

## CURRICULUM VITA

**Sarah M. Merrill, Ph.D.**

August 2024

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Citizenship: U.S.A.

### **Academic Positions**

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|--------------|---|
| 2023-Present | Postdoctoral Research Fellow<br>Department of Psychiatry and Human Behavior<br>The Warren Alpert Medical School at Brown University   |
| 2018-2023    | Postdoctoral Research Fellow<br>Dr. Michael Kobor, Department of Medical Genetics<br>British Columbia Children's Hospital Research Institute<br>University of British Columbia                                    |
| 2010-2012    | Research Coordinator<br>Department Administrator for Research Budgeting, Research<br>Undergraduate Advising, Research Activities, & the<br>Institutional Review Board<br>Wellesley College, Psychology Department |

### **Education**

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| 2018 Ph.D. | Cornell University, Developmental Psychology |
| 2014 M.A.  | Cornell University, Developmental Psychology |
| 2010 B.A.  | Wellesley College, Neuroscience & Psychology |

### **Non-Academic Positions**

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| 2018-2020 | Contract Data Analyst and Statistical Consultant for <i>Excelerate</i> |
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### **Awards, Grants, and Fellowships**

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| 2024-2029 | CIHR Operating Grant, Co-Investigator: "Experiential and Epigenetic Pathways to Depression and Resilience in Youth", University of Calgary |
| 2024-2027 | Novo Nordisk Fonden, Co-Investigator: "Promoting Health in Children from Families with Complex Psychosocial Problems: An evaluation of the |

- ATTACH™ program in Three Danish municipalities”, Københavns Universitet
- 2022-28 CIHR Health Research Training Platform Grant Recipient, Co-Investigator and Research Partner, “Alliance against Violence and Adversity (AVA) Training Platform: Health and Social Service Research Training Platform for System and Population Transformations in Girls’ and Women’s Health”. PI: Nicole Letourneau, U of Calgary (CIHR Health Research Training Platform, \$2.55 million, U of C Faculty of Nursing, \$30,000, U of C Vice-President Research Office, \$60,000)
- 2021-22 CIHR COVID-19 Grant Recipient, Co-Investigator, “Epigenetic Impacts of COVID-19 Pandemic Chronic Stress on Youth: A Prospective Investigation of DNA methylation”. PI: Nicole Letourneau, U of Calgary (\$149,761)
- 2020-2025 CIHR Project Grant Recipient, Grant Writer and Co-Investigator, “Childhood Epigenetic Age Deviations and Developmental Differences (CEAD3)”. PI: Michael S. Kobor, U of British Columbia (\$1,272,263)
- 2019-2024 CIHR-SPOR Grant Recipient, Co-Investigator, “Attachment and Child Health (ATTACH™) Program: Promoting Vulnerable Children’s Health at Scale”. PI: Nicole Letourneau, U of Calgary (\$1,047,984)
- 2018 Social Exposome Cluster Trainee Research Award, UBC
- 2017 Eastwood, Ruth Ada Birk Scholarship, Cornell Fellowship Funding
- 2014-2017 National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship Recipient, Cornell University
- 2014 American Institute of Bisexuality Grant Award Recipient, Co-Grant Writer, “Biology, Prevalence, and Mental Health of Bisexual Men”, \$20,000, Cornell University
- 2013 Kinsey Institute Graduate Grant Award Recipient, Grant Writer and Principal Investigator, “Formation of Partner Preference Templates”, \$5,000, Cornell University
- 2013 National Science Foundation Graduate Fellowship Honorable Mention, Cornell University
- 2012-2013 Cornell University Fellowship, Cornell University

**Pending Extramural Research Grants**

2025–2030                      NIMH R01                      **Merrill & Brick (MPI)**  
 Epigenetics and intervention: Effects of a resilience-building RCT among refugees and non-displaced adolescents in Jordan on DNA methylation  
 Role: Principal Investigator

