Taylor L. Vargo (formerly Simonson)

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Updated: 9-1-2022

EDUCATION

Expected Summer 2023 Doctor of Philosophy in Psychological Sciences Candidate

Cognitive Psychology & Human Factors, Memory & Aging Lab

Kansas State University, Manhattan, Kansas

GPA: 4.0

Fall 2020 - Spring 2022 Graduate Certificate in Academic Advising (5 courses)

Kansas State University, Manhattan, Kansas

GPA: 4.0

Fall 2017- Spring 2021 Masters of Science in Psychological Sciences

Cognitive Psychology & Human Factors, Visual Cognition Lab

Kansas State University, Manhattan, Kansas

GPA: 3.87

Thesis: *How do Individual Differences Impact Attentional Selection Ability During Volitional Control Tasks in Film?*

August 2013- May 2017 Bachelor of Arts, Psychology

University of Findlay, Findlay, Ohio

GPA: 3.69

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS *\* denotes undergraduate authors*

**Simonson, T.L.,** Hubbell, I., & Bailey, H. R. (2022, November). Moving Away from Verbal-based Measures of Cognition: Using Drawing to Measure Event Comprehension and Memory. Poster Presentation at Annual Meeting of the Psychonomic Society, Boston, Massachusetts.

**Simonson, T.L.**, Hutson, J. P., Yu, Y, Kumakiri, S., Ueda, Y., Saiki, J., & Loschky, L. C. (2021, June). A Role for Top-down Processes on Attentional Selection During Film Viewing: Does it come at a cost? Talk given at the Virtual Society for Cognitive Studies of the Moving Image.

**Simonson, T.L.**, Hutson, J. P., Yu, Y, Kumakiri, S., Ueda, Y., Saiki, J., & Loschky, L. C. (2021, May). The Price of Breaking the Tyranny of Film: The cognitive demand of top-down processes. Poster presented at the annual Virtual International Vision Sciences Society.

\*Hubbell, I., **Simonson, T. L**., & Loschky, L. C. (2021, May). Can You Break the Tyranny of Film?: The power of viewers’ film genre preferences and knowledge on attentional selection.Poster presented at the annual Virtual International Vision Sciences Society.

**Simonson, T.L.**, Yu, Y, Kumakiri, S., Hutson, J. P., Ueda, Y., Saiki, J., & Loschky, L. C (2020, December). *Volitional and Mandatory Attentional Selection While Watching Films: A Look at the Influence of Cognitive Load and Culture.* Presentation to be given at the 4th annual Virtual International Symposium on Human Mental Workload: Models and Applications Conference in Granada, Spain.

**Simonson, T.L.**, Yu, Y, Kumakiri, S., \*Weigel, A., \*Royg-Quevedo, J, Ueda, Y., Saiki, J., & Loschky, L. C (2020, November). *Mandatory versus Volitional Attentional Selection During Film Viewing: The Roles of Culture and Cognitive Load on Attention.* Poster presentation to be given at the Virtual 61st Annual Meeting of the Psychonomic Society, Austin, Texas.

**Simonson, T.L.**, Kumakiri, S., Yu, Y, Ueda, Y., Saiki, J., & Loschky, L. C. (2020, June). *What besides the film guides viewers’ attention while watching films? The roles of culture and task.* Presentation given at the Virtual Society for Cognitive Studies of the Moving Image.

**Simonson, T.L.**, Kumakiri, S., Takamori, R., Hutson, J. P., Ueda, Y., Saiki, J., & Loschky, L. C. (2019, November). *Did You See That? I Did! A Cultural Comparison of Volitional Attention and Attentional Selection in Film*. Poster presentation to be presented at the 60th Annual Meeting of the Psychonomic Society, Montreal, Canada

**Simonson, T. L.,** Kumakiri, S., Takamoria, R., Hutson, J. P., \*Mcleod, E., \*Treyu, H., \*Ost, N., \*Ma, Yuhang, \*Cook, A., \*Kolze, K., \*Kriss, K., Ueda, Y., Saiki, J., & Loschky, L.C. (2019, May).*Investigating volitional attentional control during film viewing.* Poster presentation presented at the Vision Sciences Society, St. Petersburg, FL.

