

Janna Taft Young, Ph.D.

Bridgewater College, Bowman Hall 216, Bridgewater, VA 22812

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EDUCATIONAL HISTORY

PHD (NEURO)PSYCHOLOGY

1999-2003

Florida Atlantic University

Boca Raton, FL

- Dissertation: "Memory Deficits for Faces and Names in Alzheimer's Disease: Investigation with a Faces-Names Stroop-like Task."
- Advisor: Monica Rosselli, PhD.

MA NEUROSCIENCE

1996-1999

Florida Atlantic University

Boca Raton, FL

- Thesis: "Astrogliosis and its Correlates with Injury and Disease: GFAP Immunocytochemistry in the Rat Brain."
- Advisor: Gary Perry, PhD.

BS MATHEMATICS (CUM LAUDE), MINOR IN GERMAN

1991-1995

Florida Atlantic University

Boca Raton, FL

- Included courses in mathematics, german, research methods, and psychology.

PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF PSYCHOLOGY

Bridgewater, VA

Bridgewater College

2005-current

- Cognitive Neuroscience
- General Psychology
- Measurement & Statistics
- Memory & Cognition
- Neurophysiology
- Neuropsychological Assessment

VISITING ASSISTANT PSYCHOLOGY PROFESSOR

Lexington, VA

Washington and Lee University

2004-2005

- Abnormal Psychology
- Alzheimer's disease Seminar
- Brain and Behavior
- Neuropsychological Assessment
- Quantitative Literacy

RESEARCH TECHNICIAN & MEMORY THERAPIST

Boca & Jupiter, FL

Florida Atlantic University

2002-2004

- In-home cognitive retraining (research program) therapy sessions for patients with mild cognitive impairment or Alzheimer's disease.
- Project leader on cognitive program designed for the FAU community, with stimulating mental exercises comprising many cognitive domains.
- Research in developmental psychophysiology on mother and infant temperament utilizing electroencephalogram.

GRADUATE TEACHING ASSISTANT / INSTRUCTOR

Boca & Davie, FL

Florida Atlantic University

1999-2004

- Biological Bases of Behavior - *Supervisor: G. Perry, PhD*
- Biological Bases of Behavior 2 - *Supervisor: S. Bressler, PhD*
- Neuropsychology - *Supervisor: M. Rosselli, PhD*
- Research Methods - *Supervisor: L. Liebovitch, PhD*
- The Mathematics and Science of Fractals - *Supervisor: L. Liebovitch, PhD*
- Experimental Design & Statistical Inference - *Supervisor: T. Monson, PhD*
- Statistics with laboratory - *Supervisor: A. Nash, PhD*

Florida Atlantic University (Graduate Instructor) continued

- General Psychology - *Supervisor: D. Wolgin, PhD*
- Subject Pool Coordinator - *Supervisor: D. Wolgin, PhD*

FAU GRADUATE ASSISTANT AND WEBMASTER

Boca Raton, FL

Florida Atlantic University

1998-2002

- Maintenance of FAU graduate programs and governmental funds in Education and Science.
- Creation and maintenance of various FAU graduate agencies with funding and academic support to assist administration and student groups.
- Organization and maintenance of FAU Graduate Studies websites including departmental graduate programs.

NIMH GRADUATE RESEARCH TRAINING ASSISTANT

Boca Raton, FL

Florida Atlantic University

1996-1998

Training and research in mathematics, computing, and neuroscience. Program focused on image analysis such as quantitative methods for analyzing psychological and neural phenomenon. *Supervisor: Gary Perry, Ph.D.*

MEMBERSHIP IN PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

- National Academy of Neuropsychology Associate Member • International Neuropsychological Society Associate • Society for Neuroscience Member • Sigma Xi Member, Scientific Research Society • Alpha Epsilon Lambda Member, Graduate Student Honor Society • Psi Chi Member, Psychology National Honor Society • Phi Kappa Phi Member, National Honor Society.

