Bryanna L. Scheuler

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Department of Psychology

Wake Forest University

1834 Wake Forest Rd.

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Dear Dr. Stone and Members of the Search Committee:

I am writing to apply for the Assistant Professor in Human Cognition position beginning July 2025. I am a competitive candidate who will contribute to the assessment and quantitative methods theme of the Wake Forest Psychology Department. My research bridges cognitive research and assessment methods. I am particularly drawn to the department’s environment, instructor-student ratio, and faculty philosophy.

I am currently completing a Ph.D. at the University of Texas at San Antonio, and am on schedule to graduate in May 2025. In my dissertation research, I use response time modeling to assess cancer-related cognitive decline and inflammation. This research marks the first time accumulator models have been implemented in a cancer population and has the potential to change the way cancer cognition is measured. Wake Forest University would be the ideal location to build on this research, as it provides an environment to focus on cognition assessments while supporting cross-department collaborations with the School of Medicine. Additionally, the proximity of multiple Novant Health Cancer Institute facilities would promote community involvement and avenues for innumerable research opportunities. My experience in obtaining a $50,000 Mays Cancer Center collaboration grant for my dissertation project can be readily applied to building grant revenues in the North Carolina cancer research community.

Throughout my time as a graduate student, I was fortunate enough to receive opportunities to serve as a teaching assistant and give guest lectures, including to a wonderful class at Rice University. During these experiences, I have developed a deep love of teaching. Nothing gives me more motivation or fulfillment than watching the moment a student grasps a difficult concept. When I explored the courses that the Wake Forest Psychology Department offers, I was immediately thrilled. My research and teaching backgrounds have prepared me to teach many of the assessment-, biology-, and cognition-focused courses offered by your department. Additionally, I believe this would be a fantastic environment for me to teach other courses I am interested in, including Bayesian statistics, open science practices, and collaborative science. As providing a synergistic environment for my mentees is important to me, I am thrilled to learn that any student interested in joining my laboratory would have complementary education provided by their research and courses. Considering the small class sizes and the backgrounds of other faculty members, I would feel confident that my students could build a toolbelt for successful careers.

I would enjoy discussing this position with you in the weeks to come, as I truly believe that your department and my background are remarkably compatible. Please don’t hesitate to let me know if you have any questions, or would like any additional information.

Kindest Regards,

Bryanna L. Scheuler