**\*Simonson, T.** & Larson, A. M. (2017, May). *Did You See That?! A Look into Whether Media Engagement Can Be Influenced by Individuals’ Viewing Styles.* Poster presented at Vision Sciences Society, St. Petersburg, FL.

Larson, A. M., \***Simonson, T.**, \*McMullen, M., & \*Payne, K. (2017, May). *Event Model Construction Occurs Within a Single Eye Fixation.* Poster presented at Vision Sciences Society, St. Petersburg, FL.

REGIONAL CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS *\* denotes undergraduate authors*

**Simonsons, T.L.** (2022, October). Application-based Instruction: Are there Long-term Benefits for Students? Poster presented at Mid-Western Educational Research Association Annual Meeting, Cincinnati, Ohio.

Bell, D. & **Simonson, T., L.** (2022, March). *“Up-gaging”: Concrete ways to Create an Inclusive and Engaging Classroom*. Roundtable discussion given at the annual meeting of the Midwestern Psychological Association, Chicago, IL.

\*Hubbell, I., **Simonson, T. L.,** & Loschky, L. C. (2022, March). Poster Presented at the annual meeting of the Midwestern Psychological Association, Chicago, IL.

**Simonson, T. L.,** Hutson, J. P., Takamoria, R., Kumakiri, S., \*Mcleod, E., \*Treyu, H., \*Ma, Yuhang, \*Cook, A., \*Kolze, K., \*Kriss, K., Uehara, Y., Saiki, J., & Loschky, L.C. (2019, April). *Volitional Attention and Attentional Selection in Film: A Cultural Comparison.* Presentation given at the Midwestern Psychological Association, Chicago, IL.

\*Bettac, E.L., Mata, A.D., \***Simonson, T.**, & \*Stump, C. (2016, May). *Grit and Resiliency: The Next Tomato, Tomahto?* Poster Presented at the annual meeting of the Midwestern Psychological Association, Chicago, IL.

LOCAL CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS *\* denotes undergraduate authors*

Bell, T. J. & **Simonson, T.L.** (2022, May). “Up-gaging”: Concrete ways to Create an Inclusive and Engaging Classroom. Poster presented at the annual Teaching and Learning Center SoTL Showcase, Manhattan, Kansas.

\*Hubbell, I., **Simonson, T. L**., Chandran, P., & Loschky, L. C. (2021, May).  Fan Favorites: The effect of gender-based genre preferences on attentional selection. Poster presented at the annual Psychological Sciences Undergraduate Convocation, Manhattan, Kansas.

**Simonson**, **T. L.,** & Loschky, L. C. (2020, March). *Culture and Cognition in Film Viewing: The Influence of Individual Factors and Cognitive Demand on Attention.* Presentation was to be given at the K-State Graduate Research, Arts, and Discovery (GRAD) Forum, Manhattan, Kansas. (Conference Canceled -- COVID)

\*Wiegel, A., \*Royg, J., **Simonson, T. L.,** Smith, M. E., & Loschky, L. C. (2020, March). How do Individual Differences Impact Attentional Selection Ability During Volitional Control Tasks in Film? Talk given at the 40th annual meeting for the Great Plains Students’ Psychology Convention, St. Joseph, Kansas.

**Simonson**, **T. L.,** Kumakiri, S., Takamori, R., Uehara, Y., Saiki, J., & Loschky, L. C. (2019, March). *Cultural Differences in Attentional Selection and Volitional Control During Film Viewing.* Poster presented at the K-State Graduate Research, Arts, and Discovery (GRAD) Forum, Manhattan, Kansas.

**\*Simonson, T.** & Larson, A. M. (2017, April). *Can Attention Within a Film be Influenced by an Individual’s Engagement in The Film?* Poster presented at the 11th annual Symposium for Scholarship and Creativity, Findlay, OH.

**\*Simonson, T.** & Larson, A. M. (2016, April). *Did You See That! Does Media Engagement Influence the Deployment of Attention in Film?* Poster presented at the 10th annual Symposium for Scholarship and Creativity, Findlay, OH.

