

Kathryn D. Schuler

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Academic Appointments

2017-present Assistant Professor of Linguistics
University of Pennsylvania
Philadelphia, PA

Education

2017 PhD, Interdisciplinary Program in Neuroscience
Concentration in Cognitive Science
Georgetown University
Washington, DC

2010 BA, Brain and Cognitive Sciences
University of Rochester
Rochester, NY

Research Interests

My research is focused on understanding how children acquire language. To do this, I investigate (1) how children use the statistics in language input to acquire grammatical rules, (2) whether general cognitive or neural biases can explain the acquisition process, and (3) whether developmental changes in these biases can explain why children seem to be optimally suited for acquiring language.

Honors & Awards

2017 Paula Menyuk Travel Award (declined)
Boston University Conference on Language Development

2016 Robert J. Glushko and Pamela Samuelson Foundation Travel Award
Cognitive Science Society

2012 Cognitive Science Fellowship (declined)
Northwestern University

2002-2006 New York Leaders of Tomorrow Scholarship
New York State Lottery

2002-2004 Salutatorian Scholarship
Elmira College

2002 Frederick Douglass and Susan B. Anthony Award in Humanities and Social Sciences
University of Rochester

Publications

1. Austin, A., Schuler, K.D., Furlong, S. & Newport, E.L. (under review) Learning a language from inconsistent input: Regularization in child and adult learners. *Language Learning and Development*

2. Fama, M.E., Schuler, K.D., Newport, E.L., & Turkeltaub, P.E. (under review) Impacts of healthy aging and left hemisphere stroke on statistical language learning. *Journal of Cognitive Neuroscience*
3. Schuler, K.D., Lukens, K., Reeder, P.A., Newport, E.L. & Aslin, R.N. (under review) Children can use distributional cues to acquire grammatical categories. *Cognition*.
4. Culbertson, J.C. & Schuler, K.D. (2019). Artificial language learning in children. *Annual Review of Linguistics*.
5. Schuler, K.D., Reeder, P.A., Newport, E.L., & Aslin, R.N. (2017) The effect of Zipfian frequency variations on category formation in adult artificial language learning. *Language Learning and Development*.
6. Schuler, K.D., Yang, C. & Newport, E.L. (2016). Testing the Tolerance Principle: Children form productive rules when it is more computationally efficient to do so. In Papafragou, A., Grodner, D., Mirman, D., & Trueswell, J.C. (Eds.) *Proceedings of the 38th annual meeting of the cognitive science society*. Austin, TX: Cognitive Science Society.
7. Schwab, J.F., Schuler, K.D., Stillman, C.M., Newport, E.L. Howard, J.H., & Howard, D.V. (2016) Aging and the Statistical Learning of Grammatical Form Classes. *Psychology and Aging*, 2016, 31, 481-487.
8. Booth, A.E., Schuler, K., & Zajicek, R. (2010). Specifying the role of function in infant categorization. *Infant Behavior and Development*, 33(4), 672-684.

Presentations

1. Booth, A.E., Zajicek, R.L. & Schuler, K.D. (2010) *How does function facilitate early categorization? Not by enhancing attention alone*. Poster presented at the International Conference on Infant Studies.
2. Schwab, J.F., Schuler, K.D., Stillman, C.M., Newport, E.L., Howard, J.H. Jr., & Howard, D.V. (2013). *Aging and the statistical learning of grammatical form classes*. Poster presented at the annual Association for Psychological Science Convention. Washington, DC.
3. Schuler, K.D., Newport, E.L. (2015) *Using growth curve analysis to model the time-course of learning in serial reaction time tasks*. Poster presented at Georgetown Student Research Day. Washington, DC.
4. Fama, M.E., Schuler, K.D., Spiegel, K.A., Lacey, E.H., Newport, E.L., & Turkeltaub, P.E. (2015) *The effects of healthy aging and left hemisphere stroke on statistical language learning*. Poster presented at Georgetown Student Research Day. Washington, DC.
5. Schuler, K.D., Aslin, R.N., Newport, E.L. (2015) *The time-course of statistical learning across development: Word segmentation and syntax in a serial reaction time task*. Poster presented at the Boston University Conference on Language Development. Boston, MA
6. Fama, M.E., Schuler, K.D., Spiegel, K.A., Lacey, E.H., Newport, E.L., & Turkeltaub, P.E. (2015) *The effects of healthy aging and left hemisphere stroke on statistical language learning*. Poster presented at the Society for the Neurobiology of Language Conference. Chicago, IL
7. Schuler, K.D., Davis, J., Yang, C., Newport, E.L. (2015) *Testing the tolerance principle for rule productivity in an artificial grammar*. Poster Presented at the 9th Biennial Meeting of the Cognitive Development Society. Columbus, OH
8. Schuler, K.D., Yang, C. & Newport, E.L (2016) *Children form productive rules when it is more computationally efficient to do so*. Poster presented at the Boston University Conference on Language Development, Boston, MA
9. Schuler, K.D., Horowitz, J.E., Yang, C., Newport, E.L. (2017) *The Sufficiency Principle: Predicting when children will regularize inconsistent language variation*. Poster presented at the 39th annual meeting of the Cognitive Science Society.
10. Schuler, K.D., Fama, M.E., Turkeltaub, P.E., & Newport, E.L. (2017) *The time-course of statistical learning in patients with left hemisphere stroke*. Poster presented at the 9th annual meeting of the Society for the Neurobiology of Language.

