

## Anthony W. Sali

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Department of Psychology  
 Wake Forest University  
 428 Greene Hall  
 P.O. Box 7778 Reynolda Station  
 Winston-Salem, NC 27109  
 Email: saliaw@wfu.edu

### EDUCATION

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- 2010 - 2015 The Johns Hopkins University  
 Ph.D., Psychological and Brain Sciences  
 Advisors: Steven Yantis (deceased 2014), Susan Courtney
- 2010 - 2012 The Johns Hopkins University  
 M.A., Psychological and Brain Sciences  
 Advisor: Steven Yantis
- 2006 - 2010 Hamilton College  
 Honors B.A., Psychology  
 Summa Cum Laude, Phi Beta Kappa

### HONORS AND AWARDS

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- 2022 John R. Jombock Faculty-Student Engagement Award, Wake Forest University
- 2019 – 2021 Creative and Research Activities Development and Enrichment Initiative Fellow, Wake Forest University
- 2017 - 2018 Preparing Future Faculty Fellow, Duke University
- 2011 - 2014 National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship
- 2010 - 2011 Eliju Root Research Fellowship
- 2010 B.F. Skinner Prize for Psychological Research
- 2010 Psychology Thesis of Distinction, Hamilton College
- 2010 Sigma Xi, Hamilton College
- 2009 Phi Beta Kappa, Epsilon Chapter, Hamilton College
- 2008 Psi Chi, Hamilton College

### RESEARCH INTERESTS

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Attention, Cognitive Control, ADHD  
 Cognitive Neuroscience, Statistical Learning, Functional Neuroimaging,  
 Electroencephalography

### ACADEMIC POSITIONS

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*Wake Forest University*  
 2018 - Assistant Professor  
 Department of Psychology

*Duke University*

2015 -2018 Postdoctoral Associate  
 Center for Cognitive Neuroscience  
 Advisor: Tobias Egner

*The Johns Hopkins University*

2015 - Adjunct Assistant Research Scientist

2010 - 2015 Graduate Research Fellow  
 Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences  
 Advisors: Steven Yantis, Susan Courtney

*State University of New York at Buffalo*

2009 Summer Research Intern, Child and Family Asthma Studies Center,  
 Department of Psychiatry and Pediatrics  
 Advisor: Beatrice Wood

*Hamilton College*

2009 - 2010 Undergraduate Research Assistant, Motor Control Lab  
 Advisor: Jonathan Vaughan

2008 - 2009 Undergraduate Research Assistant, ADHD and College Adjustment  
 Lab  
 Advisor: Tara McKee

2007 - 2009 Undergraduate Research Assistant  
 Advisors: Penny Yee, Gregory Pierce

**TEACHING***Wake Forest University*

Spring 2023 Instructor: First Year Seminar on Minds and Machines, Perception  
 Fall 2023 Instructor: Human Cognition (graduate level seminar), Perception  
 Fall 2022 Instructor: Human Cognition (graduate level seminar), Perception  
 Fall 2021 Instructor: First Year Seminar on Minds and Machines, Perception  
 Spring 2021 Instructor: Cognitive Psychology, Perception  
 Fall 2020 Instructor: First Year Seminar on Minds and Machines, Perception  
 Spring 2020 Instructor: Programming in MATLAB and the Psychophysics  
 Toolbox, Neuroscientific Study of Cognitive Control, Perception  
 Fall 2019 Instructor: Cognitive Psychology, Perception  
 Spring 2019 Instructor: Perception  
 Fall 2018 Instructor: Cognitive Psychology

*Duke University*

Fall 2017 Principles of Cognitive Neuroscience I (graduate level seminar).  
 Gave 2 out of 21 lectures.

