

# Hannah Swerbenski, B.S.

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## EDUCATION

- 2019 – Present **Ph.D. Student, Developmental Psychology, University of Rochester**, Rochester, New York  
**GPA: 4.0 | Advisor:** Melissa Sturge-Apple, Ph.D.
- 2013 - 2017 **B.S. Tulane University**, New Orleans, Louisiana; **Magna Cum Laude**  
**Majors:** Psychology, Cognitive Studies, Asian Studies **Minor:** Philosophy  
**Overall GPA: 3.83 | Junior/Senior GPA: 3.91**

## AWARDS & HONORS

- 2020 **Psi Chi Honors Society** | Graduate Student Member | *University of Rochester*
- 2019 **Best Undergraduate Poster for Original Research** | Mentor/co-author | *Louisiana Psychology Association Convention*
- 2018 **Outstanding Poster Award** | *Conference of the American Psychological Association: Division 56*
- 2017 **Faculty Memorial Award in Psychology** | Awarded to two graduating seniors annually for outstanding work in the Psychology major, the largest major at Tulane | *Tulane University*
- 2017 **Oak Wreath Senior Award** | Award for senior women who have distinguished themselves through engaged pursuit of learning & leadership in student activities | *Newcomb-Tulane College*
- 2017 **Leaders in Service: Top Public Service Student Award** | Recognizes students who have committed their university career to improving the community around them | *Tulane University*
- 2017 **Phi Beta Kappa Honors Society** | *Tulane University*
- 2013-2017 **Dean's List** | Awarded 7 of 8 semesters | *Tulane University*
- 2013-2017 **Distinguished Scholars Award- Honorable Mention** | *Tulane University*

## FUNDING & FELLOWSHIPS

- 2020 **Meliora Mentorship Fellowship** | awarded to support mentorship of underrepresented students' independent research projects (Mentee: Grace Messina) | *University of Rochester*
- 2020 **Junior Scientist Fellowship** | supports direct research costs | *American Psychological Association of Graduate Students/Psi Chi Honors Society*
- 2019-2021 **Robert L. and Mary L. Sproull Fellowship** | Most prestigious graduate fellowship awarded by the University of Rochester | *University of Rochester*

## MANUSCRIPTS

- Swerbenski, H., Du, Y., & Sturge-Apple, M. (in preparation). Parsing instability and harshness: neighborhood and family-level links to early developmental outcomes.
- Sturge-Apple, M., Li, Z., Swerbenski, H., & Davies, P. (in preparation). The impact of marital conflict on parental physiological regulation and harsh caregiving practices.
- Gray, S., Swerbenski, H., & Olsen, A. (in preparation). Parent and child processes following early exposure to trauma: A systematic literature review and clinical integration.
- Hatch, V., Swerbenski, H., & Gray, S. (2020). Family social support buffers the intergenerational association of maternal adverse childhood experiences and preschoolers' externalizing behavior. *American Journal of Orthopsychiatry*.

## RESEARCH POSTERS & PRESENTATIONS

- Du, Y., Swerbenski, H., & Gray S. (2020). [Poster]. How neighborhood violence influences maternal depression and child negative affect. *Poster presented at the Society for Personality and Social Psychology Convention, New Orleans, LA.*
- Cristian, C., Obus, E., Swerbenski, H., & Gray, S. (2019). [Poster]. Maternal arrest: Implications for maternal PTSD and child behavior problems. *Poster presented at the International Society for Traumatic Stress Studies Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA.*
- Swerbenski, H., Park, J., Glackin, E., & Gray, S. (2019). [Poster]. Discrepant reporting of trauma exposure in mothers and their preschool children: Interview and checklist methods. *Poster presented at the Society for the Study of Human Development Conference, Portland, OR.*

