQ); General Self-Efficacy Scale (GSE); Pediatric Quality of Life Inventory (PedsQL)

**Other:** Cognitive behavioral therapy (CBT), dialectical behavior therapy (DBT), high-definition transcranial direct current stimulation (HD-tDCS), motivational interviewing (MI), MRI safety training, open science practices, parallel assessment of competency to stand trial

## **Professional Memberships**

Association for Psychological Science American Psychological Association Hierarchical Taxonomy of Psychopathology (HiTOP) Society, Founding Member

- Developmental Workgroup
- Genetics Workgroup

• Measures Development Workgroup

Initiative in Social Genomics, Center for Demography of Health and Aging, Student Affiliate Psi Chi

Society for a Science of Clinical Psychology

Society for Research in Psychopathology, Associate Member

#### References

#### James J. Li, PhD

A. A. Alexander Associate Professor of Psychology and Psychiatry, Director of Clinical Training Department of Psychology University of Wisconsin-Madison james.li@wisc.edu 608-265-1091

#### Linnea Burk, PhD

Clinic Director Psychology Research & Training Clinic University of Wisconsin-Madison burk@wisc.edu 608-262-9079

#### Katelyn Grusecki, PsvD

Licensed Psychologist Mendota Mental Health Institute Katelyn.Grusecki@dhs.wisconsin.gov 608-301-1244

#### Gregory J. Van Rybroek, PhD, JD

Director, Mendota Mental Health Institute Adjunct Professor, Department of Psychology and School of Law University of Wisconsin-Madison Gregory.vanrybroek@dhs.wisconsin.gov 608-301-1042

#### Patricia Coffey, PhD

Faculty Associate
Department of Psychology
University of Wisconsin-Madison
pcoffey@wisc.edu

#### Christopher Gioia, PhD

Assistant Clinic Director Psychology Research & Training Clinic University of Wisconsin-Madison gioia@wisc.ed 608-262-6352

#### Alix Shepherd, PsyD

Licensed Psychologist Mendota Juvenile Treatment Center Alix.Shepherd@dhs.wisconsin.gov

#### Michael F. Caldwell, MS, PsyD

Staff Psychologist, Mendota Mental Health Institute Lecturer in Psychology University of Wisconsin-Madison mfcaldwell@wisc.edu 608-347-6764