(401) 440 5228 abbiepopa@gmail.com

EDUCATION

PhD University of California at Davis, Davis, CA, (September 2012 - December 2017)

Major: Cognitive Neuroscience

Advanced to Candidacy September 2015

Thesis Topic: Anxiety Impacts Attentional and Inhibitory Control in Adolescence **Honors ScB.**, Brown University, Providence, RI, (September 2006-December 2010)

Major: Cognitive Neuroscience

Thesis Title: Concordance of Movement and Heart Rate Responses in Fetuses at Risk for Autism

DISSERTATION

Behavior and EEG Testing of Teen Anxiety

Mentor: Dr. Tony J. Simon

June 2013 - present

A study of 20 adolescents with generalized anxiety disorder and 40 typical controls examining attentional and inhibitory control using event-related potentials, heart rate variability, and behavioral data. Participants complete four tasks and self and parent reports of daily function.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

22q11.2 Research Center and Clinic

Dr. Tony J. Simon

MIND Institute at UC Davis, Davis CA June 2013 - present

Graduate Student Researcher Rotation Student

April 2013 - June 2013

- Analyzed behavioral, eye gaze, and pupilometric data from a dot probe threat bias experiment as they related to self report measures of anxiety and cognition in 47 children with 22q11.2 deletion syndrome and 32 typically developing children
- Designed, tested, collected data, and analyzed four ERP experiments examining adolescents with 22q11.2 deletion syndrome and typical controls on attentional and inhibitory control using neutral and emotional stimuli for a five-year NIH funded grant.
- Developed tasks for five behavioral experiments on the same study
- Analyzed resting state fMRI data from over a hundred participants with and without 22q11.2 deletion syndrome to examine differences in three networks isolated using ICA
- Trained and mentored four junior research assistants and seven volunteer interns

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Neurobiology

Dr. Lee M. Miller UC Davis Department of Neurobiology, Physiology, and Behavior, Davis CA Teaching Assistant April 2015-June 2015

- Planned nine weeks of discussion sections with two co-TAs. Prepared material for an hour of homework review, practice problems, and discussion of lecture material and readings.
- Independently led 3 one hour discussion sections for a total of 75 students each week.
- Held weekly office hours attended by around six students each session.
- Answered e-mails and arranged individual meetings for students who needed extra help.
- Developed one homework assignment.
- Graded three short answer exams for 200 students with one co-TA.

Laboratory on Genes and Behavior

Dr. Rebecca D. Burwell Brown University Department of Psychology, Providence RI Teaching Assistant January 2010-May 2010

- Set up equipment for behavioral experiments run on knockout mice, including the Morris Water Maze, tail suspension, and basic habituation tasks
- Explained procedures to students and helped them run the tasks

LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

Neuroscience Initiative to Enhance Diversity

Davis, CA

Student Organizer

Event held April 2016

- Organized event that recruits 25 undergraduates from historically black and Hispanic serving colleges to increase representation in PhD prgrams
- Cooridinated 10 workshops led by faculty and students
- Led a student data blitz and student panel on preparing your best application
- Conducted mock interviews with the students

Explorations, UC Davis Undergraduate Research Journal

Davis, CA

Editor

February 2015 - August 2015

Managing Editor, Physical and Life Sciences

September 2015 - Present

- Found appropriate faculty reviewers for student submitted publications
- Communicated faculty reviewer comments to student authors
- Assessed the reviewed and edited papers for acceptance in a yearly UC Davis publication
- Copy-edited and formatted student articles for publication

Davis Incubator Group

Davis, CA

President Member

September 2016 - Present

- January August 2016 • Participated collaboratively in online machine learning competitions, finishing in the top
- 10% of a driven data.org competition • Organized and scheduled weekly meetings for a group of 6-8 graduate students to practiced coding, machine learning, and share data analysis skills

Neuroimaging Journal Club

Davis, CA

Student Co-Facilitator

September 2013 - December 2016

• Invited faculty guests, selected papers, and led student discussions for the student-run neuroimaging journal club

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Intertational Rescue Committee

Sacramento, CA

Refugee Empowerment Volunteer

January 2017 - Present

- Assisted recent refugees to the United States in preparing resumes and job applications
- Organized paperwork including financial forms to ensure compliance

Women in Science and Engineering

Davis, CA

Mentor, Workshop Organizer and Presenter

September 2015 - Present

- Mentored an undergraduate woman interested in pursuing and engineering graduate degree
- Designed, organized, and presented a workshop on how to apply to graduate school to 20 undergraduate women

UC - Davis Neuroblog

Online through UC Davis

Graduate Student Contributer

September 2013 - Present

• Planned, wrote and published posts about neuroscience, advocacy and related topics to a student run blog.