- Bryant, J., **Swerbenski, H.**, Pickett, C., & Gray, S. (2019). [Poster]. Harsh parenting among African-American families: The carrier of family and community trauma. *Poster presented at the conference of the Louisiana Psychology Association Convention, Metairie, LA.*
- Guillaume, S., Obus, E., **Swerbenski, H.**, & Gray, S. (2019). [Poster]. Racial socialization of black children: The influences of child sex and maternal arrest. *Poster presented at the conference of the Louisiana Psychology Association Convention, Metairie, LA.*
- \*\* *Selected as best undergraduate poster for original research by Louisiana Psychology Association*
- Lipschutz, R., Glackin, E., **Swerbenski, H.**, Hatch, V., & Gray, S. (2019). [Poster]. Parasympathetic reactivity and mother-child behavioral synchrony predict internalizing problems in high-risk young children. *Poster presented at the Journal of Clinical Child and Adolescent Psychology (JCCAP) Future Directions Forum, Washington, DC.*
- Bryant, J., Pickett, C., **Swerbenski, H.**, & Gray, S. (2019). [Poster]. Child sexual abuse and intimate partner violence: It harms more than the African American mother. *Poster presented at the School of Science and Engineering Research Day, Tulane University, New Orleans, LA.*
- Pickett, C., **Swerbenski, H.**, & Gray, S. (2019). [Poster]. Maternal childhood sexual abuse and parenting outcomes during the early years: Where are the voices of black mothers? *Poster to be presented at the Association of Black Psychologists Convention, Orlando, FL.*
- Swerbenski, H.**, Glackin, E., Carreras, J., Obus, E., & Gray, S. (2019). [Poster]. Emerging verbal ability in a low-income sample: Examining maternal cognitive stimulation and cool self-regulation. *Poster presented at the Society for Research in Child Development Biennial Meeting, Baltimore, MD.*
- Pickett, C., Cristian, C., **Swerbenski, H.**, Carreras, J., & Gray, S. (2018). [Poster]. Maternal attitudes towards aggression moderate associations between maternal violence exposure and behavior problems in preschoolers. *Poster presented at the International Society for Traumatic Stress Studies Annual Meeting, Washington, DC.*
- Carreras, C., Hatch, V., **Swerbenski, H.**, & Gray, S. (2018). Early Childhood Trauma: II [Professional Development session]. *Kingsley House, New Orleans, LA.*
- Hatch, V., **Swerbenski, H.**, Parker, V., Carreras, J., & Gray, S. (2018). [Poster]. Social support buffers the impact of maternal violence exposure on children's externalizing behavior. *Poster presented at the conference of the American Psychological Association, Denver, CO.*
- \*\* *Selected as outstanding poster by Division 56.*
- Glackin, E., Raymond, N., **Swerbenski, H.**, Forbes, D., Carter, A., & Gray, S. (2017). [Poster]. The effect of caregiver exposure to sexual violence on insightful parenting of preschoolers. *Poster presented at the Society for Research in Child Development Biennial Meeting, Austin, TX.*
- Swerbenski, H.** & DiDonato, C. (2013). [Poster]. Voluntary exercise habits in spinal muscular atrophy model mice and the implications of exercise in disease progression. *Poster presented at IMSAloquium, Aurora, IL.*

### **GUEST LECTURES & INVITED TALKS**

- Swerbenski, H.** (to be presented in 2021). Psychology of Early Adversity and Trauma [Intersession Mini-Course]. *Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy, Aurora, IL.*
- Swerbenski, H.** (2020). Memory [Guest Lecture]. *Intro Psychology, University of Rochester, Rochester N.Y.*
- Carreras, C., Hatch, V., **Swerbenski, H.**, & Gray, S. (2018). Early Childhood Trauma: II [Professional Development session]. *Kingsley House, New Orleans, LA.*

### **REVIEW ACTIVITY**

- 2020 *Association for Psychological Science, Association for Psychological Science Student Caucus (APSSC) Student Research Award Reviewer*
- 2020 *University of Rochester Annual Undergraduate Writing Colloquium, Submission Reviewer, Social Science Division*
- 2018 *Society for Research in Child Development, Proposal Reviewer (Mentor-Mentee team), Parent-Child Relationships Panel*

## **RESEARCH PROJECTS & ACTIVITY**

### ***Project HOPE, Mount Hope Family Center, University of Rochester***

*Clinical Preventive Intervention for Maltreated Infants* | PIs: Dante Cicchetti, Ph.D., Sheree Toth, Ph.D., Fred Rogosch, Ph.D. | Study evaluating two randomized preventive interventions (Infant-Parent Psychotherapy, Psychoeducational Parenting Intervention) with mothers in neglectful families living in elevated ecological risk.