2025-2029                      Novo Nordisk Fonden Grant                      Smith-Nelson  
 Investigating Effects on Disrupted Parenting & Biomarkers of Stress in Children and Mechanisms Of Change  
 Role: Co-Investigator

**Publications**

**Merrill, S.M.\***, Sullivan, A.D.W\*, Konwar, C., Coccia, M., Rivera, L., MacIsaac, J.L., Epel, E., Lieberman, A.F., Kobor, M.S., & Bush, N.R. (2024). Intervening after trauma: Child-Parent Psychotherapy treatment associates with lower pediatric epigenetic age acceleration. *Psychological Science*. In Press. \***Equal Contributions**

England-Mason, G., **Merrill, S. M.**, Liu, J., Martin, J. W., MacDonald, A. M., Kinniburgh, D. W., Gladish, N., MacIsaac, J.L., Giesbrecht, G.F., Letourneau, N., Kobor, M.S. & Dewey, D. (2024). Sex-Specific Associations between Prenatal Exposure to Bisphenols and Phthalates and Infant Epigenetic Age Acceleration. *Epigenomes*, 8(3), 31. <https://doi.org/10.3390/epigenomes8030031>

Bozack, A. K., **Merrill, S. M.**, & Cardenas, A. (2024). Epigenetic Biomarkers for Understanding Adverse Experiences and Health. *JAMA Network Open*, 7(8), e2427070-e2427070. doi:10.1001/jamanetworkopen.2024.27070  
<https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jamanetworkopen/article-abstract/2822158>

Hogan, C. M., **Merrill, S. M.**, Valencia, E. H., McHayle, A. A., Sisitsky, M. D., McDermott, J. M., & Parent, J. (2024). The Impact of Early Life Adversity on Peripubertal Accelerated Epigenetic Aging and Psychopathology. *Journal of the American Academy of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry*.  
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jaac.2024.04.019>

**Merrill, S. M.**, Hogan, C., Bozack, A. K., Cardenas, A., Comer, J. S., Bagner, D. M., Highlander, A. & Parent, J. (2024). Telehealth Parenting Program and Salivary Epigenetic Biomarkers in Preschool Children With Developmental Delay: NIMHD Social Epigenomics Program. *JAMA Network Open*, 7(7), e2424815-e2424815. doi:10.1001/jamanetworkopen.2024.24815  
<https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jamanetworkopen/fullarticle/2821610>

- Schaffner, S. L., Casazza, W., Artaud, F., Konwar, C., **Merrill, S. M.**, Domenighetti, C., ... & DIGPD Study Group. (2024). Genetic variation and pesticide exposure influence blood DNA methylation signatures in females with early-stage Parkinson's disease. *npj Parkinson's Disease*, *10*(1), 98.  
<https://www.nature.com/articles/s41531-024-00704-3>
- Fu, M. P., Sharma, M., **Merrill, S. M.**, Yousefi, P., Tan, R., Modi, B. P., ... & Biggs, C. M. (2023). Human ASXL1 Deficiency Causes Epigenetic Dysfunction, Combined Immunodeficiency and EBV-Associated Hodgkin Lymphoma. *medRxiv*, 2023-12.  
<https://www.medrxiv.org/content/10.1101/2023.12.20.23300096v1>
- Merrill, S. M.**, Letourneau, N., Giesbrecht, G. F., Edwards, K., MacIsaac, J. L., Martin, J. W., MacDonald, A.M., Kinniburgh, D.W., Kobor, M.S., Dewey, D., England-Mason, G. & APRON Study Team. (2024). Sex-Specific Associations between Prenatal Exposure to Di (2-ethylhexyl) Phthalate, Epigenetic Age Acceleration, and Susceptibility to Early Childhood Upper Respiratory Infections. *Epigenomes*, *8*(1), 3. doi: [10.3390/epigenomes8010003](https://doi.org/10.3390/epigenomes8010003)
- Chan, M.H.M., **Merrill, S.M.**, Fatima, F., MacIsaac, J.L., Obradovic, J., Boyce, W.T., & Kobor, M.S. (2023). Cross-Tissue Specificity of Pediatric DNA Methylation Associated with Cumulative Family Adversity. *bioRxiv*, 2023-10.  
<https://www.biorxiv.org/content/10.1101/2023.10.04.559423v1>
- Chan, M.H.M., **Merrill, S.M.**, Konwar, C., & Kobor, M.S. (2023). An integrative framework of recommended practices for the study of DNA methylation in the context of race and ethnicity. *Discover Social Science and Health*, *3*(1), 9. PMID: 37122633. <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s44155-023-00039-z>
- Fu, M.P., **Merrill, S.M.**, Sharma, M., Gibson, W.T., Turvey, S., & Kobor, M.S. (2023). Rare disease of epigenetic origin: Challenges and opportunities. *Frontiers in Genetics*, *14*. PMID: 36814905.  
<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC9939656/>
- Merrill, S.M.**, Gladish, N., Konwar, C., Moore, S.R., Giesbrecht, G.F., MacIsaac, J.L., Letourneau, N.L., & Kobor, M.S. (2023). Associations of Toddler Attachment Disorganization and Security with Peripheral Tissue DNA Methylation and Estimated Cell Type Differences During Infancy. *Attachment and Human Development*, *1*, 1-30. PMID: 34196256.  
<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/34196256/>
- Engelbrecht H, **Merrill, S.M.**, Gladish, N. MacIsaac, J.L., Lin, D.T.S., Ecker, S., Chrysohoou, C.A., Pes, G.M., Kobor, M.S.\*, & Rehkopf, D.H.\* (2022). Sex differences in epigenetic age in Mediterranean high longevity regions. *Frontiers*