Summer 2017 Summer Session Instructor: Introduction to Cognitive Neuroscience  
 (independently designed and taught)

2016 - 2017 Supervisor for graduation with distinction undergraduate research thesis in neuroscience: Jordan Cohen, Duke University, *Neural Mechanisms of Learned Cognitive Flexibility: Maintaining and Updating Predictions of Task-Switching*

*The Johns Hopkins University*

Jan. 2014, 2015 Instructor: Altered Perceptions (independently designed and taught)

2013 - 2014 Supervisor for honors thesis project in neuroscience: Nicole Albstein, Johns Hopkins University, *Effects of Environment on Attentional Flexibility*

2013 Lecturer: Advanced Statistical Methods (graduate-level statistics course). Gave 3 out of 22 lectures.

2012 Co-instructor: Research Methods

2011 - 2012 Teaching Assistant: Functional Human Neuroanatomy, Neural Basis of Cognitive Control, Introduction to Social Psychology

*Hamilton College*

2008 - 2010 Teaching Assistant: Statistics and Research Methods in Psychology

## **OUTREACH AND SUMMER PROGRAMS**

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2022-2024 Program Leader for Wake Forest University Pre-College Programs Summer Institute in Neuroscience (in-person).

2021 Program Leader for Wake Forest University Pre-College Programs Summer Institute in Neuroscience (virtual).

## **CONFERENCE ORGANIZATION**

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2021-2022 Organizer for the North Carolina Cognition Conference. Awarded \$2,250.00 through the *Provost's Fund for Academic Excellence* at Wake Forest University (rescheduled for spring 2023).

## **GRADUATE STUDENT ADVISING**

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Yuxin Xie – Wake Forest University Master's Program in Psychology.

Cat Seitz – Wake Forest University Master's Program in Psychology. Thesis title: *Exploring Distractor Suppression In Diverse Populations: A Comparative Analysis Of Children And Adults*. Psychometrician at Duke University.

Elayna Seago – Wake Forest University Master's Program in Psychology. Thesis title: *A Comparison of Learned Attentional Flexibility in Older Versus Younger Adults*. Ph.D. student in human development and family science at the Virginia Polytechnic Institute since Fall 2022.

Vanessa Gill – Wake Forest University Master's Program in Psychology. Thesis title: *Trait Anxiety and Trait Worry Are Not Associated With Visual Working Memory Updating Effectiveness*.

Julianne Key – Wake Forest University Master’s Program in Psychology. Thesis title: *Cognitive Flexibility and Visual Search*. Ph.D. student in cognitive psychology at UNC Chapel Hill since Fall 2020.

### **UNDERGRADUATE HONORS PROJECT ADVISING**

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Kate Leffler – Project in progress

Isabel Flicker – Project in progress

Lynn Li – Project title: Statistical Learning, Attentional flexibility, and ADHD.

Nadia Bokhari – Project title: The effect of explicit proactive control on emotional distractor suppression.

Anna Toledo – Project title: The neural bases of simultaneous fluctuations in spontaneous and learned attentional flexibility

### **GRANTS AND AWARDS**

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2024-2025 Wake Forest University Translational Science Center (\$10,000). “The effect of high intensity interval resistance training (HIIRT) on functional brain networks associated with cognitive and physical function in older adults” (Co-PI).

2022-2025 National Institutes of Health (\$410,490). “Brain Mechanisms of Spontaneous and Learned Attentional Flexibility” (PI).

2022-2023 Wake Forest University Translational Science Center (\$42,268). “High-Intensity Interval Resistance Training (HIIRT) and Cognitive Functioning” (Co-PI).

### **MANUSCRIPTS IN REVISION, UNDER REVIEW, AND IN PREPARATION (\* denotes undergraduate author, \*\* denotes graduate author)**

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**Sali, A. W.** & Oor, E. (under review). Serial Processing of Stimulus Identity and Shift Readiness Prediction Updating in the Absence of Cue Stimulus Repetitions. *Psychonomic Bulletin & Review*

**Sali, A. W.**, & Seitz, C. W. (in prep). Distractor location frequency better accounts for the instantiation of learned distractor suppression than do reinforcement learning prediction errors.

Shaver, M. P\*, Toledo, A. B.\*, Torain, A. L.\* Flicker, I.\* & **Sali, A. W.** (in prep). Characterizing the interaction of spontaneous fluctuations in sustained attention and learned adjustments in attentional flexibility

### **PUBLICATIONS (Google Scholar citation count: 379; h-index: 9)**

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**Sali, A. W.**, Bejjani, C., & Egner, T. (2024). Learning cognitive flexibility. Neural substrates of adapting switch-readiness to time-varying demands. *Journal of Cognitive Neuroscience*, 36, 377-393.

