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# Academic Positions & Training

## Academic Positions

2022 – Present Assistant Professor (*tenure-track*)

School of Kinesiology

College of Human Sciences & Education

Louisiana State University

## Postdoctoral Training

2021-2022 Postdoctoral Research Fellow

Motor & Visual Development Lab

School of Kinesiology

University of Michigan

Advisor: Haylie L. Miller, Ph.D.

2019-2020 Postdoctoral Research Associate

Autism and Developmental Disorders Research Team

University of North Texas Health Science Center

Advisor: Haylie L. Miller, Ph.D.

2019-2020 Clinical & Translational Research Scholar

Center for Translational Medicine

University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center

## Education

2019 Ph.D. in Psychological Science

*The development of handwriting in young children*

Tulane University

Advisor: Jeffrey J. Lockman, Ph.D.

2016 M.S. in Psychological Science

*The development of vision and basic reading skills in handwriting*

Tulane University

Advisor: Jeffrey J. Lockman, Ph.D.

2013 B.S. in Psychology (with honors)

*Surface features and visually-guided action development in toddlers*

Indiana University

Advisor: Linda B. Smith, Ph.D.

# Publications

## Peer-Reviewed Publications (N=19)

1. **Fears, N. E.,** Hirsch, S., Tamplain, P., & Miller, H. L., (2024). Characterizing goal-directed whole-body movements in autistic children and children with Developmental Coordination Disorder. *Research in Autism Spectrum Disorders*. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.rasd.2024.102374>
2. Miller, H. L., Licari, M. K., Bhat, A., Aziz-Zadeh, L. S., Van Damme, T., **Fears, N. E.**, Cermak, S. A., & Tamplain, P. M. (2024). Motor problems in autism: Co-occurrence or feature? *Developmental Medicine & Child Neurology*. <https://doi.org/10.1111/dmcn.15674>
3. Tamplain, P., **Fears, N. E.**, Robinson, P. Chatterjee, R., Lichtenberg, G., & Miller, H. L. (2023) #DCD/Dyspraxia in real life: Twitter users' unprompted expression of experiences with motor differences. *Journal of Motor Learning & Development.* <https://doi.org/10.1123/jmld.2023-0008>
4. Chatterjee, R., **Fears, N. E.**, Lichtenberg, G., Tamplain, P. M., & Miller, H. L. (2023) Identity and discourse among #ActuallyAutistic Twitter users with motor differences. *Journal of Motor Learning & Development.* <https://doi.org/10.1123/jmld.2023-0007>
5. **Fears, N. E.**, Chatterjee, R., Tamplain, P. M., & Miller, H. L. (2023)Harvesting Twitter data for studying motor behavior in disabled populations: An introduction and tutorial in Python. *Journal of Motor Learning & Development.* <https://doi.org/10.1123/jmld.2023-0006>
6. **Fears, N. E.**, Sherrod, G. M., Blankenship, D., Patterson, R. M., Hynan, L., Wijayasinghe, I., Popa, D. O., Bugnariu, N. L., & Miller, H. L. (2023) Motor differences in Autism during a human-robot imitative gesturing task. *Clinical Biomechanics*. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.clinbiomech.2023.105987>
7. **Fears, N. E.**, Sherrod, G. M., Templin, T., Bugnariu, N., Patterson, R., & Miller, H. L. (2023). Community-based postural control assessment in autistic individuals indicates a delayed, but similar trajectory to neurotypical development. *Autism Research.* <https://doi.org/10.1002/aur.2889> (preprint available at *SportRχiv* <https://doi.org/10.51224/SRXIV.122>).
8. Pimenta, R. A., Fuch, C., **Fears, N. E.**, Mariano, M., Tamplain, P. M. (2023). Profiles of mental health in children with Developmental Coordination Disorder: A latent class analyses. *Research in Developmental Disabilities, 132.* <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ridd.2022.104377>
9. Miller, H. L., Templin, T., **Fears, N. E.**, Sherrod, G. M., Patterson, R., & Bugnariu, N. (2023) Movement smoothness during dynamic postural control to a static target differs between autistic and neurotypical children. *Gait & Posture, 99,* 76-82. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.gaitpost.2022.10.015> (preprint available at *SportRχiv*: <https://doi.org/10.51224/SRXIV.85>)
10. **Fears, N. E.,** Palmer, S. A., & Miller, H. L. (2022). Motor skills predict adaptive behavior in autistic children and adolescents. *Autism Research*. <https://doi.org/10.1002/aur.2708>(preprint available at *PsyArХiv* <https://doi.org/10.31234/osf.io/u5wmp>).
11. **Fears, N. E.,** Templin, T., Sherrod, G. M., Bugnariu, N., Patterson, R., & Miller, H. L. (2022). Autistic children use less efficient goal-directed whole body movements compared to neurotypical development. *Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders*. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10803-022-05523-0> (preprint available at *SportRχiv,* <https://doi.org/10.51224/SRXIV.17>)
12. Miller, H. L., Sherrod, G. M., Mauk, J. E., **Fears, N. E.,** & Tamplain, P. M. (2021). Shared features or co-occurrence? Evaluating symptoms of Developmental Coordination Disorder in children and adolescents with Autism Spectrum Disorder. *Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders.* <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10803-020-04766-z>
13. Miller, H. L., Zurutuza, I. R., **Fears, N. E.**, Polat, S. O., & Nielsen, R. D. (2021). Post-processing integration and semi-automated analysis of eye-tracking and motion-capture data obtained in immersive virtual reality environments to measure visuomotor integration. *Proceedings of ACM Eye Tracking Research & Applications ’21.* <https://doi.org/10.1145/3450341.3458881>
14. **Fears, N. E.** & Lockman, J. J. (2020). Case- and form-sensitive letter frequencies in children’s picture books. *Early Childhood Research Quarterly. 53*, 370-378. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ecresq.2020.05.004>
15. **Fears, N. E.** & Lockman, J. J. (2020). Using head-mounted eye-tracking to study handwriting development. *Journal of Motor Learning and Development, 8*(1), 215-231. <https://doi.org/10.1123/jmld.2018-0057>
16. **Fears, N. E.**, Walsh, L. E., & Lockman, J. J. (2020). Letter writing instruction for children: Case-sensitive letter frequencies in children’s handwriting workbooks. *Reading and Writing: An Interdisciplinary Journal, 33*, 171-185. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11145-019-09954-7>
17. **Fears, N. E.**, Bailey, B., Youmans, B, & Lockman, J. J. (2019). An eye-tracking method for directly assessing children's visual-motor integration. *Physical Therapy, 99*(6), 797-806. <https://doi.org/10.1093/ptj/pzz027>
18. Lockman, J.J., **Fears, N. E.**, & Jung, W. P. (2018). The development of object fitting: The dynamics of spatial coordination. *Advances in Child Development and Behavior, 55,* 31-72. <https://doi.org/10.1016/bs.acdb.2018.05.001>
19. **Fears, N. E.** & Lockman, J.J. (2018). How beginning handwriting is influenced by letter knowledge: Visual-motor coordination during children’s form copying. *Journal of Experimental Child Psychology, 171,* 55-70. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jecp.2018.01.017>