- in Aging*, 3, 1007098. PMID: 36506464. \**Equal Contributions*  
<https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/fragi.2022.1007098/full>
- Gomaa, N., Konwar, C., Gladish, N., Au-Young, S.H., Guo, T., Sheng, M., **Merrill, S.M.**, Kelly, E., Chau, V., Branson, H.M., Ly, L.G., Duerden, E.G., Grunau, R.E., Kobor, M.S.\*, & Miller, S.P.\* (2022). Association of pediatric buccal epigenetic age acceleration with adverse neonatal brain growth and neurodevelopmental outcomes among children born very preterm with a neonatal infection. *JAMA Network Open*, 5(11), e2239796-e2239796. PMID: 36322087. \**Equal Contribution*.  
<https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jamanetworkopen/fullarticle/2798099>
- Gladish, N., **Merrill, S.M.**, & Kobor, M.S. (2022). Childhood trauma and epigenetics: State of the science and future. *Current Environmental Health Reports*, 1-12. PMID: 36242743. <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s40572-022-00381-5>
- Lubna, A., Letourneau, N., Ross, K... **Merrill, S.M.**, Pociuk, S., Taylor, S. Cole, S., Murphy, T., Marchment, T., Xavier, V., Shajani, Z., & West, W. (2022). Study protocol for Attachment & Child Health (ATTACHTM) program: promoting vulnerable Children’s health at scale. *BMC pediatrics*, 22(1), 1-18.  
<https://link.springer.com/article/10.1186/s12887-022-03439-3>
- England-Mason, G.\*, **Merrill, S.M.\***, Gladish, N., Moore, S.R., Giesbrecht, G.F., MacIsaac, J.L., Letourneau, N.L., Kobor, M.S., & Dewey, D. (2022). Prenatal exposure to phthalates and peripheral blood and buccal epithelial DNA methylation in infants: an epigenome-wide association study. *Environmental International*, 163:107183. PMID: 35325772. \**Equal Contributions*  
<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S016041202200109X>
- Konwar, C., Asiimwe, R., Inkster, A. M., **Merrill, S. M.**, Negri, G. L., Aristizabal, M. J., Rider, C.F., Carlsten, C., MacIsaac, J.L., & Kobor, M. S. (2021). Risk-focused Differences in Molecular Processes Implicated in SARS-CoV-2 Infection: Corollaries in DNA Methylation and Gene Expression. *Epigenetics and Chromatin*, 14(1):54. PMID: 34895312. [https://assets.researchsquare.com/files/rs-764250/v1\\_covered.pdf?c=1639256318](https://assets.researchsquare.com/files/rs-764250/v1_covered.pdf?c=1639256318)
- Moore, S.R., **Merrill, S.M.**, Sekhon, B., Giesbrecht, G.F., MacIsaac, J.L., Kobor, M.S. & Letourneau, N.L. (2021). Infant DNA methylation: An early indicator of intergenerational trauma? *Early Human Development*, 105519. PMID: 34890904.  
<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S0378378221002188>
- Schmidt, K.L., **Merrill, S.M.**, Gill, R., Gadermann, A.M., Miller, G.E., & Kobor, M.S. (2021). Society to cell: How child poverty gets “under the skin” to influence child