- Waugh, C. E. & **Sali, A. W.** (2023). Resilience as the ability to maintain wellbeing: An allostatic active inference model. *Journal of Intelligence*, *11*, 158.
- Sali, A. W.**, Ma, R.\* , Albal, M. S.\* , & Key, J.\*\* (2022). The location independence of learned attentional flexibility. *Attention, Perception, and Psychophysics*. <https://doi.org/10.3758/s13414-022-02469-4>.
- Sali, A. W.**, Jiang, J. & Egner, T. (2020). Neural mechanisms of strategic adaptation in attentional flexibility. *Journal of Cognitive Neuroscience*, *32*, 989-1008.
- Sali, A. W.**, & Egner, T. (2020). Declarative and procedural working memory updating processes are mutually facilitative. *Attention, Perception, and Psychophysics*, *82*, 1858-1871.
- Sali, A. W.**, Anderson, B. A., & Courtney, S. M. (2018). Information processing biases in the brain: Implications for decision-making and self-governance. *Neuroethics*, *11*, 259-271.
- Sali, A. W.**, Anderson, B. A., Yantis, S., Mostofsky, S. H., & Rosch, K. S. (2018). Reduced value-driven attentional capture among children with ADHD compared to typically-developing controls. *Journal of Abnormal Child Psychology*, *46*, 1187-1200.
- Xu, K. Z., Anderson, B. A., Emeric, E., **Sali, A. W.**, Stuphorn, V., Yantis, S., & Courtney, S. M. (2017). Neural basis of cognitive control over movement inhibition: Human fMRI and primate electrophysiology evidence. *Neuron*, *96*, 1447-1458.
- Sali, A. W.**, Courtney, S. M., & Yantis, S. (2016). Spontaneous fluctuations in the flexible control of covert attention. *Journal of Neuroscience*, *36*, 445-454.
- Anderson, B. A., & **Sali, A. W.** (2015). The impact of reward on attention: Beyond motivation. In T. S. Braver (Ed.), *Motivation and Cognitive Control*. Routledge.
- Sali, A. W.**, Anderson, B. A., & Yantis, S. (2015). Learned states of preparatory attentional control. *Journal of Experimental Psychology: Learning, Memory, and Cognition*, *41*, 1790-1805.
- Sali, A. W.**, Anderson, B. A., & Yantis, S. (2014). The role of reward prediction in the control of attention. *Journal of Experimental Psychology: Human Perception and Performance*, *40*, 1654-1664.
- Sali, A. W.**, Anderson, B. A., & Yantis, S. (2013). Reinforcement learning modulates the stability of cognitive control settings for object selection. *Frontiers in Integrative Neuroscience*, doi: 10.3389/fnint.2013.00095#sthash.rhIF9wgs.dpuf

Vaughan, J., Barany, D. A., **Sali, A. W.**, Jax, S. A., & Rosenbaum, D. A. (2010). Extending Fitts' Law to three-dimensional obstacle-avoidance movements: Support for the posture-based motion planning model. *Experimental Brain Research*, 207, 133-138.

### **CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS**

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**Sali, A. W.**, Anderson, B. A., & Yantis, S. (2012). Reinforcement learning modulates preparatory states of cognitive flexibility. *Visual Cognition*, 20, 1039-1043.

### **INVITED TALKS**

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**Sali, A. W.** (2019). Anticipate and adapt: Learned mechanisms of attentional and cognitive flexibility. University of North Carolina at Greensboro, Greensboro, NC.

**Sali, A. W.** (2017). Anticipate and adapt: Learned mechanisms of attentional and cognitive flexibility. Wake Forest University, Winston-Salem, NC.

**Sali, A. W.** (2014). Spontaneous and learned states of preparatory attentional control. Duke University, Durham, NC.

**Sali, A. W.** (2014). Spontaneous and learned states of preparatory attentional control. Princeton University, Princeton, NJ.

**Sali, A. W.** (2012). Spontaneous and learned fluctuations in the control of spatial attention. Hamilton College, Clinton, NY.