ACTIVITIES

- Psi Chi Faculty Advisor @ Bridgewater College • Institutional Effectiveness (Course Evaluation Subcommittee) Member • Information Technology Committee Member • Graduate Student Association President (2002-2003) & Vice-President (2001-2002) • Created funded graduate assistantships and co-founded FAU's Agency for Graduate Concerns (2001-2003) • Organized Teaching Assistant Training Workshops (2000-2002) • Organized Grant Writing and Dissertation Workshops (2000-2001) • Undergraduate Grants Committee Officer (1999-2002) • Chair of Graduate Grants Committee (1999-2001) • Assisted in securing over \$250,000 in funding for graduate grants • Parliament of the OWLS Member, FAU Leadership Honor Society (1999-2003) • President of Psi Chi @ FAU, Psych. Nat'l Honor Society (1998-2000) • Mathematics tutor (1991-2003) • Computer assisted printmaking and web design • Amateur photography.

SKILLS

RESEARCH

- Neuropsychological investigation of memory and language deficits in Alzheimer's disease.
- Cognitive impairments in dementia and neurological disorders such as stroke and epilepsy.
- Neuroimaging for use as diagnostics or functional performance in young adult to adult populations.
- Neuropathology of disease in human and rat models, and neurochemistry of rat brain with GFAP staining.
- Quantitative / statistical analyses using SPSS and Minitab software.

TEACHING

- Cognitive & Introduction to Neuroscience (Brain & Behavior), Statistics & Research Methods (lectures & labs), Memory & Cognition, Human and/or Abnormal Neuropsychology, Neuropsychological Assessment, General Psychology, and Alzheimer's disease--Upper & Lower Division.
- Advising, supervising & counseling at graduate and undergraduate level.
- Developing teaching training programs and workshops.

ADMINISTRATIVE / ORGANIZATIONAL

- Committee work (chair, vice chair, member, organizing subcommittees, etc.) and problem solving strategies.
- Budget forecasting, grant budgeting and maintenance, fundraising.
- Organizing seminars, training sessions and conferences, and detailed project searches.

COMPUTING

- *Database & Statistical Packages:* SPSS, Integrated Functional Imaging System, BrainVoyager 2000, MetaWin, Access, Minitab.
- *Operating Systems:* Win XP, ME, WinNT, 2000, DOS, Win 3x/ 9.x, UNIX, VMS, Macintosh.
- *Office Software:* Microsoft Office XP / 2000, Corel WordPerfect.
- *Web design:* Macromedia Dreamweaver, Netscape Composer, HTML.
- *Presentation & Graphics Programs:* Microsoft PowerPoint & Publisher, Adobe Acrobat, Illustrator, PhotoDeluxe, Photoshop, Corel, Print Shop Ensemble, Photo Enhancer Packages.

