Nicholas Becker Curriculum Vitae

Contact Information

Department of Cognitive Science

Johns Hopkins University

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Baltimore, Maryland 21218

Education

PhD, Cognitive Science

2014 - Present

Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD

Primary Advisor: Paul Smolensky

BS, Computer Science and Linguistics

May 2014 GPA: 4.0 / 4.0

Truman State University, Kirksville, MO

Summa cum Laude, with Honors in Both Disciplines

Minor in Cognitive Science

Academic Honors and Awards Truman State University Honors Scholar 2014
Outstanding Senior in Linguistics, 2013

Department of English and Linguistics, Truman State University

Nominated, Outstanding Senior in Computer Science, 2013

Department of Computer Science, Truman State University

Truman State University President's List (4.0 GPA)

Member, Phi Beta Kappa

Boeing Company Scholarship Recipient

Member, Scholarships in Math and Computer Science (SMACS)

2010 - 2014

Inducted 2013

2010 - 2011

(NSF-funded scholarship program at Truman State University)

Teaching Assistantships **Johns Hopkins University** 

Cognitive Development Julia Yarmolinskaya Spring 2015

**Truman State University** 

Introduction to Linguistics Douglas Ball Fall 2013, Spring 2014

**Presentations** 

Becker, N. (2014). *Constructing a control flow graph from TrAL code*. Presentation at the 2014 Truman State University Student Research Conference.

Becker, N. (2014). Whether, if, and that: Rethinking lexical categorization in English. Presentation at the Spring 2014 English and Linguistics Senior Seminar Conference, Truman State University.

Extracurricular Involvement

**GSC Workshop**, Department of Cognitive Science, Johns Hopkins University 2014 Co-organizer of workshop: "Gradient Symbolic Computation: *The Continuous and Discrete in Sentence Processing.*"

Linguistics Internship, Truman State University

2013

Assistant for Dr. Mary Shapiro's sabbatical project. Helped create content for website to help people with high-functioning autism and other social communication challenges improve their communicative skills.

Monte Carlo Methods in Artificial Intelligence, Oregon State University

2013

One of approximately 20 students selected for participation in NSF-sponsored short course on modern AI techniques.

Stargazers Astronomy Club, Truman State University

2011 - 2014

Webmaster (Spring 2012, Fall 2013), Vice President (Fall 2012 - Spring 2013), President (Spring 2014). Hosted bi-monthly open houses at University Observatory for students and community.

**Programming** and Markup Languages

Java, C#, C++, R

Python, LATEX, HTML/CSS, SQL, MATLAB

Intermediate

Basic

Graduate Coursework Spring 2015

Neural Networks Paul Smolensky **Psycholinguistics** Akira Omaki

Syntax I Géraldine Legendre Gradient Symbolic Computation Seminar Paul Smolensky

Fall 2014

Advanced Statistical Methods Jason Matterer Bayesian Inference Colin Wilson Semantics I Kyle Rawlins Language Acquisition Seminar Géraldine Legendre

Gradient Symbolic Computation Seminar Paul Smolensky