## Book Chapters (N=2)

1. Lockman, J.J., **Fears, N. E.,** & Lewis, E. A. (2018). Spatial development. *Oxford Research Encyclopedia: Psychology*. Oxford, UK: Oxford University Press. <https://doi.org/10.1093/acrefore/9780190236557.013.63>
2. Lockman, J.J., Lewis, E. A., & **Fears, N. E.** (2018). Ecology. *The SAGE Encyclopedia of Lifespan Human Development*. 702-705. Thousand Oaks, California: Sage Publications, Inc.

# Funding & Awards

## Extramural Support (N=6, $314,500 as PI/Co-I)

2024-2026 Healthy Weight Research Network Pilot and Feasibility Grant – $50,000

*Adapting a Play-based, Parent-mediated Motor Skills Intervention App to Reduce Motor Difficulties and Increase Physical Activity in Autistic Preschoolers*

Role: PI

2023-2025 BCBS of Louisiana Foundation Collective Impact Grant - $250,000

*Doing LIFE Together: Learning Independence From Experience*

Role: Co-I (PI: Paul Mooney, PhD)

2019-2022 NIH K01-MH107774 - $942,855

*Visuomotor Integration and Attention in Autism Spectrum Disorder*

National Institute of Mental Health

Role: Postdoctoral Researcher (PI: Haylie L. Miller, Ph.D.)

**2019-2020 NIH U54-MD006882 - $60,000**

**Preliminary Assessment of Visuomotor Profiles in Hispanic Children with Autism**

**Role: Postdoctoral Researcher (PI: Jamboor K. Vishwanatha; Subaward PI: Haylie L. Miller, Ph.D.)**

2016 Summer Research Grant - $5000

Psi Chi and Society for Research in Child Development

Role: Advisor (PI: Leah E. Walsh)

2016 Phase Zero Small Business Innovation Research Grant - $2000

Louisiana Business & Technology Center

Role: Chief Science Officer

2015 Neuro Startup Challenge Business Competition - $2500

NIH and Center for Advancing Innovation

Role: Chief Science Officer

2013-2016 NIH R01-HD067581 – $1,565,804

*Origins of hand-mouth coordination: Objects to tools*

National Institute of Child Health & Human Development

Role: Graduate Researcher (PI: Jeffrey J. Lockman, Ph.D.)