- development and lifelong health. *Developmental Review*, 61, 100983.  
<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0273229721000381>
- Merrill, S.M.**, Moore, S.R., Gladish, N., Giesbrecht, G.F., Dewey, D., Konwar, C., MacIsaac, J.L., Kobor, M.S., & Letourneau, N.L. (2021). Paternal adverse childhood experiences: Associations with infant DNA methylation. *Developmental Psychobiology*, 63(6), e22174. PMID: 34333774.  
<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/34333774/>
- Ferguson, M.A., Schaper, F.L.W.V.J., Cohen, A., Siddiqi, S., **Merrill, S.M.**, Grafman, J., Urgesi, C., Fabbro, F. & Fox, M.D. (2021). A human brain circuit for spirituality and religiosity. *Biological Psychiatry*, 91(4):380-388. PMID: 34454698.  
<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/34454698/>
- Merrill, S.M.**, Gladish, N., & Kobor, M.S. (2019). Epigenetics and Social Environment. In E.B. Binder & T. Klengel (Eds.), *Current Topics in Behavioral Neurogenomics* (1<sup>st</sup> ed.). Switzerland: Springer International Publishing, [PMID:31485989](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/31485989/).
- Merrill, S. M.** (2017). Sexual Identity. In T.K. Shackelford & V.A. Weekes-Shackelford (Eds.) *Encyclopedia of Evolutionary Psychological Science* (1<sup>st</sup> ed.). Switzerland: Springer International Publishing,  
[https://www.researchgate.net/publication/313497030\\_Sexual\\_Identity](https://www.researchgate.net/publication/313497030_Sexual_Identity).
- Merrill, S. M.**, Stief, M. C., & Savin-Williams, R. C., (2016). LGBTQ umbrella. In A.E. Goldberg (Ed.) *The SAGE encyclopedia of LGBTQ studies*. Thousand Oaks, CA: SAGE Publications.
- Stief, M. C., **Merrill, S. M.**, & Savin-Williams, R. C., (2016). Sexual identity labels. In A.E. Goldberg (Ed.) *The SAGE encyclopedia of LGBTQ studies*. Thousand Oaks, CA: SAGE Publications.
- Zayas, V., **Merrill, S.**, & Hazan, C. (2015). Fooled around and fell in love: The role of sex in adult romantic attachment formation. In J. A. Simpson & W. S. Rholes (Eds.), *Attachment theory and research: New directions and emerging themes* (pp. 68-96). New York, NY, US: Guilford Press,  
<http://psycnet.apa.org/record/2015-13436-003>.
- Rieger, G., Cash, B.M., **Merrill, S.M.**, Jones-Rounds, J., Dharmavaram, S.M., Savin-Williams, R.C. (2015). Sexual arousal: The correspondence of eyes and genitals. *Biological Psychology*, 104, 56-64,  
<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0301051114002506>.

### **Publications Under Review**

Fu, M.P., **Merrill, S.M.**, & Kobor, M.S. (Revise & Resubmit). Accounting for inter-sample cellular heterogeneity in DNA methylation data in population studies. [*STAR Protocols*].