The Graduate Academic Achievement and Advocacy Program

Davis, CA September 2013 - June 2015

Graduate Student Volunteer and Mentor

 Advised and assisted students from underrepresented minorities on topics including graduate school applications and science writing

- Planned and ran workshops for students from underrepresented minorities on topics including graduate school applications, research assistantships, and gap years
- Mentored a student

Graduate Student Assembly

Davis, CA

Departmental Representative

September 2013 - June 2015

- Attended meetings and voted on policy affecting graduate students at UC Davis and in the wider UC graduate student assembly
- Publicized information to graduate group

Brain Awareness Week

Davis, CA

Graduate Student Presenter

March 2013 - Present

- Developed and presented a new station on Vestibular Nystagmus for a school for nontraditional high schoolers in Sacramento
- Presented posters at a booth at the Farmer's Market
- Taught neuroanatomy using sheep brains to high schoolers in Davis

PUBLICATIONS Submitted: Popa AM, Cruz J, Wong L, Harvey D, Angkustsiri K, Leckliter I, Perez-Edgar K, Simon TJ. Seeing Eye to Eye with Threat: Atypical Threat Bias Responses in Children with 22q11.2 Deletion Syndrome.

> In Progress: McCabe KL, Popa AM, Durdle C, Amato M, Cabaral M, Wong L, Harvey D, Simon TJ. Quantifying the resolution of spatial and temporal representation in children with 22q11.2 deletion syndrome.

> In Progress: Popa AM, McCabe KL, Morgan H, Garner J, Harvey D, Amato M, Simon TJ. Children with 22q11.2 Deletion Syndrome show Visuospatial Impairments on Bisection Tasks.

AWARDS AND **CERTIFICATES**

UC Davis Graduate Student Asssembly Travel Award	2015-16 Academic Year
UC Davis FUTURE Certificate Track	2015-16 Academic Year
UC Davis Graduate Student Asssembly Travel Award	2014-15 Academic Year
ERP Boot Camp (Dr. Steven J. Luck)	Completed July 2014
UC Davis Graduate Student Asssembly Travel Award	2013-14 Academic Year

AFFILIATIONS Association for Women in Science, Student Member

2013-present

PRESENTATIONS AND POSTERS

Selected from 13 Posters (5 first author) and 5 Presentations (4 first author) at International Conferences

- Popa AM, Mayo D, Durdle C, Morgan H, Shapiro H, Ferrer E, Niendam T, Luck S, Carter C, Simon TJ. Attention and Inhibition Deficits in Youth with 22q11.2DS are Associated with Symptoms of Psychosis Proneness (an IBBC abstract). Poster Accepted at the 17th International Congress of the European Society for Child and Adolescent Psychiatry 2017, Geneva, Switzerland.
- Popa AM, Durdle C, Morgan H, Shapiro H, Niendam T, Carter C, Luck S, Simon TJ. Highly Psychosis-Prone Adolescents show Increased Capture by Distractor Stimuli and More Effort to Inhibit Emotional Stimuli than Typically Developing Controls. Oral Accepted at the 16th International Congress on Schizophrenia Research 2017, San Diego, CA.
- Popa AM, Shapiro H, Harvey D, Amato M, Cruz J, Cung N, Reyes D, Simon TJ. Children with 22q11.2 Deletion Syndrome Show Lower Spatial and Temporal Acuity Than TD Children In Continuously Varying Tasks. Abstract Accepted at the 10th Biennial International 22q11.2 Conference 2016, Sirmione, Italy.