MANUSCRIPTS \**denotes undergraduate authors*

**Simonson, T. L.,** Hutson, J.P., Yu, Y., Ueda, Y., Saiki, J, & Loschky, L.C. (Submitted). The Role of a Goal and Culture on Eye-Movements: Volitional and Mandatory Top-Down Attentional Selection During Film Viewing. Submitted to *Journal of Experimental Psychology: Human Perception and Performance.*

**Simonson, T. L.,** Yu, Y., Hutson, J.P., Ueda, Y., Saiki, J, & Loschky, L.C. (In preparation). Executive Control of Eye-Movements in Film: Understanding How the Tyranny of Film is Attenuated by Cognitively Demanding Tasks.

\*Hubbell, I., **Simonson, T. L**., & Loschky, L. C. (In preparation). Movie Genre Preferences & Visual Attention During Movie Watching.

**Simonson, T. L.** Hubbell, I., McGatlin, K., & Bailey, H. R. (In preparation). Cognition in drawing special edition, *Memory & Cognition.*

Bell, T. D. & **Simonson, T.L.** (In preparation). “Up-gaging”: Concrete ways to Create an Inclusive and Engaging Classroom.

**Simonson, T. L. &** Bell, D. (In preparation). Skill Development: The New Way to Teach Undergraduate Students.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE *\*\*denotes a course that was taught online*

Spring 2023 PSYCH 545: Consumer Psychology

*Role: Instructor*

Winter Intersession 2023 \*\*PSYCH 538: Cross-Cultural Psychology

*Role: Instructor*

Fall 2022 \*\*PSYCH 625: Human Factors Psychology, 10 students

*Role: Instructor*

PSYCH 545: Consumer Psychology, 11 students

*Role: Instructor*

DAS 195: Psychology of Prejudice, 15 students

Connecting Across Topics (CAT) Communities Program

*Role: Team Teaching Instructor*

Spring 2022 PSYCH 545: Consumer Psychology, 17 students

*Role: Instructor*

*Overall Effectiveness as teacher: 4.8/5*

*Increased Desire to learn: 4.9/5*

Fall 2021 PSYCH 625: Human Factors Psychology, 4 students

*Role: Instructor*

*Overall Effectiveness as teacher: 4.5/5*

*Increased Desire to learn: 5/5*

PSYCH 545: Consumer Psychology, 18 students

*Role: Instructor*

*Overall Effectiveness as teacher: 4.9/5*

*Increased Desire to learn: 4.7/5*

Spring 2021 \*\*PSYCH 545: Consumer Psychology, 25 students

*Role: Instructor*

*Overall Effectiveness as teacher: 4.5/5*

*Increased Desire to learn: 4.3/5*

Fall 2020 \*\*PSYCH 545: Consumer Psychology, 9 students

*Role: Instructor*

*Overall Effectiveness as teacher: 4.8/5*

*Increased Desire to learn: 4.8/5*

*\*\**PSYCH 110: General Psychology, 10 students

*Role: Instructor*

*Overall Effectiveness as teacher: 4.5/5*

*Increased Desire to learn:4.5/5*

Spring 2020 PSYCH 110: General Psychology, 20 students

*Role: Instructor*

*\* Taught online for half of the semester (asynchronous)*

*Overall Effectiveness as teacher: 4.9/5*

*Increased Desire to learn:4.8/5*

PYSCH 351: Experimental Methods Laboratory, 14 students

*Role: Instructor of Record*

*\* Taught online for half of the semester (asynchronous)*

*Overall Effectiveness as teacher: 4.7/5*

*Increased Desire to learn: 4.0/5*

Fall 2019 PSYCH 351: Experimental Methods Laboratory, 10 students

*Role: Instructor of Record*

*Overall Effectiveness as teacher: 4.6/5*

*Increased Desire to learn:3.7/5*

PSYCH 460: Cognitive Psychology, 40 students

*Role: Guest Lecturer:* “Long Term Memories: Encoding, Retrieval, & Consolidation”

Spring 2019 PSYCH 351: Experimental Methods Laboratory, 16 students

*Role: Instructor of Record*

*Overall Effectiveness as teacher: 4.4/5*

*Increased Desire to learn:3.9/5*

Fall 2018 PSCYH 351: Experimental Methods Laboratory, 12 students

*Role: Instructor of Record*

*Overall Effectiveness as teacher: 3.9/5*

*Increased Desire to learn:3.3/5*

Spring 2018 PSYCH 559: Psychological Testing, 13 students

*Role: Graduate Teaching Assistant*

PSYCH 585: Concepts in Clinical Psychology, 22 students

*Role: Graduate Teaching Assistant*

*Role: Guest Lecturer:* “APA Formatting & Citations” &

*“*Health Psychology and Behavioral Medicine”