**Merrill, S.M.\***, Konwar, C.\* Fatima, F., MacIsaac, J.L., Letourneau, N.L., Dewey, D., England-Mason, G., Bush, N.R., Lewis, C.R., Gonzalez, A., Stewart, E.S., & Kobor, M.S. (Revise & Resubmit). Pediatric buccal epithelial cell proportions decrease reliably with age: Considerations for PedBE and evidence from associations with childhood health. [*Nature Communications*]. \**Equal Contributions*

**Merrill, S. M.**, Konwar, C., Frihat, Z., Parent, J., Dajani, R. (Revise & Resubmit). Biologically adaptive approaches to trauma: A framework of understanding molecular plasticity in intervention. [*Cell Med*].

### **Papers in Preparation for Submission**

**Merrill, S.M.**, Gladish, N., Konwar, C., Moore, S.R., Giesbrecht, G.F., MacIsaac, J.L., Letourneau, N.L., & Kobor, M.S. *In preparation for submission*. Associations of Buccal epithelial cell DNA methylation during infancy with toddler attachment disorganization reflect molecular signatures of childhood trauma, for *Development and Psychopathology*.

**Merrill, S.M.**, Zhang, B., Chan, M., Lin, D., Konwar, C., MacIsaac, J.L., Kobor, M.S., & Gettler, L. *In preparation for submission*. Peer evaluations of parental conflict associate with differential DNA methylation regions related to growth in children from the Congo Basin Bandongo Tribe, for *Biological Anthropology*.

### **Selected Conference Presentations**

Merrill, S.M & Bush, N.R. [Co-Chairs] (March 2023). Stopping the Clock: Evidence Suggests Psychosocial Interventions Attenuate Pediatric Biological Age Acceleration. Society for Research on Child Development (SRCD), Salt Lake City, UT, USA.

Merrill, S.M. (2022, July). The Biological Embedding of Attachment as Investigated Through DNA Methylation. Invited Talk for the Society for Emotion and Attachment Studies (SEAS) Special Interest Group on the Social Neuroscience of Human Attachment (SoNeAt), University of Essex, UK.

Merrill, S.M. Gladish, N., Konwar, C., Moore, S.R., Giesbrecht, G.F., MacIsaac, J.L., Letourneau, N.L., & Kobor, M.S. (2021, August). Associations of Toddler Attachment Disorganization and Security with Peripheral Tissue DNA Methylation and Estimated Cell Type Differences During Infancy. Talk

- presented at the Integrating Genomics and Social Sciences (IGSS) Conference, Boulder, Colorado.
- Merrill, S.M. & Hazan, C. (2019, August) An Exploration of the Progression from Infatuation to Attachment in Adult Romantic Relationships. Poster presented at the 19th European Conference on Developmental Psychology, Athens, Greece.
- Merrill, S. M., Hazan, C., Laurita, A., Surenkok, G., & Zayas, V. (2015, May). Appetitive and Consumatory Reward Perceptions Act as Markers of Attachment. Poster to be presented at the annual meeting of the Association for Psychological Science, New York, NY.
- Merrill, S.M., Laurita, A.C., Hazan, C, & Zayas, V. (2015, May). Bases of Adult Attachment. Symposium participation oral presentation at the annual meeting of the Association for Psychological Science, New York, NY.
- Merrill, S.M., Hazan, C., & Savin-Williams, R.C. (2015, August). A Loaded Question: An analysis of the creation and content of types. Oral presentation at the annual meeting of the International Academy of Sex Research, Toronto, CA.
- Merrill, S.M., Hazan, C., Rieger, G., Cash, B., & Savin-Williams, R. (2016, November). Sex, love, & genitalia: The moderating effect of sociosexuality on physiological measures of arousal. In J. Rubin (Chair), What Women Want: Exploring Women's Agency in Their Sexual Pleasure. Symposium conducted at the annual meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Sexuality, Phoenix, AZ.
- Merrill, S.M. & Hazan, C. (2019, August) An Exploration of the Progression from Infatuation to Attachment in Adult Romantic Relationships. Poster presented at the 19th European Conference on Developmental Psychology, Athens, Greece.

