

Laurel M. Peterson

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Bryn Mawr College
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ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Bryn Mawr College, Bryn Mawr PA

Assistant Professor of Health Psychology, Department of Psychology, Aug 2014 – present

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh PA

Postdoctoral Fellow in Cardiovascular Behavioral Medicine, 2012 - 2014

Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Award (via NHLBI, PI: Karen Matthews, PhD)

Mentors: Dr. Thomas Kamarck, Behavioral Medicine Research Group and Dr. Rebecca Thurston, Women's Biobehavioral Health Laboratory

The George Washington University, Washington DC

Doctorate in Applied Social Psychology, 2012

Advisor: Dr. Michelle Stock

Dissertation: Impact of Television Media Depicting Sex Under The Influence of Alcohol on Cognitions Derived from The Prototype Willingness Model

Master's Thesis: Influence of Masculinity, Peer Norms, and Location of Healthcare Delivery on College Men's Seasonal Influenza Vaccination Cognitions

Dickinson College, Carlisle PA

BA in Psychology, Creative Writing Poetry Minor; summa cum laude with honors in Psychology, 2006

Study Abroad: Dickinson College Program for the Sciences at University of Queensland, Brisbane AU

Advisor: Dr. Marie Helweg-Larsen

Honors Thesis: Self-efficacy and Risk Perception: Psychological Variables of Women's Adherence over a 6-Week Weight Loss Program

PUBLICATIONS / MANUSCRIPTS IN PRESS *indicates undergraduate authorship

Peterson, L.M., Helweg-Larsen, M., Kimmel, S., & Volpp, K. (2012). Heart attack risk perception biases among hypertension patients: The role of educational level and worry. *Psychology & Health, 27*, 737-751. doi: 10.1080/08870446.2011.626856

Stock, M.L., **Peterson, L.M.**, Houlihan, A.E., & Walsh, L.A. (2012). Influence of oral sex and oral cancer information on young adults' oral sexual-risk cognitions and likelihood of HPV vaccination. *Journal of Sex Research, 50*, 95-102. doi: 10.1080/00224499.2011.642904

Stock, M.L., Litt, D.M., *Arlt, V., & **Peterson, L.M.**, & *Sommerville J. (2012). Impact of academic versus health-risk information on risk cognitions associated with nonmedical prescription stimulant use among college students. *British Journal of Health Psychology, 18*, 490-507. doi: 10.1111/j.2044-8287.2012.02087.x

Stock, M.L., Gibbons, F.X., **Peterson, L.M.**, & Gerrard, M. (2013). The effects of racial discrimination on the HIV-risk cognitions and behaviors of Black adolescents and young adults. *Health Psychology, 32*, 543-550. doi: 10.1037/a0028815

Walsh, L.A., Stock, M.L., **Peterson, L.M.**, & Gerrard, M. (2014). Women's sun protection cognitions in response to UV photography: The role of age, cognition, and affect. *Journal of Behavioral Medicine*, 37, 553-563. doi: 10.1007/s10865-013-9512-y

Waters, E.A., Kincaid, C., Kaufman, A.R., Stock, M.L., **Peterson, L.M.**, Muscanell, N.L., & Guadagno, R.E. (2014). Concerns about unintended negative consequences of informing the public about multifactorial risks may be premature for young adult smokers. *British Journal of Health Psychology*, in press.

MANUSCRIPTS UNDER REVIEW / IN PREPARATION

Peterson, L.M., Matthews, K.A., Derby, C.A., Bromberger, J.T., & Thurston, R.C. (under review). The relationship between cumulative unfair treatment and intima media thickness and adventitial diameter: The moderating role of race in The Study of Women's Health Across the Nation.

Peterson, L.M., Kamarck, T.W., et al. Race differences in diurnal cortisol functioning: Sleep quality as a mediator.

Stock, M.L., **Peterson, L.M.**, et al. The impact of racial discrimination on the cortisol stress-response and risky sexual and substance use cognitions.

PUBLISHED ABSTRACTS

Stock, M.L., Walsh, L., & **Peterson, L.M.** (2011). Sun protection cognitions in response to UV photography among adult women: Emotional versus cognitive thinking [Abstract]. *Annals of Behavioral Medicine*, 41, s158.

Peterson, L.M., & Stock, M.L. (2010). Impact of masculinity, norms, and location context on college men's seasonal influenza vaccination cognitions [Abstract]. *Annals of Behavioral Medicine*, 39, s179.