2019 – Present

#### ***Coding Team Coordinator***

- Led a team of Research Assistants in the transcription and coding of the Parent Development Interview
- Developed novel narrative coding scheme

### ***Project PROMISE, Mount Hope Family Center, University of Rochester***

*Promoting Successful Parenting* | PIs: Sheree Toth, Ph.D., Jody Todd Manly, Ph.D. | Community partnered participatory research study with a clinical intervention examining prenatal and postnatal Child Parent Psychotherapy as a preventive therapy for reducing child maltreatment, and supporting sensitive parenting and healthy child development.

2019 – Present

#### ***Graduate Research Assistant***

- Interviewed mothers about trauma histories, mental health and substance abuse, and parenting attitudes
- Collected salivary cortisol and physiological data (HR, RSA)
- Administered Go/No Go Association Task to assess implicit social cognition

### ***Tulane Child and Family Lab, Department of Psychology, Tulane University***

*Parent and Child Coping Study* | PI: Sarah A.O. Gray, Ph.D. | Study examining the impact of violence exposure on preschool children's socioemotional and physiological outcomes and potential risk and protective factors including self-regulation, emotion regulation, parenting dimensions, and parent-child physiological synchrony.

*A Randomized Controlled Trial to Improve Biobehavioral Regulation Among High-Adversity Mothers and Young Children* | PI: Sarah A.O. Gray, Ph.D. | Intervention study examining whether a group-based, relationship-focused parenting invention can improve parenting stress, child behavioral outcomes, and adaptive physiological stress responses following maternal adverse childhood experiences.

2017-2019

#### ***Research Coordinator***

- Trained and supervised 21 undergraduate and 5 graduate research assistants on study procedures including parent and child assessments, physiological data collection, data entry and management, screening and recruitment
- Maintained and managed study protocols, IRB submissions, and assessment procedures for recruitment and data collection, led lab meetings to foster scholarly engagement
- Responsible for reliability and behavioral coding of Preschool Self-Regulation Assessment and Parent-Child Interaction Rating Scales
- Collaborated with local Head Start programs to foster professional development related to trauma-informed care and teaching practices
- Conducted interviews of family violence exposure and mothers' insightfulness, assessed children's self-regulation, administered Woodcock Johnson-III Test of Cognitive Abilities, collected physiological data (HR, RSA, PEP, and GSR) in children and mothers

2015-2017

#### ***Research Assistant***

- Enlisted as the only undergraduate member of a parent-child interaction behavioral coding team using the Parent-Child Interaction Rating Scales
- Recruited and screened new participants, performed data entry and interview transcription

**Human Molecular Genetics Lab, Feinberg School of Medicine, Northwestern University**

*Spinal Muscular Atrophy: Inducing SMN Expression* | PI: Christine J. DiDonato, Ph.D. | Study examining inductive therapies in mouse models of Spinal Muscular Atrophy, a neurodegenerative disorder, caused by the loss of the survival motor neuron (SMN) gene.

2012-2013

**Research Assistant**

- Implemented my own pilot study of exercise as a treatment for Spinal Muscular Atrophy in mice by monitoring running activity over a period of six weeks, then assessing grip strength, endurance, and *SMN* protein levels in muscle tissue
- Employed research methodology including polymerase chain reaction, daily care for animal subjects, and data analysis and presentation using Graphpad Prism.

**Student Inquiry and Research Program, Department of History, Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy**

*The Veteran Struggle: Returning to Civilian Life* | Advisor: James Victory, Ph.D. | Independent study project led by professor and Vietnam War Veteran, Dr. Victory, examining the lived experience of combat veterans and their return to civilian life, with emphasis on reintegration into the family.

2011-2012

**Student Inquiry and Research Intern**

- Employed a multimedia approach, including journal articles, archived interviews, memoirs and documentaries to understand veterans' lived experiences of reintegration into civilian life.

**TEACHING/INDEPENDENT STUDY SUPERVISION**

Fall 2020 PSY395 Independent Research: Narrative Coding Research

Fall 2020 PSY395W: Upper Level Writing Placement in Psychology

Spring 2020 PSY395 Independent Research: Project HOPE Assistantship

**SERVICE TO THE UNIVERSITY**

2020 – Present **College Diversity Roundtable Member**  
University of Rochester

2020 – Present **Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Committee Member**  
Psychology Department, University of Rochester

2020 – Present **Graduate Liaison Committee Member, Welcome Subcommittee Chair**  
Psychology Department, University of Rochester

2020 – Present **Psychology Department Representative**  
Graduate Student Association, University of Rochester

2019 – Present **Internal Advisory Board Member**  
Translational Research that Adapts New Science for Maltreatment, Mt Hope Family Center