### **Research Experience**

- Postdoctoral Fellow, Social Epigenetics Lab, University of British Columbia, Dr. Michael Kobor, November 2018 – Present
- Graduate Student, Adult Attachment Lab, Cornell University, Dr. Cindy Hazan, August 2013 – 2018
- Graduate Student, Sex and Gender Lab, Cornell University, Dr. Ritch Savin-Williams, August 2012 - 2018
- Research Assistant, Harvard University Psychology Department, Dr. Mahzarin Banaji, October 2011-July 2012
- Research Coordinator, Wellesley College Psychology Department, August 2010-July 2012
- Teaching Assistant, Wellesley College Child Study Center, September 2009-May 2010

### **Technical Skills**



R, R Studio, Bash, Docker, SPSS, Plink, Genome Studio, High Dimensional Data Manipulation & Statistics, DNA Methylation Array Preprocessing and Analysis, Genetic Array Preprocessing and Analysis, Statistical Analysis (Frequentist/Bayesian), Robust Modeling, Multilevel Modeling, Machine Learning Techniques (e.g., Feature Selection with Filter, Wrapper, and Embedded Methods), PsychoPy, Inquisit, Acqknowledge, Sawtooth, REDCap, Qualtrics, OBS, Final Cut Pro, Adobe Suite, Zoom, Slack, Canvas, Blackboard, Workday, Microsoft Office

### **Service & Outreach**

- RA Professional Development Program, Postdoctoral Volunteer, Brown University
- Alliance Against Violence and Adversity (AVA) Health Research Training Platform (Instructor, Course Development) <https://avatraining.ca/>
- BC Children’s Hospital Research (BCCHR) Mini-Medical School Trainee Mentor
- UBC Social Exposome Steering Committee (Trainee Representative/Event Organizer)
- BCCHR Healthy Starts Theme Review Committee (Postdoctoral Representative)
- BCCHR Trainee Interview Committee (Postdoctoral Representative)
- BCCHR Social Epigenetics Journal Club (Founder/Organizer)
- BCCHR Shared Working Analysis Group (Founder/Organizer/Speaker)
- BCCHR Trainee “Omics” Working Group (Speaker/Tutor)
- UBC Biostatistics Journal Club (Speaker/Organizer)
- BCCHR International Gairdner Symposium for Students Volunteer (Group Leader)
- BCCHR Healthy Starts Research Day (Volunteer Speaker/Visiting Scholar Host)
- Cornell University's Open Science Study Group (Founder/Organizer)
- Cornell Graduate Studies Committee (Graduate Student Representative)
- Cornell Graduate Interview Planning Committee (Graduate Student Representative)
- National Science Foundation Graduate Fellowship Writing Group (Fellow Mentor)
- Cornell University Brown Bag Data Blitz (Graduate Student Representative)
- Cornell First Year Seminar in Applying for Funding (Lecturer/Organizer 2013-2017)
- Peer Educator in Gender and Sexuality (PEGS)
- Cornell LGBT Resource Center Volunteer Member
- IvyQ (LGBTQ+ in the Ivies) Invited Presenter on Development of Sexuality Identity

### **Media Appearances**

- BBC One’s *The Why Factor* (<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/w3csvgfj>)
- *The Luminous Brain* Podcast (<https://www.luminousbrain.com/2018/04/26/episode-8-sex-bonding-attachment-part-1-of-2/>)
- *Nerve* via BuzzFeed ([https://www.buzzfeed.com/refinery29/meet-the-modern-day-masters-of-sex-1aeh?utm\\_term=.enzGDPYmM#dbbBPAJkQ](https://www.buzzfeed.com/refinery29/meet-the-modern-day-masters-of-sex-1aeh?utm_term=.enzGDPYmM#dbbBPAJkQ))
- *Esquire* ([https://www.keziahweir.com/uploads/8/3/5/4/83546240/elm050115esquire\\_3.pdf](https://www.keziahweir.com/uploads/8/3/5/4/83546240/elm050115esquire_3.pdf))
- *Newsweek* (<http://www.newsweek.com/lioness-vibrator-fitbit-428220>)
- *The Daily Californian* (<http://www.dailycal.org/2016/02/15/343788/>)
- *CTV News* (<https://www.ctvnews.ca/mobile/health/early-love-from-mothers-can-lead-to-many-positives-later-in-life-for-kids-1.4932851>)