Barany, D., **Sali, A. W.**, & Vaughan, J. (2009). Fitting Fitts' Law. Moss Rehabilitation Center, Philadelphia, PA.

### **PRESENTATIONS (\* denotes undergraduate presenter, \*\* denotes graduate presenter, \*\*\* denotes teacher-scholar postdoctoral fellow)**

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**Sali, A. W.**, Toledo, A. B.\*, Xie, Y.\*\* Shaver, M. P.\* Torain, A. L.,\* Flicker, I.,\* & Oor E. E. (2024). Characterizing the interaction of spontaneous fluctuations in sustained attention and learned adjustments in attentional flexibility. Paper presented at the European Conference on Visual Perception, Aberdeen, Scotland, UK.

Oor, E. E., & **Sali, A. W.** (2024). Sensory event-related potentials in oculomotor capture. Poster presented at the meeting of the North Carolina Cognition Group, Greensboro, NC.

**Sali, A. W.**, Toledo, A. B.\*, Shaver, M. P.\*, & Torain, A. L.\* (2024). Pupillometry and neural signatures of spontaneous and learned attentional control states. Paper presented at the meeting of the North Carolina Cognition Group, Greensboro, NC.

- Sali, A. W.** (2024). Neuroscientific perspectives on generative AI. Panel discussion on ethics and AI titled “Machine learning: What does it change and why does it matter?” at Wake Forest University, Winston-Salem, NC.
- Torain, A. L.\*, & **Sali, A. W.** (2023). Learned attentional flexibility and spontaneous fluctuations in sustained attention modulate pupil size. Poster presented at the Object Perception, Attention, and Memory meeting, San Francisco, CA.
- Sali, A. W.** & Oor E. E. (2023). Dissociating shift readiness and stimulus identity prediction errors in an attentional orienting paradigm. Poster presented at the meeting of the Psychonomic Society, San Francisco, CA.
- Sali A. W.** (2023). Programming for neuroscientists: Preparing students for the lab and beyond. Paper presented at the Neuroscience Teaching Conference, Winston-Salem, NC.
- Oor, E. E. & **Sali, A. W.** (2023). Tracking exogenous attentional capture in an urgent covert perceptual choice task. Poster presented at the meeting of the Vision Sciences Society, Saint Pete Beach, FL.
- Torain, A. L.\*, & **Sali, A. W.** (2023). Learned attentional flexibility and spontaneous fluctuations in sustained attention modulate pupil size. Poster to-be-presented at the Object Perception, Attention, and Memory meeting, San Francisco, CA.
- Sali, A. W.** & Oor E. E.\*\*\* (2023). Dissociating shift readiness and stimulus identity prediction errors in an attentional orienting paradigm. Poster to-be-presented at the meeting of the Psychonomic Society, San Francisco, CA.
- Oor, E. E.\*\*\* & **Sali, A. W.** (2023). Tracking exogenous attentional capture in an urgent covert perceptual choice task. Poster presented at the meeting of the Vision Sciences Society, Saint Pete Beach, FL.
- Shaver, M. P\*, Toledo, A. B.\*, & **Sali, A. W.** (2023). Investigating the interaction of fluctuations in spatial attentional flexibility and sustained attention. Poster presented at the meeting of the Cognitive Neuroscience Society, San Francisco, CA.
- Sali, A. W.**, Shaver, M. P.\*, & Toledo, A. B.\* (2023). Spontaneous and learned fluctuations in attentional control. Paper presented at the meeting of the North Carolina Cognition Group, Winston-Salem, NC.
- Shaver, M. P.\*, Toledo, A. B.\*, & **Sali, A. W.** (2023). Individual differences in trait anxiety and fluctuations in attentional control. Poster presented at the meeting of the North Carolina Cognition Group, Winston-Salem, NC.