2012 Summer Research Grant - $5000

Psi Chi and Society for Research in Child Development

Role: Principal Investigator

## Intramural Support ****(N=7, $51,700 as PI/Co-I)****

2023-2024 Scholarship First School of Kinesiology Collaborative Research Grant - $4,000

*Developing an International Consortium for Motor Behavior In Neurodivergence (COMBINE)*

Louisiana State University

Role: Principal Investigator

2023-2024 Faculty Research Grants: Emerging Research - $10,000

*Improving identification of motor difficulties in autistic children*

Louisiana State University

Role: Principal Investigator

2023-2024 Faculty Research Grants: Big Idea Phase 1 - $10,000

*How does motor skill influence the acquisition and comprehension of verbs in young autistic children?*

Louisiana State University

Role: Co-Investigator (PI: Eileen Haebig)

2018-2019 Center for Ethics and Public Affairs Graduate Fellow - $20,500

*Literacy education as an ethical and moral obligation of democracies*

The Murphy Institute

Role: Principal Investigator

2017 The William P. Dunlap Memorial Research Fund - $3000

Tulane University

Role: Principal Investigator

2016 Robert E. Flowerree Summer Research Fellowship - $3000

Tulane University

Role: Principal Investigator

2012 Hutton Honors College Research Grant - $1200

Indiana University

Role: Principal Investigator

## Awards

2024 Grant Writing Institute Award - $1200

Office of Research and Economic Development

Louisiana State University

2022 International Society for Autism Research Workshop Award - $200

Annual Meeting in Austin, Texas, USA

2022 Conference Award - $500

University of Michigan Postdoctoral Association

2021 International Society for Autism Research Student/Trainee Travel Award - $175

Annual Meeting, Virtual

2020 International Society for Autism Research Student/Trainee Travel Award - $500

Annual Meeting, Virtual

2019 Tulane 34 Award

Prestigious university-wide recognition presented to 34 graduates for their exemplary leadership, service, and academic excellence

Tulane University

2019 Graduate Student Mentoring Award

Department of Psychology

Tulane University

2019 Society for Research in Child Development Student Travel Award - $300

Biennial Meeting in Baltimore, Maryland, USA

2018 Three Minute Thesis Competition Finalist

*How do children learn to read and write?*

Tulane University

2018 Gary Lawton Fretwell Award

Contributed to the success of an organization and development of other students

Tulane University

2017 Society for Research in Child Development Student Travel Award - $300

Biennial Meeting in Austin, Texas, USA

2016 Dean Donald R. Moore Award

Embodiment of servant leadership and exceptional character

Tulane University

2013 Excellence in Research Award

Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences

Indiana University

# Presentations

## Invited Presentations (N=17)

1. *Motor Skills & Autism: Impacts on Functional Behavior.* (2023, September). Department of Communication Sciences & Disorders, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, Louisiana
2. *Motor Skills & Autism: Impacts on Functional Behavior.* (2023, March). Department of Psychology, Tulane University, New Orleans, Louisiana
3. *#Autism and #DCD in Daily Living: Twitter Users' Experiences with Motor Problems.* (2022, September). International Motor Development Research Consortium Journal Club, Virtual.
4. *Quantifying Activities of Daily Living in Autistic Individuals.* (2022, April). Center for Autism Research, Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia, Virtual.
5. *Motor Skills in Autism: Impacts on Adaptive Behavior & Intervention Targets.* (2022, March). Department of Biomechanics, University of Nebraska-Omaha, Omaha, Nebraska.
6. *Motor Skills in Autism: Impacts on Adaptive Behavior & Intervention Targets.* (2022, March). School of Kinesiology, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, Louisiana.
7. *Motor Skills in Autism: Impacts on Adaptive Behavior & Intervention Targets.* (2022, March). Department of Psychology, University of Alabama-Birmingham, Birmingham, Alabama.
8. *Researching Neurodiversity: Bridging the Gap between Scientist & Community.* (2022, February). Center for Neural Science, New York University, Virtual.
9. *Motor Skills in Autism: Impacts on Adaptive Behavior & Intervention Targets.* (2022, February). Department of Psychology, University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, Alabama.
10. *Autism, Motor Development, & Activities of Daily Living*. (2021, July). Department of Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation. University of Michigan, Virtual.
11. *Motor Skills and their impact on activities of daily living across the lifespan.* (2020, February). DFW Autism Conference, Families for Effective Autism Treatment, Hurst, Texas.
12. *Serious Games: Clinical Use of VR.* (2019, December). Center for BrainHealth, University of Texas – Dallas, Dallas, Texas.
13. *Visuomotor Integration during Activities of Daily Living in Autism Spectrum Disorder.* (2019, November). Translational Science Forum, UT Southwestern Medical Center, Dallas, Texas.
14. *Strategies for improving strength and coordination in Autism.* (2019, July). Research and Learning Center, Fort Worth Museum of Science and History. Fort Worth, Texas.
15. *How do children copy letters, words, and the Beery VMI?: Eye-tracking and visual-motor integration.* (2018, October). Department of Physical Therapy, University of North Texas Health Science Center, Fort Worth, Texas.
16. *Perceptual-motor foundations of handwriting: Copying letters and symbols.* (2017, April). Department of Psychology, Tulane University, New Orleans, Louisiana.
17. *Orientation and Visually Guided Action Development in Toddlers.* (2012, November). Developmental Seminar, Psychological and Brain Sciences at Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana

## Speaker Symposia (N=20)

1. **Fears, N. E.**, Tamplain, P. M., & Miller, H. L. (2024, June). Data Sharing Through the International Consortium On Motor Behavior In NEurodivergence (COMBINE). Joint Conference of the International Motor Development Research Consortium and International Society of Research and Advocacy for Developmental Coordination Disorder. Ghent, Belgium.
2. **Fears, N. E.,** Hirsch, S., Tamplain, P., Templin, T.N, Sherrod, G.S., Bugnariu, N. L., Patterson, R., & Miller, H. L., (2024, June). Characterizing goal-directed whole-body movements in autistic children and children with Developmental Coordination Disorder. Joint Conference of the International Motor Development Research Consortium and International Society of Research and Advocacy for Developmental Coordination Disorder. Ghent, Belgium.
3. Miller, H. L., **Fears, N. E.**, Olcay Polat, S., & Nielsen, R. (2023, March). Measurement of neurodivergent visuomotor skills in the wild. Inaugural National Science Foundation Disability & Rehabilitation Engineering Conference. Los Angeles, CA.
4. **Fears, N. E.,** Palmer, S. A., Miller, H. L. (2022, May). Motor skills predict daily living and communication skills in autistic children and adolescents. North American Society for the Psychology of Sport and Physical Activity. Waikoloa Beach, Hawaii.
5. Miller, H. L., Lichtenberg, G. D., Chatterjee, R., **Fears, N. E.**, Tamplain, P. M., (2022, May). Autistic Twitter users’ experiences with motor problems and co-occurring DCD. North American Society for the Psychology of Sport and Physical Activity. Waikoloa Beach, Hawaii.
6. Miller, H. L., **Fears, N. E.**, Luna-Smith, A., Mupparapu, S., Ganesh, A., Martinez, K., Sherrod, G. M., Bugnariu, N. L. (2022, May). Persistent Barriers to Motor Assessment and Intervention Despite Early Caregiver Awareness of Motor Symptoms. International Society for Autism Research. Austin, Texas.
7. **Fears, N. E.**, Templin, T. N., & Miller, H. L., (2021, September) Drinking from a cup: Upper extremity movements during activities of daily living in children with autism spectrum disorder. Fifth Assembly of International Motor Development Research Consortium. Komotini, Greece. (Virtual meeting due to COVID-19)
8. Miller, H. L., Zurutuza, I., **Fears, N. E.,** Polat, S. O., Nielsen, R. (2021, May) Post-processing integration and semi-automated analysis of mobile eye-tracking and motion-capture data obtained in immersive virtual reality environments to measure visuomotor integration. Eye Tracking Research & Applications (ETRA ’21) ActivEye Workshop (Virtual meeting due to COVID-19)
9. **Fears, N. E.**, Templin, T., Sherrod, G. M., Bugnariu, N., Patterson, R., & Miller, H. L. (2020, October). Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder use inefficient goal-directed whole body movements compared to typical development. International Motor Development Research Consortium National Assembly. Charleston, South Carolina. (Virtual meeting due to COVID-19)
10. **Fears, N. E.**, Kata, K., Chang, S., Nguyen, M., Ganesh, A., & Miller, H. L. (2019, July). Navigating the pathway to diagnosis and care for individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder. UNT Adventures in Autism Conference, Denton, Texas.
11. **Fears, N. E.** & Lockman, J. J. (2019, March). The development of visual-motor integration during activities of daily living: From research to translation. Society for Research in Child Development Conference, Baltimore, Maryland.
12. **Fears, N. E.**, Bailey, B., Youmans, B., & Lockman, J. J. (2019, March). Head-mounted eye-tracking and visual-motor integration: The development of handwriting in young children. Society for Research in Child Development Conference, Baltimore, Maryland.
13. **Fears, N. E.** (2018, October) Sexual misconduct on campus: Survey, findings and the future. Southern Association of Institutional Research Meeting, Norfolk, Virginia.
14. Lockman, J. J. & **Fears, N. E.** (2018, June). The development of handwriting in young children. International Congress of Infant Studies Pre-Conference: Tutorial on using head-mounted eye-tracking in research, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.
15. **Fears, N. E.** & Smith, M. (2018, May). Addressing sexual misconduct on campus: From survey to strategic planning. Association of Institutional Research Forum, Orlando, Florida.
16. **Fears, N. E.**, Walsh, L., & Lockman, J. J. (2017, April). Perceptual-motor foundations of handwriting: Copying letters and symbols. Society for Research in Child Development Conference, Austin, Texas.
17. Lockman, J. J., Noonan, C. F., & **Fears, N. E.** (2016, September). The development of sensorimotor body maps in infancy. International Conference of Developmental Learning and Epigenetic Robotics, Cergy-Pontoise, France.
18. Hoffman, M., Lockman, J. J., Noonan, C.F., & **Fears, N. E.** (2016, May). Integrating developmental science and robotics in the study of body mapping. International Congress of Infant Studies Pre-Conference: Origins of Body Representations, New Orleans, Louisiana.
19. **Fears, N. E.**, Street, S.Y., James, K.H., Jones, S.S. & Smith, L.B. (2012, November). Orientation and visually guided action development in toddlers. Indiana University Undergraduate Research Conference 18, Indianapolis, Indiana
20. Street, S.Y., James, K.H., **Fears, N. E.**, Jones, S.S. & Smith, L.B.  (2012, May). Object recognition and action on objects: A longitudinal study of toddlers. Annual Midwest Cognitive Science Conference, Bloomington, Indiana.