- *Global News Morning* (<https://globalnews.ca/video/8343307/bc-childrens-hospital-dream-lottery-supports-life-changing-research/>)
- *Scientific American, Science Quickly* Podcast (<https://www.scientificamerican.com/podcast/episode/love-and-the-brain-part-2-how-attached-are-we-to-attachment-styles/>)

### **Journal Reviews**

2013-2022	Reviewer for <i>Journal of Personality and Social Psychology</i>
2014	Reviewer for <i>Journal of Bisexuality</i>
2014-2019	Reviewer for <i>Personality and Social Psychology Review</i>
2016-2018	Reviewer for the <i>American Journal of Sexuality Education</i>
2018-2023	Reviewer for <i>Developmental Psychopathology</i>
2019-2020	Reviewer for <i>Journal of Infectious Diseases</i>
2019-2022	Reviewer for <i>Frontiers in Genetics</i>
2020-2023	Reviewer for <i>Psychoneuroendocrinology</i>

### **Professional Memberships**

Association for Psychological Science (APS)  
 International Academy of Sex Research (IASR)  
 The Social and Affective Neuroscience Society (SANS)  
 Association for Women in Science (AWIS)  
 Society for Canadian Women in Science & Technology (SCWIST)  
 Center for Open Science (COS) (Ambassador)  
 Centre for the Integration of Research, Teaching and Learning (CIRTL) (Associate)

### **Teaching Experience**

#### ***Course Development & Instruction***

HD 4680 Development of Human Sexuality

*Instructor • Cornell University • 25 Senior undergraduates • Spring 2016*

**Content:** Senior lecture course on development of sex, gender, and sexuality

**Responsibilities:** Designed and taught course and curriculum, reviewed relevant material to create an appropriate and engaging reading list of primary journal articles and qualitative accounts, evaluated student material comprehension through exams and daily reflections, created thought questions and facilitated in-class discussion, led review sessions for exams, held mandatory “getting-to-know-you” meetings with students, established framework for student essays evaluating the effect of popular media on sexual scientific work.

HD 4690 Laboratory Course in Adult Attachment Phenomena

*Instructor • Cornell University • 8 Senior undergraduates • Fall 2017*

**Content:** Hands-on senior research course on methodology in attachment research

**Responsibilities:** Instructed students in research methods and laboratory technique, instructed students on proper use of equipment and computer programs, instructed students on theoretical background on attachment research, responded to student

questions and research suggestions, scheduled and managed hands-on laboratory experience.

**Invited Lectures**

PSYC 450 Research Methods

*Lecturer • Wellesley College • 15 Senior Undergraduates • Fall/Spring 2010-2012*

Guest lecturer on the history of research ethics and outlining IRB procedures

HD 4560 Adolescent Sexuality

*Lecturer • Cornell University • 15 Senior Undergraduates • Spring 2012*

Guest lecturer on female sexual fluidity and sexual orientation development

HD 3650 Racial and Ethnic Identity Development

*Lecturer • Cornell University • 41 Undergraduates • Fall 2013*

Guest lecturer on intersectional racial and sexual identity development

HD 1150 Adolescence and Emerging Adulthood

*Lecturer • Cornell University • 250 Early Undergraduates • Spring 2013 - 2019*

Guest Lecturer on adolescent gender and sexual development

HD 3690 Human Bonding

*Lecturer • Cornell University • 600 Undergraduates • Spring 2014 - 2017*

Guest lecturer on the role of sex in adult attachment formation

HD 3940 Psychobiology of Temperament and Personality

*Lecturer • Cornell University • 25 Senior Undergraduates • Spring 2015 - 2016*

Guest lecturer on the neurobiology of sex and attachment in the reward system

PSYC 329 Psychology and the Law

*Lecturer • University of Richmond • 25 Senior Undergraduates • Fall 2015-2017*

Invited lecturer on psychological considerations for age of consent laws

Lecture Series: Importance of Statistical Assumptions

*Invited Speaker • BCCHR Trainee Omics Group • 90 Attendees • October 2019*

Invited speaker on understand statistical assumptions and their importance in analysis