PUBLICATIONS & PRESENTATIONS

- Taft, J.R. & Rosselli, M. (in process). Disrupted semantic memory and face-name interference in Alzheimer's disease. *Archives of Clinical Neuropsychology*.
- Taft, J.R. & Rosselli, M. (in process). The Neuropsychological Profile of Familial Alzheimer's Disease. *Journal of Neuropsychology Review*.
- Taft, Janna R., Vertes, Robert P., & Perry, GW (August 2005). Distribution of GFAP+ Astrocytes in Adult and Neonatal Rat Brain. *International Journal of Neuroscience, 115*, 1333-1343.
- Taft, J.R., Massa, M., & Rosselli, M. (Nov. 2004). Face-name Interference in Alzheimer's disease. *Archives of Clinical Neuropsychology, 19(7)*, 931-32.
- Taft, J.R. (Dec. 2003). Memory Deficits for Faces and Names in Alzheimer's Disease: Investigation with a Faces-Names Stroop-like Task. Doctoral dissertation, Florida Atlantic University, Boca Raton, FL 33431.
- Taft, J.R., Massa, M., Matos, F.N., Yasin, A.R., & Rosselli, M. (Oct. 2003). Famous Faces Naming Ability among Normal Adults with or without Semantic Interference. *Archives of Clinical Neuropsychology 18*, 768.
- Taft, J.R., Fernandez, M.L. & Rosselli, M. (Nov. 2001). Genetics and Neuropsychology of Alzheimer Disease: Preliminary Results of a Meta-analysis. *Society for Neuroscience Abstract, #547.6*.
- Taft, J.R., Vertes, R.P., & Perry, G.W. (Nov. 2000). Differential Distribution of GFAP+ Astrocytes in the Mature and Immature Rat Brain. *Society for Neuroscience Abstract, #618.18*.
- Taft, J.R. (Dec. 1999). Astrogliosis and its Correlates with Injury and Disease: GFAP Immunocytochemistry in the Rat Brain. Master's thesis, Florida Atlantic University, Boca Raton, FL 33431.
- Course Administration and Testing and Evaluation. Janna Taft, Florida Atlantic University, Fall 2003 Graduate Training Seminar, Boca Raton, FL.
- FAU Graduate Policies and Procedures. Janna Taft, Florida Atlantic University, Spring 2003 Graduate Orientation under supervision of Vice President for Research and Graduate Studies, Boca Raton, FL.
- Advances in Neuroimaging. Janna Taft, Florida Atlantic University, Department of Psychology, Davie, FL.
- Alzheimer's Disease: The Biomedical Race Against Aging. Janna Taft, Florida Atlantic University, Department of Psychology, Boca Raton, FL.
- Genetics and Neuropsychology of Alzheimer Disease: Preliminary Results of a Meta-analysis. Janna Taft, Margot Fernandez, and Monica Rosselli, Florida Atlantic University, Department of Psychology, Boca Raton and Davie, FL.
- Cognitive Decline in Patients with Familial Alzheimer's Disease Associated with E280A Presenilin-1 Mutation: A Longitudinal Study. Janna Taft, Deborah Bojan, Monica Rosselli, Alfredo Ardila, Virginia Standish, and Francisco Lopera, Florida Atlantic University, Department of Psychology, Davie, FL and Universidad de Antioquia, Medellin-Colombia.

- Astrogliosis and its Correlates with Injury and Disease: GFAP Immunocytochemistry in the Rat Brain. Janna Taft and Gary W. Perry, Florida Atlantic University, Department of Psychology and Center for Complex Systems and Brain Sciences, Boca Raton, FL.

GRANTS & AWARDS

- Bridgewater Faculty Grant (2005-2006)
- National Academy of Neuropsychology Presentation Award (11/19/2004)
- Newell Doctoral Fellowship (8/2001- 5/2003)
- Rosenstein/Bachman Educational Trust Scholarship (6/2000- 5/2003)
- Florida Atlantic University Graduate Research Grants (1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003)
- SAMHSA Travel Grant Awardee, Research conference in CA (10/2000)
- Psi Chi National Service Award (4/14/2000)
- Florida Atlantic University Alumni Scholarship (1999-2000)

REFERENCES

- Dr. Monica Rosselli, Assistant Chair for the Department of Psychology, FAU Davie Campus, 2912 College Avenue, Psychology Department Education and Science Room 268, Davie, FL 33314, mrossell@fau.edu, Tel (954) 236-1108.
- Dr. Gary Perry, Director of Graduate Programs C.E. Schmidt College of Science, FAU Complex Systems and Brain Sciences, 777 Glades Road, Science and Engineering Room 256A, Boca Raton, FL 33431, perryg@fau.edu, Tel (561) 297-2247.
- Dr. Tyler Lorig, Ruth Parmly Professor and Chair of Neuroscience Program, Washington and Lee University, The Science Center, Parmly Hall 234, Lexington, VA 24450, lorigt@wlu.edu, Tel (540)458-8839.
- Dr. Robert Stewart, Psychology Department Head, Washington and Lee University, The Science Center, Parmly Hall 230, Lexington, VA 24450, stewartb@wlu.edu, Tel (540)458-8837.