Walsh, L.W., Stock, M.L., & **Peterson, L.M.** (2010). The impact of sexual risk and informational interventions on women's likelihood of engaging in HPV vaccination, STD testing, and risky sex behaviors [Abstract]. *Annals of Behavioral Medicine*, 39, s34.

Peterson, L., & Stock, M.L. (2009). Influence of sexual risk, masculinity, and oral sex information on men's likelihood to receive the HPV vaccine [Abstract]. *Annals of Behavioral Medicine*, 37, s228.

PRESENTATIONS

Peterson, L.M. (2013, October). *Understanding the impact of racial discrimination on health: What methodological diversification can contribute*. Invited presentation through Center on Race and Social Problems Speaker Series, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA.

Waters, E.A., Janssen, E., Kaufman, A.R., **Peterson, L.M.**, Muscanell, N.L., Guadagno, R.E., & Stock, M.L. (2013, March). *Beliefs about nicotine addiction and perceptions of delayed harm of cigarette smoking: Implications for feelings of risk and intentions to quit*. In A. Kaufman (Chair), Approaches to Studying and Understanding Tobacco Risk Perceptions. Presentation to the Society of Behavioral Medicine, San Francisco, CA.

Graham, M., Forssell, S.L., Rima, B.A., & **Peterson, L.M.** (2009, August). *Reducing LGBT and other stigma in HIV/AIDS care settings*. Presented at the American Psychological Association Conference, Toronto, ON.

Peterson, L.M. (2006, May). *Self-efficacy and risk perception: Psychological variables of women's adherence over a 6-week weight loss program*. Presented at Research on Women Symposium, Carlisle, PA.

CONFERENCE POSTERS *indicates undergraduate authorship

- Peterson, L.M.**, Stock, M.L., & Zucker, A. (2014, February). *The independent contribution of racial discrimination to African American women's depression and sexual behavior: Investigating intersectional gender and racial discrimination*. Poster presented at the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, Austin, TX.
- *Khurana, A., **Peterson, L.M.**, & Stock, M.L. (2013, March). *Gender moderates the relationship between perceived racial discrimination and African Americans' hopelessness and risky health behavior*. Poster presented at the Eastern Psychological Association, New York, NY.
- Peterson, L.M.**, & Stock, M.L. (2013, January). *Media exposure and past sexual experience: College students' willingness to engage in sex under the influence of alcohol*. Poster presented at the Society for Personality and Social Psychology Conference, New Orleans, LA.
- Stock, M.L., & Gibbons, F.X., **Peterson, L.M.**, & Gerrard, M. (2012, July). *Racial discrimination and HIV-risk cognitions and behaviors among African American adolescents and young adults*. Poster presented at XIX International AIDS Conference, Washington, DC.
- Olsen, N., & **Peterson, L.M.** (2012, May). *Physician-attractiveness, gender, need-for-cognition, and masculinity: A dynamic approach to HPV prevention*. Poster presented at the Association for Psychological Sciences Conference, Chicago, IL.
- Waters, E.A., Kincaid, C.S., Stock, M.L., **Peterson, L.M.**, Kaufman, A., Muscanell, N.L., & Guadagno, R.E. (2012, April). *Limitations of using multifactorial genetic risk information to educate smokers about the risk of tobacco use*. Poster presented at the Society of Behavioral Medicine Conference, New Orleans, LA.
- Peterson, L.M.**, Stock, M.L., & Gibbons, F.X. (2012, January). *The effects of racial discrimination on the HIV-risk behaviors of African-American young adults*. Poster presented at the Society for Personality and Social Psychology Conference, San Diego, CA.
- Stock, M.L., Walsh, L., & **Peterson, L.M.** (2011, April). *Sun protective reactions to UV photography among older women: Emotional versus cognitive thinking*. Poster presented at Society of Behavioral Medicine Conference, Washington, DC.
- *Sommerville, J., **Peterson, L.M.**, & Stock, M.L. (2011, March). *Illicit prescription stimulant use cognitions: Differences between academic and social motivations*. Poster presented at the Eastern Psychological Association Conference, Cambridge, MA.
- Peterson, L.M.** & Stock, M.L. (2011, January). *Influence of gender and perceived vaccination norms on seasonal and H1N1 influenza cognitions*. Poster presented at the Society for Personality and Social Psychology Conference, San Antonio, TX.
- Peterson, L.M.**, & Stock, M.L. (2010, April). *Impact of masculinity, norms, and location context on college men's influenza vaccination cognitions*. Poster presented at the Society of Behavioral Medicine Conference, Seattle, WA.
- Walsh, L.W., Stock, M.L., & **Peterson, L.M.** (2010, April). *The impact of sexual risk and informational interventions on women's likelihood of engaging in HPV vaccination, STD testing, and risky sex behaviors*. Poster presented at the Society of Behavioral Medicine Conference, Seattle, WA.
- Peterson, L.M.**, Stock, M.L., & Gerrard, M. (2009, April). *Influence of sexual risk, masculinity, and oral sex information on men's likelihood to receive the HPV vaccine*. Poster presented at the Society of Behavioral Medicine Conference, Montreal, QC.