- Seitz, C. W.\*\* & **Sali, A. W.** (2023). Attentional suppression of a high-probability distractor location. Poster presented at the meeting of the North Carolina Cognition Group, Winston-Salem, NC.
- Seitz, C. W.\*\*, Seago, E. R.\*\*, & **Sali, A. W.** (2022). Age-related differences in learned attentional flexibility. Poster presented at the meeting of the Psychonomic Society, Boston, MA.
- Seago, E. R.\*\*, & **Sali, A. W.** (2022). Learned attentional flexibility in older adults. Poster presented at the Cognitive Aging Conference, Atlanta, GA.
- Bokhari, N.,\* & **Sali, A. W.** (2021). Measuring proactive control over emotion-induced blindness while manipulating distractor location uncertainty. Poster presented at the meeting of the Psychonomic Society, Virtual Presentation.
- Sali, A. W.**, & Key, J.\*\* (2021). Measuring attentional capture across learned states of cognitive flexibility. Poster presented at the meeting of the Vision Sciences Society, Virtual Presentation.
- Albal, M.,\* Ma, R.,\* Key, J.,\*\* & **Sali, A. W.** (2020). Examining the location-specificity of attentional flexibility. Poster presented at the meeting of the Psychonomic Society, Virtual Presentation.
- Gill, V. L.,\*\* & **Sali, A. W.** (2020). Tracking color working memory precision according to learned cognitive flexibility. Poster presented at the meeting of Object, Perception, Attention, and Memory, Virtual Presentation.
- Key, J.,\*\* & **Sali, A. W.** (2019). Examining the domain generality of cognitive flexibility. Poster presented at the meeting of the Psychonomic Society, Montreal, QC.
- Gao, A.,\*\* Stone, E., **Sali, A. W.**, & Okan, Y. (2019). How people interpret numerical and graphical displays of risk: Evidence from eye-tracking. Poster presented at the meeting of the Society for Judgment and Decision Making, Montreal, QC.
- Bejjani, C., Whitehead, P. S., **Sali, A. W.**, Chiu, Y-C., & Egner, T. (2019). Assessing causal contributions of parietal cortex to learned cognitive flexibility. Poster presented at the meeting of the Cognitive Neuroscience Society, San Francisco, CA.
- Sali, A. W.**, & Egner, T. (2018). Neural mechanisms of strategic adaptation in attentional flexibility. Poster presented at the meeting of the Psychonomic Society, New Orleans, LA.



- Sali, A. W.**, Bejjani, C., & Egner, T. (2018). Learning cognitive flexibility. Neural mechanisms of adaptive switch readiness. Poster presented at the meeting of the Cognitive Neuroscience Society, Boston, MA.
- Sali, A. W.**, Bejjani, C. & Egner, T. (2017). Neural mechanisms of learned switch-readiness. Poster presented at the meeting of the Psychonomic Society, Vancouver, BC.
- Cohen, J.,\* Egner, T., & **Sali, A. W.** (2017). Neural mechanisms of learned cognitive flexibility: Maintaining and updating predictions of task-switching. Poster presented at the Undergraduate Neuroscience Graduation with Distinction Poster Session, Duke University, Durham, NC.
- Sali, A. W.**, & Egner, T. (2017). Reconstructing changes in the spatial deployment of attention according to environmental statistical structure. Poster presented at the meeting of the Cognitive Neuroscience Society, San Francisco, CA.
- Sali, A. W.**, & Egner, T. (2016). Characterizing the relationship between item updating and set shifting processes in working memory. Paper presented at the meeting of Object Perception Memory and Attention, Boston, MA.
- Connor, C. E., Tokozoglu, H. N., **Sali, A. W.**, Anderson, B. A., & Yantis, S. (2016). Representation of medial axis configurations in lateral occipital complex. Paper presented at the meeting of the Society for Neuroscience, San Diego, CA.
- Sali, A. W.**, & Courtney, S. M. (2015). Neural basis of learned adjustments in attentional flexibility according to environmental statistical structure. Paper presented at the meeting of the Society for Neuroscience, Chicago, IL.
- Xu, K. Z., **Sali, A. W.**, Anderson, B. A., Yantis, S., & Courtney, S. M. (2015). fMRI activation of dorsal and ventral right ventrolateral prefrontal cortex in a context-dependent stop signal task indicates different roles in motor control. Poster presented at the meeting of the Society for Neuroscience, Chicago, IL.
- Sali, A. W.**, & Courtney, S. M. (2015). Attentional orienting expectations broaden and constrain the window of spatial selection. Poster presented at the meeting of the Vision Sciences Society, St. Petersburg, FL.
- Tokozoglu, H. N., **Sali, A. W.**, Anderson, B. A., Yantis, S., & Connor, C. E. (2015). Structural, not spectral, representation of shape in lateral occipital complex. Poster presented at the meeting of the Vision Sciences Society, St. Petersburg, FL.
- Sali, A. W.**, Courtney, S. M., & Yantis, S. (2014). Temporal expectations modulates the flexibility of object-based attentional selection. Poster presented at the meeting of the Psychonomic Society, Long Beach, CA.