**LEADERSHIP & VOLUNTEER WORK**

2020 **Child Team Volunteer**

**Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder Family Nights, Mt Hope Family Center**

- Facilitated exploration and fostered self-regulation among young children with FASD

2019- 2020 **Graduate Writing Consultant**

**Writing, Speaking, and Argument Center, University of Rochester**

- Tutored undergraduate students in scientific writing and the broader writing process

2019-2020 **Alumni Interviewer**  
**Tulane University**

- Interview prospective students to help support a holistic application review process

2018- 2020 **Women-to-Women Mentor**

**Women-to-Women Mentoring Program, Newcomb College Institute**

- Served as alumni mentor to current students through a one-to-one matching program

- 2018- 2019 **Advisor**  
**Best Buddies, Tulane University**
  - Coached student leadership in connecting people with and without intellectual disabilities
- 2013- 2019 **Advisor, President, VP Membership, Pledge Class Fellowship Chair**  
**Alpha Phi Omega Co-Ed Service Fraternity, Tulane University**
  - Organized the largest community service organization on campus (~200 members)
- 2016 **Project Coordinator**  
**Outreach Tulane, Tulane University**
  - Promoted community engagement during Tulane’s annual day of service
- 2015- 2017 **Ambassador**  
**Greenwave Student Ambassadors, Tulane University**
  - Recruited incoming students to Tulane University and hosted campus tours
- 2015 **Enrichment Coordinator**  
**ImpACT Program, New Orleans Charter Science and Mathematics High School**
  - Wrote and implemented curriculum for an ACT crash course at a local high school
- 2014- 2015 **Summer Assistant**  
**Professional Field Services Extensions Programs, Aurora, IL**
  - Designed and administered STEM curriculum to students aged 9-14

## **TRAININGS**

- 2020 **Reflective Functioning Coding Training on the Parent Development Interview, PDI Training**  
*Institute, Yale Child Study Center*  
 Instructors: Arietta Slade, Ph.D., Elizabeth Graff, Ph.D., Melissa Ilardi, Ph.D.
- 2019 **Mom Power Parenting Intervention, Tulane University**  
 Instructors: Maria Muzik, Ph.D., Katie Rosenblum, Ph.D.
- 2019 **Introduction to Geographic Information Systems, Howard Tilton Memorial Library Research**  
*Workshops, Tulane University*  
 Instructor: Melissa Chomintra, MLIS, M.A.
- 2018 **The Impact of Immigration Enforcement Threat on Latino Children and Communities, Society**  
*for Research in Child Development (SRCD)*  
 Instructors: R. Gabriela Barajas-Gonzalez, Ph.D., Cecilia Ayón, Ph.D.
- 2018 **Neurochemistry of Trauma & Evidence Based Models of Recovery, Louisiana Alliance of**  
*Children’s Advocacy Centers (LACAC)*  
 Instructor: Thomas Mitchell, Board President of LACAC
- 2018 **Introduction to Text Analysis, Howard Tilton Memorial Library Research Workshops, Tulane**  
*University*  
 Instructor: Jane Pinzino, Ph.D.
- 2017 **Undoing Racism: The People’s Institute for Survival and Beyond, Tulane University**  
 Instructor: The People’s Institute Youth Agenda Staff
- 2017 **Geocoding and Georeferencing using ArcGIS, School of Public Health, Tulane University**  
 Instructor: Maeve Wallace, PhD; Erica Felker-Kantor, M.A., MSPH

## **ADDITIONAL RESEARCH SKILLS**

- **Software:** SPSS (& SPSS PROCESS macro), Mplus, ArcGIS, Graphpad Prism, Voyant Tools
- **Data Collection/Assessment:** Preschool Self-Regulation Assessment, Peabody Picture Vocabulary Test, Woodcock Johnson Tests of Cognitive Abilities, Insightfulness Assessment, Five Minute Speech Sample, Go/No Task, RSA, PEP, and GSR collection (Mindware Technologies), salivary cortisol collection
- **Coding:** Parent-Child Interaction Rating Scales, Preschool Self-Regulation Assessment behavioral coding, Maternal Interview on Child Maltreatment, Reflective Functioning on the Parent Development Interview
- **Other:** Protocol writing/IRB submission, participant recruitment/scheduling, systematic reviews, narrative coding scheme development, RA supervision