Peterson, L.M. (2007, May). *Self-efficacy and risk perception: Psychological variables of women's adherence over a 6-week weight loss program*. Poster presented at Association for Psychological Science Conference, Washington, DC.

Helweg-Larsen, M., **Peterson, L.M.**, Bettencourt, A., Kimmel, S., & Volpp, K. (2005, March). *Socio-economic status and race difference in optimistic bias among hypertensive patients*. Poster presented at Eastern Psychological Association Conference, Boston, MA.

Helweg-Larsen, M., Gurmankin, A., DiDominick, K., Meloni, A., **Peterson, L.M.**, Kimmel, S., Armstrong, K., & Volpp, K. (2004, April). *Comparative and absolute risk biases of heart attack and stroke among hypertensive patients*. Poster presented at the Eastern Psychological Association Conference, Washington, DC.

Bettencourt, A., Bushner, S., **Peterson, L.M.** (co-first authors), & Barber, T. (2004, April). *Increasing classroom recycling behavior: The effects of prompts, placement, and cues*. Poster presented at the Eastern Psychological Association Conference, Washington DC.

GRANTS, AWARDS, AND HONORS

Co-PI (w/ Dr. Nataria Joseph) Pilot Proposal from the Center on Race and Social Problems, University of Pittsburgh (\$10,000) "Investigating the Impact of African Americans' Experiences of Racial Discrimination on Ambulatory Blood Pressure and Health Risk Behaviors Using Ecological Momentary Assessment"
Best Poster, Postdoctoral Category, Health Disparities Poster Competition, University of Pittsburgh, School of Health Sciences for: Khurana, A., Peterson, L.M., & Stock, M.L. (2013, April). "Gender Moderates the Relationship Between Perceived Racial Discrimination and African Americans' Hopelessness and Risky Health Behavior."

Columbian Women Scholarship, The George Washington University, 2011-2012 Academic Year
National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship, honorable mention for "The Differences Between Theory of Planned Behavior and Prototype/Willingness Model in Predicting Sexual Risk Taking Behavior, Understanding the Role of Race and Masculinity," 2009 and 2008

Stephen Benson Endowed Fellowship for Excellence in the Psychological Sciences, 2006

Psi Chi Guilford Award for "Self-Efficacy and Risk Perception: Psychological Variables of Women's Adherence Over a 6-Week Weight Loss Program," 2006

Phi Beta Kappa

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Health Cognitions and Behavior Lab, The George Washington University, 2007 – 2012

PI: Michelle Stock, PhD

Conducted and authored collaborative experimental and longitudinal research on adolescent and adult populations on Prototype Willingness Model applied to substance use (alcohol, hard drugs, tobacco, prescription stimulants), sun protective behavior, HIV-risk behavior, and vaccination (HPV, H1N1, seasonal influenza)

Managed experiments examining discrimination on substance use, risky sex, and cortisol biomarkers among African Americans (N= 780), funded via NIDA and NIH

Trained, supervised, and mentored over 30 undergraduate research assistants – including undergraduate authorship on publications and posters, supervision of up to 12 volunteer and paid staff per project

Managed participant data collection (combined N > 3000) from community, laboratory, and online research studies, administered incentive budgets, and ensured data security and fidelity to ethical oversight of over a dozen IRB protocols

Assisted with preparation of NIH grant applications

Decisions Cognitions Affect Lab, The George Washington University, 2010 – 2012

PI: Nils Olsen, PhD

Conceptualized and authored collaborative experimental research on physician attractiveness, physician/patient gender concordance, and HPV vaccination decision-making
Developed facial symmetry stimuli, managed online data collection

Collaboration in Hypertension to Reduce Disparities Grant, Philadelphia Veterans Affairs, University of Pennsylvania, and Dickinson College, 2004 – 2006

Co-Investigators: Marie Helweg-Larsen, PhD, Kevin Volpp, MD, PhD, and Stephen Kimmel, MD, MSCE

Primary authored manuscript with multidisciplinary team of researchers investigating mediating role of worry in veterans' medical risk perception

Conducted qualitative interviews and administered surveys to veteran patients in VA hospital settings

Transcribed, cleaned, coded, and analyzed quantitative and qualitative data

Assisted with nutrition classes at public health center in North Philadelphia

Motivating the Obese to Value Exercise, University of Queensland, 2005

PI: Victor Pendleton, PhD

Analyzed existing anthropomorphic, behavioral, and psychosocial data

Performed background research on obesity/depression relationship

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Instructor

Health Psychology, The George Washington University, Summer 2011 and 2010

Guest Lecturer

General Psychology, The George Washington University, Fall 2011

Social Psychology, The George Washington University, Fall 2011

Teaching Assistant

Principles and Methods, The George Washington University, 2009

Social Psychology, The George Washington University, 2009, 2007

Health Psychology, The George Washington University, 2009

General Psychology, The George Washington University, 2008

Research Methods, The George Washington University, 2007, Dickinson College, 2006

MENTORED PAPERS

Levi Markel, "Exploring Discrimination and Discrimination Health Outcomes within Military and Veteran Populations: An Opportune Study Sample," University of Pittsburgh, Spring 2014

Brianna Crayton, "The Impact of Racial Discrimination on the Mental Health of African American Youth," University of Pittsburgh, Spring 2014

Jhanelle DeLisser, "Health Disparities within the Black Diaspora: African Americans and Afro-Caribbeans," University of Pittsburgh, Fall 2013

Hannah During, "Media Exposure as a Predictor of Risky Sexual Behavior and Alcohol Use among African American and White Adolescents," The George Washington University, Spring 2012

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Research Assistant, Walter R. McDonald and Associates, 2008, Rockville MD

Assessed and developed plans to improve a stigma-reduction program funded by a Department of Health grant using a variety of data analysis tools

Authored literature review analyzing evidence-based stigma-reduction interventions on HIV/AIDS epidemic, for use by National Minority AIDS Council

Presented scientific assessment of programs to contractors, project officers at HIV/AIDS Bureau of Department of Health, and stakeholders at Ryan White conference

Program Coordinator/Policy Analyst, Mental Health America/National Association of Mental Health Planning and Advisory Councils, 2005-2007, Alexandria VA

Presented scientific standards of mental health interventions to diverse stakeholders (i.e., state government, business, citizens, and community members living with a mental health diagnosis)

Co-authored reports various mental health topics (e.g., rural mental health policy and evidence-based treatment) for system planning and implementation by state councils

Managed day-to-day operations including contracts (bidding, management and reporting), finances, meeting planning and facilitation, coalition campaigns, product orders, listserv, website, and intern supervision

Tracked and analyzed mental health legislation, assisted in on-site action planning for state advocates

SERVICE

Ad-hoc Reviewer: *Health Psychology, Women and Health*

Graduate/Post-Doctoral Committee Representative, Social Personality and Health Network, 2012-2014

Chair committee of graduate and trainee representatives, serve on SPHN leadership committee as liaison, lead SPHN organization's social media presence, organize and coordinate volunteers for SPHN scientific preconference at annual SPSP conference

Journal Club Coordinator, Cardiovascular Behavioral Medicine Journal Club, 2013-2014

Organized bimonthly journal club for interdisciplinary professors, postdocs, and graduate students affiliated with NHLBI T-32 grant

Reviewer and Judge, April 2014, University of Pittsburgh Department of Psychology Diversity Committee, Day of Diversity Poster Session

Mentor, February 2014, The Liberal Arts Academic Job Search for Health Psychologists, Social Personality and Health Network Lunchtime Mentoring Session

MEMBERSHIPS (current and past)

Society for the Teaching of Psychology

Social Personality and Health Network

Association for Psychological Sciences

Society of Personality and Social Psychology

Society of Behavioral Medicine

Society for the Scientific Study of Sexuality

COMPUTER KNOWLEDGE

Statistical software (SPSS/PASW, SAS), questionnaire-design software (MediaLab, SurveyMonkey), bibliography publishing software (RefWorks, Zotero), editing freeware (GIMP), video editing software (handbrake, I-Movie), exclusion-based stress paradigm open source software (Cyberball), Blackboard