- Sali, A. W.,** Anderson, B. A., & Yantis, S. (2014). The role of statistical learning in the flexible control of attention. Poster presented at the meeting of the Vision Sciences Society, St. Petersburg, FL.
- Sali, A. W.,** Anderson, B. A., & Yantis, S. (2013). Statistical regularities modulate the flexibility of attentional control. Poster presented at the meeting of the Psychonomic Society, Toronto, ON.
- Sali, A. W.,** Anderson, B. A., & Yantis, S. (2013). The role of predictable and unpredictable reward in the control of attention. Poster presented at the meeting of the Vision Sciences Society, Naples, FL.
- Sali, A. W.,** Anderson, B. A., & Yantis, S. (2012). Reinforcement learning modulates preparatory states of cognitive flexibility. Paper presented at the meeting of Object Perception Memory and Attention, Minneapolis, MN.
- Sali, A. W.,** & Yantis, S. (2012). Decoding fluctuations in attentional flexibility using multivoxel pattern classification. Poster presented at the meeting of the Society for Neuroscience, New Orleans, LA.
- Sali, A. W.,** & Yantis, S. (2012). Neural correlates of spontaneous fluctuations in attentional control. Poster presented at the meeting of the Cognitive Neuroscience Society, Chicago, IL.
- Vaughan, J., Barany, D., **Sali, A.,** Jax, S., & Rosenbaum, D. (2009). Movement Time When Circumventing Obstacles in a 3-D Workspace. Poster presented at the meeting of the Psychonomic Society, Boston, MA.

## **AD-HOC REVIEWING**

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*Journal of Neuroscience*  
*Journal of Cognitive Neuroscience*  
*Attention, Perception, and Psychophysics* (Special Issue Guest Editor)  
*Psychonomic Bulletin and Review*  
*Visual Cognition*  
*Cognition*  
*Journal of Experimental Psychology: General*  
*Quarterly Journal of Experimental Psychology*  
*PLOS One*  
*BMC Pediatrics*  
*Journal of Intelligence*  
*Journal of Experimental Psychopathology*  
*Cerebral Cortex*  
*Collabra: Psychology*

## **GRANT REVIEWING**

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June 2024 served on NIH study section: Human Complex Mental Function

## **UNIVERSITY AND ACADEMIC SERVICE**

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2024 -  
2024 - Neuroscience and Society Strategic Working Group,  
Wake Forest University

2023 - 2024 Curriculum Review Committee, Wake Forest University  
2023 - 2024 Long Range Planning Committee, Wake Forest  
University

2021 - Honor and Ethics Council, Wake Forest University  
2020, 2022, 2024 Faculty Search Committee, Department of Psychology,  
Wake Forest University.

2019 – 2021, 2022-2024 Lower Division Advising, Department of Psychology,  
Wake Forest University.

2019 - Department Website and Social Media Committee,  
Department of Psychology, Wake Forest University.  
*Chair 2023 -*

2018 - Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Accessibility Committee,  
Department of Psychology, Wake Forest University.

2018 - 2023 Policies and Procedures Committee, Department of  
Psychology, Wake Forest University.

2010 - 2015 Mentor for undergraduate research assistants, Yantis  
Lab, Johns Hopkins University.

2012 - 2015 Graduate Student Teaching Assistant Selection Committee  
2011 - 2015 Brain Awareness Week Outreach Program  
Baltimore Polytechnic Institute, Baltimore, MD.

## **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

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Psychonomic Society  
Vision Sciences Society  
Cognitive Neuroscience Society

## **TECHNICAL COMPETENCIES**

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MATLAB, Bash, Python, R, SPSS, FSL, AFNI, PYMVPA, Sun Grid Engine