

Jenessa C. Steele, PhD
Curriculum Vita

Work Address:

Radford University
Department of Psychology
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Education:

Graduate:

8/2000-12/2004
West Virginia University,
Morgantown, WV
Life Span Developmental Psychology
Master of Arts, December 2002
Doctorate of Philosophy, December 2004

Dissertation Title: Intraindividual variability and relations between positive affect and physical activity in the daily lives of community-dwelling older women
Degree Awarded: December 2004

Thesis Title: The contributions of optimism and pessimism to psychological and physical well-being among adults with type 2 diabetes
Degree Awarded: December 2002

Undergraduate:

8/1995 – 5/1999
Winona State University
Winona, MN
Bachelor of Arts, May 1999
Major: Psychology, Minor: Sociology

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Scholarships and Honors:

2003-2004	Outstanding Graduate Teaching Assistant, Eberly College of Arts and Sciences, Department of Psychology, West Virginia University
2003-2004	Outstanding Graduate Student Award, Department of Psychology, West Virginia University
2003-2004	2004 Phillip E. Comer Graduate Student Teaching Award
2003	Vehse Travel Award
2000-2001	HERF Scholarship
1997- Current	Psi Chi Honors in Psychology
2002-Current	Sigma Phi Omega Honors in Gerontology

Grants and Awards:

2004	West Virginia University, Eberly College of Arts and Liberal Sciences, Co-PI ARTS, \$16,000, Awarded February 2004
2003	West Virginia University, Department of Psychology 2003 Vehse Travel Award, \$600, Awarded November 2003
2002	West Virginia University, Institute of Public Affairs, Co-PI. Correlates of civic behavior, \$2,500, Awarded June 2002 – August 2002
2001	West Virginia University, Department of Psychology Student Summer Research Award – \$1,000, Awarded June 2001 – August 2001
2001	West Virginia University, Department of Psychology Master's Thesis Grant, \$400, Awarded Spring 2001
2001	West Virginia University, Department of Psychology Alumni Student Travel Grant, \$300, Awarded Fall 2001
2000	West Virginia University, Eberly College of Arts & Sciences HERF Scholarship, \$2,000, Awarded for the 2000-2001 academic year

Professional Positions:

Aug 2005 – Current	Assistant Professor Radford University Department of Psychology
Aug 2004 – Aug 2005	Assistant Professor Bowling Green State University Gerontology Program Department of Human Services
May 2004 – August 2004	Graduate Research Assistant West Virginia University Department of Psychology

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Duties: Worked with co-investigators (Patrick and Elmes) on further grant development and pilot testing of the ARTS proposal

May 2003 – May 2004

Graduate Research Assistant

West Virginia University
Robert C. Byrd Health Science Center
Prevention Research Center

Duties: Literature reviews, data analysis, training. Last project worked with Paul Gordon, PhD on barriers to local trail use.

Supervisors: Geri Dino, PhD, Director of PRC

Phone: (304) 293-1898

Email: gdino@hsc.wvu.edu

May 2002- May 2003

Graduate Research Assistant

Everyday Decision Making in Late Life (AG-19917)
West Virginia University, Department of Psychology

Duties: Project manager, manuscript preparation

Supervisor: Julie Patrick, PhD

Phone: (304) 293-2001 ext. 31680

Email: Julie.Patrick@mail.wvu.edu

August 2001- May 2002

Graduate Teaching Assistant

Introduction to Human Development

West Virginia University, Department of Psychology

Duties: Instructed four sections of 60 undergraduates, lecture and exam development, grading

Supervisor: Matthew Scullin, PhD

Phone: (304) 293-2001 ext. 31676

Email: Matthew.Scullin@mail.wvu.edu

May 2001- August 2001

Summer Graduate Research Assistant

Data manager Successful Aging Lab

West Virginia University, Department of Psychology

Duties: Data entry, cleaning, and analysis

Supervisor: Julie Patrick, Ph.D.

August 2000 – May 2001

Graduate Teaching Assistant

Introduction to Psychology (2001-2002)

Duties: Instructed four sections of 60 undergraduates, lecture and exam development, grading, management of computerized testing and learning center.