## Poster Presentations (N=32)

1. Tamplain, P. M., **Fears, N. E.,** & Miller, H. L. (2024, June). Using a transdiagnostic approach to understand motor behavior: Preliminary results of the COMBINE (Consortium for Motor Behavior in Neurodivergence). Joint Conference of the International Motor Development Research Consortium and International Society of Research and Advocacy for Developmental Coordination Disorder. Ghent, Belgium.
2. Dautle, T., Lincoln, I., Shabani, M., Miller, H. L., **Fears, N. E.** (2024, April). Upper extremity movements during feeding in autistic children. Poster to be presented at LSU Discover Day. Baton Rouge, LA.
3. Bowling, A. B., Staiano, A., Hatfield, D., Sabelli, R., Slavet, J., Bandini, L., Curtin, C., Nauta, P., Kennedy, W., Stuetzle, C., **Fears, N. E.,** Must, A. (2024, March) GamerFit ASD: Feasibility and Preliminary Efficacy of an Exergaming and Telehealth Coaching Intervention for Autistic Youth. Society of Behavioral Medicine. Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.
4. **Fears, N. E.** & Miller, H. L. (2023, May). Examining the relationship between autistic and neurotypical children’s sleep and adaptive behavior.International Society for Autism Research Annual Meeting. Stockholm, Sweden.
5. Miller, H. L., **Fears, N. E.,** & Tamplain, P. M. (2023, May). Development of the Consortium for Motor Behavior in Neurodivergence. International Society for Autism Research Annual Meeting. Stockholm, Sweden.
6. Hickey, J., Arun, M., Munoz-Orozco, I., Luna-Smith, A., Duron, G., **Fears, N. E.**, & Miller, H. L. (2023, April). Hispanic vs Non-Hispanic families’ experiences of barriers to autism diagnosis & resources. University of Michigan Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program Symposium. Ann Arbor, MI.
7. Miller, H. L., Chatterjee, R., Lichtenberg, G. D., & **Fears, N.E.** (2022, July). #DCD in Daily Living: Twitter Users’ Experience with Motor Problems. International Developmental Coordination Disorder Conference. Vancouver, Canada.
8. **Fears, N. E.** & Miller, H. L. (2022, May). Motor skills predict adaptive behavior in children and adolescents with Autism Spectrum Disorder. International Society for Autism Research. Austin, Texas.
9. **Fears, N. E.,** Templin., T. N., & Miller, H. L. (2021, May). Pressing a button and drinking from a cup: Upper extremity movements during activities of daily living in children with Autism Spectrum Disorder. International Society for Autism Research. (Virtual Meeting due to COVID-19)
10. **Fears, N. E.**, Sherrod, G. M., Templin, T., Bugnariu, N., Patterson, R., & Miller, H. L. (2021, April). Developmental trajectory of sensorimotor integration for postural stability in Autism Spectrum Disorder. Society for Research in Child Development. (Virtual Meeting due to COVID-19)
11. Miller, H. L., Mobley, R., **Fears, N. E.**, & Schwarz, B. (2020, May). Help-Move: A Home Exercise Program Led by Parents to Improve Movement in Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder. International Society for Autism Research Conference, Seattle, Washington. (Meeting canceled due to COVID-19)
12. **Fears, N. E.**, Sherrod, G. M., Templin, T., Bugnariu, N., Patterson, R., & Miller, H. L. (2020, May). Developmental trajectory of sensorimotor integration for postural stability in Autism Spectrum Disorder. International Society for Autism Research Conference, Seattle, Washington. (Meeting canceled due to COVID-19)
13. Miller, H. L., **Fears, N. E.**, & Bugnariu, N. L. (2020, May). Relationships between visual fixation and goal-directed body movement differ between Autism Spectrum Disorder, Developmental Coordination Disorder, and typical development. Poster accepted for presentation at the annual meeting of the Vision Sciences Society, St. Petersburg, FL. (Meeting canceled due to COVID-19)
14. Mayberry, C. B., **Fears, N. E.,** Lockman, J. J. (2019, October). Visual-motor integration underlies preschool children’s letter copying difficulties. Poster presented at biennial Cognitive Development Society Conference, Louisville, Kentucky.
15. **Fears, N. E.**, Bailey, B., Youmans, B., Lockman, J. J. (2019, March). A process-oriented approach to visual-motor integration: Head-mounted eye-tracking during the Beery VMI. Poster presented at the biennial Society for Research in Child Development Conference, Baltimore, Maryland.