Fall 2017 PSYCH 460: Cognitive Psychology, 43 students

*Role: Graduate Teaching Assistant*

*Role: Guest Lecturer: “*Judgement & Decision Making”

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

May 2021 - Present Graduate Student Research, Memory & Aging Laboratory

Lab Head: Heather R. Bailey, PhD

Department of Psychological Sciences

Kansas State University, Manhattan, Kansas

August 2017 - May 2021 Graduate Student Research, Visual Cognition Laboratory

Lab Head: Lester C. Loschky, PhD

Department of Psychological Sciences

Kansas State University, Manhattan, Kansas

January 2015 - May 2017 Undergraduate Research Assistant, Lab Manager, Visual Cognition Laboratory

Lab Head: Adam M. Larson, PhD

Department of Psychology

University of Findlay, Findlay, Ohio

UNDERGRADUATES MENTORED & SEMESTERS

Denotes Department of Psychology Undergraduate Travel Scholarship Recipient

Denotes Undergraduate presentation given at Great Plains Student Conference

Denotes Undergraduate Research Scholarship Award Recipient ($1000)

Denotes student accepted to present at the VSS international conference

Denotes students who received first place at Great Plains Student Conference for their presentation

Denotes students who applied for and were accepted to present research at the Midwestern Psychological Association Conference

Denotes I personally wrote letters of recommendation for and helped through the graduate school application process

Denotes I assisted in writing letters of recommendation

Sean Neyland Summer 2022, Fall 2022

Isabella Hubbell Summer 2020, Fall 2020, Winter 2020, Spring 2021, Summer 2021, Fall 2021, Winter 2021, Spring 2022, Summer 2022

Shivum Dang Fall 2021

Natalie Cooper Fall 2020, Spring 2021

Reilly Alexander Fall 2020, Spring 2021, Fall 2021

Cashel Fitzgibbons Spring 2020, Summer 2020, Spring 2021

Ashley Weigel Fall 2019, Spring 2020

Jazmin Royg Quevedo Fall 2019, Spring 2020

Yuhong “Doris” Ma Fall 2017, Spring 2018, Fall 2018, Spring 2019

Kahler Fontaine Spring 2019

Hudson Treu Summer 2018

Anna Cook Spring 2018

Katherine Kolze Fall 2017, Spring 2018

Ella McCloud Fall 2017, Spring 2018

Zach Syrios Fall 2017, Spring 2018

Jacee Rietbrock Fall 2017

Nicholas Ost Fall 2017

Ian Davis Fall 2017

INTERNSHIP EXPERIENCE

Summer 2018 Kokoro Science Research Internship

Jun Saiki, PhD

Graduate School of Human and Environmental Studies

Kyoto University, Kyoto, Japan

Spring 2016 Tiffin Mercy Sleep Improvement Center

Lynette Ringle, RPSGT

Mercy Tiffin Hospital, Tiffin, Ohio

RELEVANT WORK EXPERIENCE

August 2020- Graduate Instructor

Present Psychological Sciences Department

Kansas State University, Manhattan, Kansas

April 2022- PSYCH 625: Human Factors Course Creation

Fall 2022 Global Campus Program Development

August 2017- Graduate Teaching Assistant

May 2020 Psychological Sciences Department

Kansas State University, Manhattan, Kansas

October 2016- Faculty Department Assistant (Teaching Assistant)

May 2017 Psychology Department

University of Findlay, Findlay, Ohio

Spring 2017 Embedded Tutor for ENGL 100 Course

Academic Support Center

University of Findlay, Findlay, Ohio

October 2014- Writing Center Tutor, Psychology Tutor

May 2017 Academic Support Center

University of Findlay, Findlay, Ohio

ACQUIRED SKILLS

**Proficient**

Microsoft Office, Canvas Software, OGAMA Software, Eye Tribe Hardware. JMP, R, Gardony Map Analyzer Software, EyeLink 1000, Qualtrics Survey Creation, Jamovi, Areas of Interest Creation, Zoom/Skype, My Mediasite, DataCamp Course Creation, SONA systems, Psycho-Pi Online study Creation Software, PsychoPy software, Pavlovia online behavioral study software. Wix Website creation