Supervisor: Connie Toffle, PhD

Phone: (304) 293-2001

Email: Constance.Toffle@mail.wvu.edu

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June 1999- July 2000 **Research Study Assistant**
Mayo Clinic's Department of Health Sciences Research
Duties: Work with Dr. Ping Yang on the Lung Cancer Family Study (NCI R01 funded grant). Position required knowledge of Clinic patient identification systems, SAS, review of medical records, patient interviewing, and participating in weekly meetings with fellow researchers, statisticians, and oncologists.
Supervisor: Ping Yang, MD, PhD
Email: Yang.Ping@mayo.edu

National Professional Activities:

2000-Current Gerontological Society of America
2000-Current American Psychological Association
 Division 7 – Developmental Psychology
 Division 20 – Adulthood and Aging
2002-2004 Gerontological Society of America, WVU Chapter, Student Chair

Local Professional Activities:

Fall 2006 Graduate Faculty, Radford University
Spring 2005 Grant Development Group, College of Health and Human Services, Bowling Green State University
Spring 2005 Faculty advisor for undergraduate gerontology student groups, Bowling Green State University
2004-2005 Academic Appeals Committee, College of Health and Human Services, Bowling Green State University
2004-2005 Curriculum Committee, Gerontology Program, Bowling Green State University
2003-2004 Faculty Evaluation Committee, Department of Psychology, West Virginia University, Graduate Student Elect
2003-2004 Dr. Kevin Larkin's Research Group, West Virginia University
2003-Spring Attended workshop on Experience Sampling Methods at Harvard University
2002-2004 Older Adult Research Group, West Virginia University
2001-2004 Careers in Aging Week, West Virginia University
2000-2004 Developmental Research Group, West Virginia University
2000-2004 Dr. JoNell Strough's Lifespan Development Research Group

Workshops:

Spring 2005 Faculty Facilitator for the Geriatric Interdisciplinary Training Team Workshop hosted by MCO Center on Aging
 Medical College of Ohio, Toledo, OH

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Research Presentations:

- Steele, J. C.**, & Gordon, P. M. (2006, February). *Age differences in barriers and enablers to outdoor physical activity among community-dwelling adults*. Peer-reviewed poster presented at the meeting of Active Living Research, San Diego, CA.
- Gordon, P. M., **Steele, J. C.**, Liparula, T. (2005, February). *Physical activity behaviors among trail users and non-trail users*. Peer-reviewed poster presented at the meeting of the Active Living Research, San Diego, CA.
- Patrick, J. H., **Steele, J. C.**, & Ash, T. W. (2004, November). *Examining Person-Environment-Activity Interactions: A multidimensional and interdisciplinary strategy*. Peer-reviewed poster presented at the meeting of the Gerontological Society of America, Washington, D.C.
- Johnson, J. C.** (Co-chair). (2003, November). *Late-life relocation: Predicting successful adjustment to late-life transitions*. Peer-reviewed symposium presented at the meeting of the Gerontological Society of America, San Diego, CA.
Discussant. Dr. W. Haley
- Johnson, J. C.** (2003, November). *Aging-in-place: Should older adults be considering relocation?* Peer-reviewed symposium presented at the meeting of the Gerontological Society of America, San Diego, CA.
- Daff, A., **Johnson, J. C.**, & Patrick, J. H. (2003, November). Contributions of diabetes social support to self-care behaviors and well being among adults with type 2 diabetes. Peer-reviewed poster presented at the meeting of the Gerontological Society of America, San Diego, CA.
- Johnson, J. C.**, Spencer, M.S., & Patrick, J. H. (2003, August). *Age differences in reasons for volunteering: Applications of SST theory*. Peer-reviewed poster presented at the meeting of the American Psychological Association, Toronto, Canada.
- Spencer, M. S., **Johnson, J. C.**, Patrick, J. H. (2003, August). Age differences in everyday problem-solving. Peer-reviewed poster presented at the meeting of the American Psychological Association, Toronto, Canada.
- Berger, A. E., **Johnson, J. C.**, & Patrick, J. H. (2003, Spring). *Planned and spontaneous volunteer behavior and subjective well-being in adulthood*. Peer-reviewed poster presented at the meeting of the Society for Research in Adult Development, Tampa, FL
- Johnson, J. C.** (2002, November). *Contributions of dispositional optimism to self-care behaviors among adults with type 2 diabetes*. Peer-reviewed poster presented at the meeting of the Gerontological Society of America, Boston, MA.
- Johnson, J. C.** (2001, November). *Antecedents and consequences of dispositional optimism and pessimism across varying contexts*. Peer-reviewed symposium presented at the meeting of the Gerontological Society of America, Chicago, IL.
- Johnson, J. C.**, & Patrick, J. H. (2001, October). *Optimism and successful aging*. Peer-reviewed paper presented at the West Virginia Conference on Aging: Aging Well in Rural Areas, Morgantown, WV.
- Johnson, J.** & Patrick, J. (2000, October). *Optimism, pessimism and well being in older*

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- adults*. Poster presentation at the Research Horizons Conference, West Virginia University.
- Yang, P., **Johnson, J.**, et al. (2000, May). *Clinical features of 2,389 primary lung cancer patients*. Peer-reviewed poster presented at the 24th Annual American Society for Preventive Oncology, Bethesda, MD.
- Johnson, J.**, Boden, L., & Kessler, M. (1999, May). *An examination of young adults' attitudes toward the elderly and neglect*. Poster presented at an undergraduate psychology conference at Carleton College, MN.

Published Manuscripts (chronological):

- Orel, N. A., Spence, M., **Steele, J.** (2005). Getting the message out to older adults: Effective HIV health education risk reduction publications. *Journal of Applied Gerontology, 24*(5), 490-508.
- Steele, J. C.**, Patrick, J. H., Goins, R. T., & Brown, D. K. (2005). Self-rated health among vulnerable older adults in rural Appalachia. *Journal of Rural Health, 21*(2), 182-186.
- Patrick, J. H., **Johnson, J. C.**, Goins, R. T., & Brown, D. K. (2004). The effects of depressed affect on functional disability among rural older adults. *Quality of Life Research, 13*, 959-967.
- Johnson, J. C.** (2003). *Integrating teaching in graduate courses*. Invited paper published in Spring 2003, APA Division 20, Teaching Tips.

Manuscripts Accepted for Publication:

- Abildso, C. G., Zizzi, S., Abildso, L. C., **Steele, J. C.**, & Gordon, P. M. Built environment and psychosocial factors associated with trail proximity and use. Manuscript accepted for publication in *American Journal of Health Behavior*.
- Patrick, J. H., & **Steele, J. C.** About what do adults pray? Age and gender differences in prayer domains. Manuscript accepted for publication in the *Journal of Adult Development*.
- Patrick, J. H., & **Steele, J. C.** Age invariance of optimism and pessimism. Manuscript accepted for publication in *Educational Gerontology*.

Manuscripts Submitted:

- Steele, J. C.** & Gordon, P. M. Age differences in barriers and enablers to outdoor physical activity among adults. Manuscript under review in the *Journal of Aging and Physical Activity*.

Presentations Accepted or Submitted:

- Abildso, C., Zizzi, S., Abildso, L., **Steele, J.**, & Gordon, P. *Neighborhood built environment and psychosocial factors associated with trail proximity and use*. Poster submitted for the February, 2007 Active Living Research conference, San Diego, CA.

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Grants Submitted and Funding Status:

Investigator(s): Steele, J. C.

Topic: Examining person and environment factors related to problem-solving and everyday activities among rural older adults.

Funding Agency: Carlot Endowment, Radford University

Submission Date: April, 2006

Amount Requested: \$14,260.00

Funding Status: Not funded

Investigator(s): Patrick, J. H., Brennan, M., **Steele, J. C.**, Margrett, J.

Topic: Spirituality, flourishing, and positive affect in daily life: A multi-site, multi-method investigation

Funding Agency: Templeton Advanced Research Program

Submission Date: August, 2005, letter of intent

Amount Requested: \$1,000,000.00 of direct support for two years

Funding Status: Letter not accepted for full grant submission

Scholarly Student Collaborations:

Leigh Aldridge

Student Status: Undergraduate honors student, Psychology

Project Collaboration: Leigh received honors credit for her extra work in Psychology Research Methods I (Psyc201). Leigh is interested in attending graduate school in Sports and Exercise Psychology. She approached me to work on some data I had collected from my dissertation regarding the relations between obesity, energy expenditure, and affect. She worked on developing hypotheses, recoding data and data analyses. She ended the project by writing up an abstract that she hopes to submit to a local or regional conference.

Kimberly Childers

Student Status: Undergraduate honors student, Psychology

Project Collaboration: Kim is current taking independent study credit to conduct and complete a research project that will count as her honors capstone project. Our proposed project is listed below under Research Project Activity.

Scott Koval

Student Status: Graduate student, Experimental Psychology

Project Collaboration: Scott and I will be working on a methodological, validation study using Palm Pilots©. This study is related to my dissertation, but Scott's role will primarily revolve around protocol development, data collection, management, and analyses.

Pati Parsley

Student Status: Graduate student, Experimental Psychology

Project Collaboration: I will be serving on her Thesis committee. I have met with Pati to discuss her thesis proposal.

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Scholarly Work In Progress 2006-2007:

Manuscript Activity

Steele, J. C., & Patrick, J. H. (Fall, 2006). Interindividual variability and relations among daily positive affect and physical activity among older women. Manuscript to be submitted to the *Journals of Gerontology: Psychological Sciences*.

Steele, J. C., & Patrick, J. H. (Spring, 2007). Examining the use of hand-held computers to research daily affect and activity among community-dwelling older adults. Manuscript to be submitted to *Research on Aging*.

Research Project Activity

Investigator(s): Jenessa Steele, PhD

Student(s): Kim Childers, Undergrad, Honors project, independent study

Research Topic: The effects of problem-solving situation (collaborative vs. competitive) on everyday task performance among romantic college partners.

Timeline: We have conducted a literature review and have conversed with researchers in the field regarding how to conduct this experiment. We are currently in the process of submitting an IRB. Our goal is to have data collected by the end of Fall semester with analyses and an poster presentation completed by the end of Spring semester.

Investigator(s): Jenessa Steele, PhD

Student(s): Scott Koval, B.S.

Research Topic: Daily relations among affect and physical activity among college students: A validation study for the use of hand-held computers.

Timeline: We are currently in the process of learning to use the new program used for the Palm Pilots©. We have pilot tested a few individuals on the program. Our goal for Fall semester is to finalize the study protocol, submit IRB, and have data collected by end of Fall semester. Our goal is to have data analyzed by end of Spring semester. A conference presentation and/or manuscript submission will occur in summer 2007.

Research Interests:

- Health and illness across the lifespan
 - Psychological and physical well-being in late life
 - Intraindividual variability in affect and physical activity in the daily lives of adults.
 - The contributions of optimism and positive affect to health behaviors among adults.
 - Psychological, social, and biological factors across the life span that contribute to psychological and physical well-being in late adulthood
 - Rural aging
- Positive Psychology: Personality, social, affective, and cognitive factors contributing to positive behaviors across the lifespan (i.e., prosocial behavior, health behavior, everyday decision-making)

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Courses Taught:

Undergraduate

2000-2001	Psy101:	Intro to Psychology (West Virginia Univ, Dept. of Psychology)
2001-2002	Psy 241:	Intro to Human Development (West Virginia Univ, Dept. of Psychology)
2002-2003	Psy 293H:	Special Topics: Positive Psychology (West Virginia Univ., Dept. of Psychology)
2004-2005	DHS 330:	Research Methods (Bowling Green State Univ., Dept. of Health Human Services)
2004-2005	Gero 101:	Individual, Aging and Society (Bowling Green State Univ., Dept. of Health and Human Services)
2004-2005	Gero 330:	Psychosocial Aspects of Aging (Bowling Green State Univ., Dept. of Health and Human Services)
2004-2005	Gero 410:	Administration and Aging (Bowling Green State Univ., Dept. of Health and Human Services)
2005-2006	Psy 317:	Child Psychology (Radford University, Dept. of Psychology)
2005-2006	Psyc 201:	Psychology Research Methods I (Radford Univ., Dept. of Psychology)
2005-2006	Psy 429:	Maturity and Aging (Radford Univ., Dept of Psychology)

Graduate

2004-2005	Gero 602:	Health and Aging (Bowling Green State Univ., Dept. of Health and Human Services)
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