16. **Fears, N. E.**, Walsh, L., Lockman, J. J. (2017, October). Letter writing instruction for children: A content analysis of children's handwriting workbooks and storybooks. Poster presented at the biennial Cognitive Development Society Conference, Portland, Oregon.
17. Youmans, B., Jung, W. P., **Fears, N. E.**, Lockman, J. J., (2017, October). Matching spaces: Relating negative to positive space in object fitting tasks. Poster presented at the biennial Cognitive Development Society Conference, Portland, Oregon.
18. **Fears, N. E.**, Walsh, L., Lockman, J. J. (2017, April). Young children’s letter knowledge influences visual-motor coordination in handwriting. Poster presented at the biennial Society for Research in Child Development Conference, Austin, Texas.
19. Walsh, L., **Fears, N. E.**, Lockman, J. J. (2017, April). Are handwriting workbooks optimally organized to promote handwriting development in young children? Poster presented at the biennial Society for Research in Child Development Conference, Austin, Texas.
20. Sheena, M., **Fears, N. E.**, Lewis, E. A., Smith, A., Lockman, J. J. (2017, April). The development of flexibility in hand-to-mouth transport of objects in infancy. Poster presented at the biennial Society for Research in Child Development Conference, Austin, Texas.
21. Youmans, B., **Fears, N. E.**, Jung, W. P., Lockman, J. J., (2017, April). Shapes within shapes: Relating negative to positive space in object perception and fitting tasks. Poster presented at the biennial Society for Research in Child Development Conference, Austin, Texas.
22. **Fears, N. E.**, Lewis, E. A., Kahrs, B. & Lockman J.J. (2016, May). Tool-use for self-feeding in infancy. Poster presented at the biennial International Conference of Infant Study, New Orleans, Louisiana.
23. Lewis, E. A., **Fears, N. E.**, Kahrs, B. & Lockman J.J. (2016, May). Use of handled tools by young children. Poster presented at the biennial International Conference of Infant Study, New Orleans, Louisiana.
24. Lewis, E. A., **Fears, N. E.**, Kahrs, B. & Lockman J.J. (2016, May). Spatial planning during cup-to-mouth transport. Poster presented at the biennial International Conference of Infant Study, New Orleans, Louisiana.
25. **Fears, N. E.**, Lewis, E. A., Kahrs, B. & Lockman J.J. (2015, October). Development of handwriting: Basic reading skills and visual-motor coordination. Poster presented at the biennial Cognitive Development Society Conference, Columbus, Ohio.
26. **Fears, N. E.**, Kahrs, B. & Lockman J.J. (2015, March). Development of vision in handwriting. Poster presented at the biennial Society for Research in Child Development Conference, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.
27. Street, S.Y., James, K.H., **Fears, N. E.**, Jones, S.S., & Smith, L.B. (2014, July) The development of visually guided action: A longitudinal study of toddlers 16-24 months. Poster presented at the biennial International Conference of Infant Studies, Berlin, Germany.
28. Kahrs, B., Jung, W., Rabinow, L., **Fears, N. E.**, & Lockman, J. (2014, July) Objects as extension of the hand: A longitudinal study of object banging. Poster presented at the biennial International Conference of Infant Studies, Berlin, Germany.
29. Smith, A., Kahrs, B., **Fears, N. E.**, & Lockman, J. (2014, July) Object orientation during hand-to-mouth transport in infants. Poster presented at the biennial International Conference of Infant Studies, Berlin, Germany.
30. **Fears, N. E.**, Street, S.Y. & Smith, L.B. (2013, April). Orientation and visually-guided action development. Poster presented at the biennial Society for Research in Child Development Conference, Seattle, Washington.
31. **Fears, N. E.**, Street, S.Y., & Smith, L.B. (2012, May). Facial orientation and visually guided action development. Poster presented at the annual Midwest Cognitive Science Conference, Bloomington, Indiana.
32. Street, S.Y., James, K.H., **Fears, N. E.**, Jones, S.S. & Smith, L.B.  (2012, March). The development of vision for action and vision for perception in toddlers. Poster presented at the annual Women in Science Conference, Bloomington, Indiana