**Intermediate**

Blackboard Software, E-builder Software, Data Viewer Software, SPSS, html code in canvas

**Beginner**

Python, MatLab/Octave, Git, Unix

TRAINING EXPERIENCE

**Teaching**

Fall 2022 Faculty Orientation: Connecting Across Topics (CAT) Community Teaching

Spring 2022 Teach-In: Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in Teaching

Summer 2020 Online Course Design Institute (Self-paced summer course)

Spring 2020 Teaching Apprenticeship Program (15-week course)

Fall 2019 Principles of College Teaching (15-week course)

**Diversity**

Fall 2021 – Spring 2022 Safe-Zone Training – LGBTQ+ Educational Series

* Becoming an Ally
* Queer History
* Queer Intimate Partner Violence and Sexual Violence
* Trans Language and Trans Competency

**Professional Development**

Summer 2020-Spring 2021 Science Communication Fellowship

Spring 2020 Graduate Student Leadership Development Program

Summer 2020 Content Management Systems Training

*Webpage creation and management for university websites*

**Data Analysis & Research**

August 2019 EGI/Phillips Neuro EEG Training

Spring 2019 Electroencephalogram (EEG) Course

Fall 2018 8-week National Science Foundation Grant Writing Course

*Focus: Graduate Research Fellowship Program (GRFP)*

Spring 2018 Software Carpentry (Unix, Git, R, MATLAB)

Fall 2017 Data Analysis and Visualization with MATLAB seminar

HONORS, AWARDS, & GRANTS

**Travel Awards**

April 2022 Graduate Student Council Travel Award [$250]

April 2022 Psychology Department Travel Award [$250]

March 2021 Vision Science Society Travel Award ($75: Cost of attendance to virtual conference)

March 2021 Scholarship from National Conference for College Woman Student Leaders (Cost of online registration and fee to conference)

November 2019 College of Arts & Sciences Travel Award [$800]

May 2019 Psychology Department Graduate Travel Award [$500]

May 2019 Graduate Student Council Travel Award [$475]

April 2019 College of Arts & Sciences Travel Award [$400]

**Teaching Honors & Awards/Grants**

March 2022 Psychological Science’s Nomination for Presidential Graduate Student Teaching Assistant Award

January 2022 Awarded the Global Campus Development Grant: PSYCH 625, Human Factors [$9,000; Campus-wide]

October 2021 Teaching & Learning Center’s Highlighted Teacher of the Week ([LINK TO ARTICLE](https://www.k-state.edu/tlc/newsletters/newsletters/November%202%202021.html))

September 2021 Psychological Science’s Nomination for Graduate Student Council Teaching Excellence Award

September 2020 Outstanding Graduate Instructor Award [$500; Departmental]

May 2020 Teaching & Learning Center Professional Development Certificate

**Academic Honors**

May 2020 Graduate Student Council Professional Development Certificate

May 2017 Graduate Cum Laude

April 2017 Psychology Student of the Year Award [$100]

February 2016 College of Arts & Sciences Outstanding Student Award

Spring 2015-Spring 2017 University of Findlay Dean’s List

**Academic Scholarships**

April 2016 Dr. Ed Stefan Endowed Scholarship [$500]

Fall 2013-Spring 2017 University of Findlay Dean’s Scholarship

MEMBERSHIPS (\* denotes current memberships)

Spring 2022\* Mid-Western Educational Research Association

Fall 2021\* Society for Teaching Psychology

March 2021\* National Conference for College Women Student Leaders

June 2020 Human Mental Workload

September 2019\* Society of Cognitive Studies of the Moving Image

August 2018\* Midwestern Psychological Association

May 2018\* Psychonomics Society

August 2017\* Graduate Association for Psychology Students

December 2016 Vision Science Society Member

March 2016\* Psi Chi National Honor Society

UNIVERSITY SERVICES

August 2022 New Graduate Student Welcome Session

Hosted by: Graduate School and participating as a Graduate School Ambassador

Panel Member – *Graduate School Experience*

Summer 2022 Graduate School Representative: Getting Ready for your first Semester of Graduate School