11. Schuler, K.D., Horowitz, J.E., Yang, C., Newport, E.L. (2017) *The threshold for regularization: When children will and will not regularize inconsistent language input*. Poster presented at the 10th biennial meeting of the Cognitive Development Society.
12. Schuler, K.D., Horowitz, J.E., Yang, C., Newport, E.L. (2017) *The threshold for regularization: When children will and will not regularize inconsistent language input*. Talk presented at the 41st annual Boston University Conference on Language Development.
13. Irani, A. & Schuler, K.D (2019) Children can acquire verb argument structure with sufficient positive evidence. BUCLD.

Invited Talks

- 2019 Invited speaker, Science Cafe, University of Pennsylvania
 Colloquium, Department of Linguistics, NYU
 Invited speaker, Center for Teaching and Learning graduate student workshop, University of Pennsylvania
 Invited panelist, Preparing for Your First Year as a Faculty Member or Postdoc
- 2018 Seminar, Integrated Language Science and Technology, University of Pennsylvania
 Seminar, Developmental Group Meeting, University of Pennsylvania
 Seminar, Center for Autism Research science meeting, CHOP
 Invited speaker, Penn's Undergraduate Summer Workshop in Interdisciplinary Mind and Brain Studies
 Invited speaker, Career development workshop, University of Pennsylvania
- 2016 Seminar, Common Ground, Institute for Research on Cognitive Science, University of Pennsylvania.

Teaching & Mentoring

University of Pennsylvania

- Sp 2020 Instructor, LING 001 Intro to Linguistics
 Fa 2019 Instructor, LING 504 Neurolinguistics
 Sp 2018, 2019 Instructor, LING 607 Topics in Psycholinguistics
 Fa 2018, 2019 Instructor, LING 104 Language and the Brain
 Fa 2018 Instructor, LING 507 Principles of Experiment Design

Georgetown University

- 2015, 2016 Course organizer and TA, ICOS 202 Research Modules in Cognitive Science
 2015 Course organizer and TA, ICOS 201 Introduction to Cognitive Science

Mentoring

- PhD Students *Advisees:* Yiran Chen. *Dissertation:* Nattanun Chanchaochai and Ava Irani. *Dissertation proposal:* Spencer Caplan, Hong Zhang, Ava Creemers, Ava Irani, and Nattanun Chanchaochai. *Qualifying paper:* Ollie Sayeed, Nikita Bezrukov and Andrea Ceolin.
- Undergrads *University Scholars:* Stephan Prophristic. *Research Assistants:* Annalise Kendrick, Nate Serio, Heesun Yeom, Madison Reasnor, Jasmine Raj, Alberta Massey, Madison Connelly, and Jessica Burke. *Honors thesis:* Sarah Nam, Jessie Schwab and John Davis.

Service

Department

- 2019 Graduate admissions committee
 2018 Organizer and instructor, 4-day psychopy bootcamp
 2015 Organizer and instructor, MATLAB basics tutorial for IPN students, faculty, and staff (Georgetown)
 2012-2014 Organizer, Functional and Neuroanatomical Imaging Group journal club (Georgetown)

University

- 2019 Faculty Facilitator, Owning your own educational story at Penn (first-gen initiative)
 2018 Fulbright faculty committee

Field

Reviewing *Journals*: Memory and Cognition, Language Learning and Development, Cognitive Science, Cognition, and Language Learning. *Conferences*: Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society, BUCLD, PLC.

Memberships International Congress of Infant Studies, Cognitive Development Society, Cognitive Science Society, Society for Research on Child Development

Community

2014, 2015 Science Fair Judge, Key elementary school, Washington, DC

2014 Group guide, Brain Awareness Week, Hardy middle school, Washington, DC