# Teaching & Mentorship

## Teaching Experience

Instructor of Record

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Term** | **Year** | **Course** | **Course Title** | **Enrollment** | **Location** | **Evaluation** |
| Fall | 2024 | KIN4512 | Lifespan Motor Development | 70 | LSU | Upcoming |
| Fall | 2024 | KIN4512 | Lifespan Motor Development | 70 | LSU | Upcoming |
| Spring | 2024 | KIN3513 | Motor Learning | 64 | LSU | 4.9 of 5 |
| Spring | 2024 | KIN3513 | Motor Learning | 63 | LSU | 5 of 5 |
| Fall | 2023 | KIN3513 | Motor Learning | 71 | LSU | 4.9 of 5 |
| Fall | 2023 | KIN3513 | Motor Learning | 69 | LSU | 5 of 5 |
| Spring | 2023 | KIN3513 | Motor Learning | 75 | LSU | 4.9 of 5 |
| Fall | 2022 | KIN3513 | Motor Learning | 71 | LSU | 4.9 of 5 |
| Spring | 2018 | PSYC1000 | Introductory Psychology | 50 | Tulane | 4.7 of 5 |
| Fall | 2017 | PSYC6110 | Univariate II Statistics Lab | 20 | Tulane | n/a |
| Spring | 2017 | PSYC3210 | Child Psychology | 35 | Tulane | 4.5 of 5 |
| Fall | 2016 | PSYC3091 | Univariate I Statistic Lab | 40 | Tulane | n/a |

Guest Lectures

2022 Research Methods in Pediatric Disabilities, Physical Activity and Pediatric Disabilities Course, School of Kinesiology, University of Michigan

2021 Communicating with Autistic People, Culture, Teaching, & Learning Course, Physical Therapy Department, University of North Texas Health Science Center

2019 Fundamentals of Learning and Memory for Physical Therapy Education, First Year Professional Development Seminar, Physical Therapy Department, University of North Texas Health Science Center

2018 Developmental Methodology, Developmental Psychology Course, Psychology Department, Tulane University

2017 Motor, Perceptual, and Cognitive Development, Infancy Course, Psychology Department, Tulane University

## Mentorship Experience

Graduate Students

2023-Present Marziyeh (Mahda) Shabani

Doctoral Student, Motor Behavior, Kinesiology

Louisiana State University

Role: Primary Mentor

2022-2023 Jenson Chotto

Doctoral Student, School Psychology, Psychology

Louisiana State University

Role: Dean’s Representative

Honors Students

2024-Present Iresa Lincoln

Honors Student, Biological Sciences

Louisiana State University

Role: Primary Mentor

2023- Present Emma Vu

Honors Student, Kinesiology

Louisiana State University

Role: Primary Mentor

2017-2018 Brooke Bailey

*Eye-hand coordination during the Beery-Buktenica Developmental Test of Visual-Motor Integration*

Honors Thesis, Psychology

Tulane University

2016-2017 Michelle Sheena

*Object orientation during hand-to-mouth transport in infants.*

Honors Thesis, Psychology

Tulane University

Research Assistants

2023-Present Tiernan Dautle

Distinguished Undergraduate Researcher, Computer Engineering

# Service

**Academic Society Service**

2024-Present Chair, Early Career Committee

International Society for Autism Research

2023-2024 Research Rapid Rounds Leader

International Society for Autism Research

2023-Present Early Career Committee Member

International Society for Autism Research

2022 INSAR Institute Leader

*Autistic People’s Research Priorities*

International Society for Autism Research

2021 INSAR Institute Leader

*Autism & Intersectionality*

International Society for Autism Research

2020 INSAR Institute Leader

*Developmental Stages of Autism through a Research Lens*

International Society for Autism Research

2019-2022 Student & Trainee Committee Member

International Society for Autism Research

**Departmental Service**

2023-2024 Member, School of Kinesiology Research Kickoff Organizing Committee

2023-2024 Member, Search Committee for School of Kinesiology Director

2023 Volunteer, Destination: LSU

2022-2023 Member, Search Committee for Tenure-track Assistant Professor of Exercise Physiology

**University Service**

*Louisiana State University*

2024-Present Member-at-large, Executive Committee, Early Childhood Education Institute

2024 Member, Search Committee for Enrollment & Operations Coordinator of Early Childhood Education Laboratory Preschool

2023 Discover Day Judge

2022-Present Member, Early Childhood Education Institute (ECEI)

2022-Present Member, Multidisciplinary Institute for Neuroscience Discover (MIND)

2022 Dean’s Representative, Jensen Chotto, Psychology

2022 Neurodiversity Consultant, Office of Student Affairs

*Tulane University*

2018-2019 Coalition to Stop Sexual Violence Member

2016-2019 Undocumented Student Support Committee Member

2017-2018 Data Analyst for Tulane University Sexual Misconduct Survey

2016-2018 Graduate and Professional Student Association President

2016-2018 Tulane University Senator

2016-2018 Tulane University Senate Student Affairs Committee Member

2016-2018 Tulane University Budget Review Committee Member

2015-2018 Tulane University Alcohol Policy Task Force Member

2015-2018 Psychology Department Colloquium Committee Member

2015-2016 Educational Policy Committee Member

2015-2016 Associated Student Body Senator

2015-2016 Graduate and Professional Student Association Senator

2015-2016 Graduate Studies Student Association Vice President

2014-2015 Graduate Studies Student Association Representative

**Community Service**

2023 Volunteer, McMains Children’s Developmental Center Canoe Trip

2022-Present Member, Capital Area Autism Network

2019-2020 Fort Worth Museum of Science and History, ASD Advisory Committee Member

2019 Ridglea Hills Elementary School Science Fair Judge

2017 Catholic Charities “DACA-mentary” Fundraiser Organizer

2016 Therapeutic Learning Center Heart and Sole Prom Volunteer

2015 Therapeutic Learning Center Heart and Sole Prom Volunteer

2014 Benjamin Franklin Elementary Extension School Science Fair Judge

2011-2013 Indiana University Autism Mentoring Program Mentor

**Ad Hoc Reviewer**

*Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders*

*Journal of Motor Learning and Development*

*Journal of Applied Research in Intellectual Disabilities*

*Journal of Motor Behavior*

*Human Movement Science*

*Psychology of Sport and Exercise*

*Child Development*

*Developmental Psychology*

*Cognitive Development*

*BMJ Open*

*Journal of Educational Psychology*

**Academic Affiliations**

International Society for Autism Research

Society for Research in Child Development

International Motor Development Research Consortium

North American Society for the Psychology of Sport and Physical Activity

Cognitive Development Society

International Congress of Infant Studies

Psi Chi

**Professional Development**

fNIRS Installation, Application, and nirsLAB analysis

NIRx Medical Technologies

Wearable Sensors in Rehabilitation: Tracking for the Future

Shirley Ryan Ability Lab

Advanced Rehabilitation Research Training Postdoctoral Seminar

Department of Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation, University of Michigan

Autism Diagnostic Observation Schedule Clinical Training

Sunfield Center for Autism, ADHD, and Behavioral Health, led by Suzi Naguib

Moving the Needle: Shifting the Conversation around Sexual Harassment Workshop

School of Kinesiology, University of Michigan

Data Science Bootcamp for Biomedical Scientists

Michigan Institute for Data Science, University of Michigan

Anti-Racism Research and Scholarship for Action

School of Kinesiology, University of Michigan

Using Technology to Enhance Learning

Center for Engaged Learning & Teaching, Tulane University

Scientific Writing for Psychology: Lessons in Clarity and Style

Department of Psychology, Tulane University