Hosted by: Graduate School and participating as a Graduate School Ambassador (2 sessions)

Panel Member – *Graduate School Experience*

April 2022 KSU Reaccreditation Meeting Student Representative

Invited to attend and participate as a Graduate School Ambassador

April 2022 Graduate School Representative: Open House Event

Hosted by: Graduate School and participating as a Graduate School Ambassador

Spring 2022 College of Arts and Sciences: College Tuition Committee

Spring 2022 Three Minute Thesis Presentation Volunteer

August 2021 New Graduate Student Welcome Session

Hosted by: Graduate School and participation as a Graduate School Ambassador

April 2021 Graduate School Virtual Open House Event

Hosted by: Graduate School and participating as a Graduate School Ambassador

Panel Member – *Graduate School: Your Path to a Successful Future* (2 sessions)

Panel Member -- *The Life of a Graduate Student* (1 session)

November 2020 Panel Member -- *Grad School: What I wish someone would have told me.*

Hosted by: K-State office for the Advancement of Women in Science and Engineering and Graduate Student Council

October 2020 Graduate School Graduate Teaching Excellence Award Selection Committee Member

September 2020 Graduate Student Council Honor Council and Integrity Committee Member

Present

May 2020- Graduate Student Ambassador

Present *Responsibilities: Answer questions from potential students about graduate school and graduate student life. Provide campus tours to those interested students, typically one-on-one and personalized to their interests on-campus.*

October 2017- K-State office for the Advancement of Women in Science and Engineering

May 2018 (KASWE) Internal Advisory Board Member

Spring 2016- Psi Chi Honor Society

Spring 2017 Secretary beginning May 2016 -May 2017

Fall 2014- Psy Key Club

Spring 2017 President beginning March 2016 – May 2017

Secretary beginning April 2015 – March 2016

DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE

Fall 2022 SafeZone Training for Department

*Description: Brought in speaker to train department faculty, students, and staff on SafeZone Training (diversity, equity, and inclusion practices).*

Summer 2022 Search Committee for Memory & Aging Lab Research Aide Position

March 2022 Brownbag Talk & Discussion: “Up-gaging”: Concrete ways to Create an Inclusive and Engaging Classroom.

October 2021 Panelist: GAPS Panel on Procrastination and Time Management

October 2021 Brownbag Talk & Discussion: Empirically Supported Teaching Practices

Fall 2019 – Datacamp Access & Management

Fall 2021 *Description: Brought access of Datacamp to the graduate students within our department. Datacamp provides students with hands-on training for a variety of different programming languages (e.g., R, Python, SQL, etc.). I was then in-charge of managing the students who were enrolled in the Datacamp services to ensure they had goals to work towards and that there were no issues with their enrollment.*

December 2019 Psychological Sciences: Research Information Fair

*Description: Organized and hosted event for undergraduates to learn about the departmental research opportunities and how to be involved. Series of demonstrations and lab tours available to the undergraduates that participated.*

October 2019 Panel Discussion on Career Opportunities for PhDs in Psychology

*Description: Organized and hosted event for graduate students to learn about career opportunities outside of academia. The panel members for this event were selected from the KSU Alumni Council Advisory Board who had experience in preparing graduate students to go into non-academic positions or had worked in these positions themselves.*

August 2019- Psych Science Writing Group Coordinator

Present *Description: Organized meetings with graduate students and faculty in the department to exchange writing amongst each other and provide feedback. [Initially held face-to-face, moved to virtual reviewing process during COVID]*

August 2019- Graduate Student Mentor

Present *Description: Started mentoring an incoming graduate student. This was at their discretion and continued through my time at KSU.*

August 2017- Graduate Association for Psychology Students (GAPS) Member

Present President; May 2019 – May 2020

Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, & Belonging Officer; May 2022 – Present

COMMUNITY SERVICES

December 2020 Zoom with the Zoo: Feature Scientist

*Career Connections: A virtual program connecting high school students with practicing scientists to help them explore the diversity of science communications.*

REFERENCES AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST