

Psychological Sciences Colloquium Series



Dr. Laura Thomas

Assistant Professor
Center for Visual and Cognitive
Neuroscience
Department of Psychology
North Dakota State University

**Active thought: Interplays between
action, perception, and cognition**

Monday, Sept 11th, 3:30 p.m.

Bluemont Hall, Room 498

Abstract: I will describe recent research examining the surprising ways in which the actions we perform shape our thought processes, reflecting the sensitivity of perception and cognition to behavioral contexts. I will present evidence that experience-driven plasticity tunes visual cognition to facilitate action, leading vision to prioritize action-relevant information both when observers act alone and with a partner. I will then discuss how actions performed in a social context can influence how we perceive those around us, and, reciprocally, how our perception of others' physical characteristics shapes how we coordinate behaviors with other people.

Sponsored by
the Cognitive and Neurobiological Approaches to Plasticity center