BCCHR Workshop: Modern FDR Correction Methods

*Invited Speaker • BCCHR Healthy Starts Group • 25 Attendees • November 2019*

Invited lecture on the efficacy and use of modern FDR methods in statistical analysis

PSYC 333 Memory

*Lecturer • University of British Columbia • 167 Undergraduates • Fall 2020*

Guest lecturer on the epigenetics of memory development

STAT 540 Statistical Methods for High Dimensional Biology

*Lecturer • University of British Columbia • 62 Undergraduates • Spring 2021*

Guest lecturer on the fundamentals of statistical inference

Lecture Series: How to Tell “Good” from “Bad” in Statistics

*Invited Speaker • BCCHR Trainee Omics Group • 82 Attendees • January 2020*

Invited speaker on interpreting analyses while reading empirical papers

**Mentorship and Advising Experience**

Health Science Master’s Student (Committee Member) at Simon Fraser University

Karilyn Harris (MSc, Health Sciences, 2021)

Developmental Psychology Honors Thesis Students (Supervising Mentor)

Devin Massaro, Honors in Human Development, Cornell University (2014)

Paisley Terenzi, Honors in Human Development, Cornell University (2016)

Developmental Psychology Master’s Students

Patrick Burns, MA in Human Development, Cornell University (2013-2014)

Brian Cash, MA in Human Development, Cornell University (2014-2016)

BCCHR Mini-Medical School Student Mentee

Yana Uzelac, British Columbia Children’s Hospital Research Institute (2019-2020)

Previously Supervised & Mentored Undergraduate Research Assistants (Cornell & UBC)

Nicole Gladish (PhD, Medical Genetics)

Maggie Fu (PhD, Genome Science and Technology)

Samantha Schaffner (PhD, Medical Genetics)

Hilary Brewis (PhD, Biochemistry)

Hannah-Ruth Engelbrecht (PhD, Genome Science and Technology)

Paola Arguello-Pascualli (MSc, Medical Genetics)

Karlie Edwards (MSc, Medical Genetics)

Helena Brendler (MSc, Biochemistry)

Divya Anantsri (MSc, Medical Genetics)

Brian Cash (2012-2014)

Chelsea Berman (2012-2014)

Jordana Gilman (2012-2014)

Devin Massaro (2013-2014)

Katelyn Fletcher (2013-2014)

Monet Bell (2013-2014)

Teaja Smith (2013-2014)

Taylor Madison (2013-2015)

Joshua Lieberman (2014-2017)

Isabelle Sheck (2014-2017)

Nadia Morehand (2014-2016)

Lisa Scott (2014-2016)

Alexander Perez (2015-2016)

Monatana Birringer (2015-2016)

Callie Silver (2015-2016)

Paisley Terenzi (2015-2016)

Miya Okado (2015-2016)

Freeman Love (2015-2016)

Bridget Doolittle (2015-2017)

Curriculum Vitae

Sarah M. Merrill, Ph.D.

Natalie Moore (2015-2017)  
Matthew Avila (2016-2017)  
Sarah Chekfa (2017)  
Miryam Jivotovski (2017)  
Karen Ni (2017-2018)  
Isabel Josephs (2017-2018)  
Brianna Veerman (2017-2018)  
Amanda Laban (2017-2018)  
Sophia Yackle (2015-2018)  
Analisa Jia (2018-2020)  
Taylor Morrison (2018-2019)  
Sanjit Bains (2019-2022)