

# ALYSON D. ABEL, P.H.D.

Assistant Professor  
School of Speech, Language & Hearing Sciences  
College of Health and Human Services  
San Diego State University  
5500 Campanile Dr.  
San Diego, CA 92182  
(619) 594-4694  
alyson.abel@mail.sdsu.edu

## EDUCATION

- Ph.D. University of Kansas, 2012  
Child Language Doctoral Program  
Dissertation: *Effects of verb familiarity on finiteness marking in children with SLI*
- M.S. Vanderbilt University, 2006  
Communication Sciences & Disorders
- B.A. Emory University, 2003  
Major: Psychology/Linguistics, Minor: Russian

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2014-present Assistant Professor  
School of Speech, Language & Hearing Sciences  
San Diego State University
- 2016-present Assistant Professor  
Joint Doctoral Program in Language & Communicative Disorders  
San Diego State University/University of California-San Diego
- 2014-present Core Faculty Member  
Center for Clinical and Cognitive Neuroscience  
San Diego State University
- 2016-present Member  
Clinical and Translational Research Institute  
University of California-San Diego
- 2012-2014 Postdoctoral Fellow  
Callier Center for Communication Disorders  
University of Texas at Dallas, Dallas, TX

## PUBLICATIONS

\* indicates publications completed with students

### PEER-REVIEWED

**Abel, A. D.**, Schuele, C. M., Lee, M. W., Arndt, K. B., Blankenship, K. G. (accepted for publication, October 26, 2016). Another Look at the Influence of Maternal Education on Preschoolers' Performance on Two Norm-Referenced Measures. *Communication Disorders Quarterly*.

\*Schneider, J. M., **Abel, A. D.**, Ogiela, D., Middleton, A., & Maguire, M. J. (2016).

- Developmental differences in beta and theta power during sentence processing. *Developmental Cognitive Neuroscience*, 19, 19-30.
- \*Abel, A. D., Maguire, M. J., Naqvi, F.M., & Kim, A.Y. (2015). Lexical Retrieval of Nouns and Verbs in a Sentence Completion Task. *Journal of Psycholinguistic Research*, 44, 545-553. doi: 10.1007/s10936-014-9304-8  
[Impact factor: 0.633]
- \*Maguire, M. J., Abel, A. D., Schneider, J. M., Fitzhugh, A., McCord, J., & Jeevakumar, V. (2015). EEG theta differences between object nouns and action verbs when identifying semantic relations. *Language, Cognition and Neuroscience*, 30, 673-683. doi: 10.1080/23273798.2014.1000344  
[Impact factor: 2.134, 5-year Impact factor: 2.377]
- Abel, A. D., Rice, M. L. & Bontempo, D. E. (2015). Effects of verb familiarity on finiteness marking in children with SLI. *Journal of Speech, Language and Hearing Research*, 58, 360-372. NIHMSID #642875  
[Impact factor: 2.070, 5-year Impact factor: 2.795]
- Abel, A. D., & Schuele, C. M. (2014). The influence of two cognitive-linguistic variables on incidental word learning in five-year-olds. *Journal of Psycholinguistic Research*, 43, 447-463. DOI: 10.1007/s10936-013-9264-4  
[Impact factor: 0.63]
- Maguire, M. J. & Abel, A. D. (2013). What changes in neural oscillations can reveal about developmental cognitive neuroscience: Language development as a case in point. *Developmental Cognitive Neuroscience*, 6, 125-136. doi: 10.1016/j.dcn.2013.08.002  
[Impact factor: 3.822, 5-year Impact Factor: 4.582]
- Fiorentino, R., Bost, J., Abel, A. D., & Zuccarelli, J. (2012). The online instantiation and syntactic consequences of the constraint on regular plurals in compounds. *Mental Lexicon*, 7, 34-57.  
[No Impact Factor information available]

#### UNDER REVIEW

- \*DeAnda, S., Blossom, M., & Abel, A. D. (under review). A complexity approach to treatment of tense and agreement deficits in SLI. *Journal of Communication Disorders*.
- \*Abel, A. D., Maguire, M. J. & Schneider, J. M. (under review). The N400 Response Indexes Word Learning from Linguistic Context in Children. *Language Learning & Development*.

#### IN PREPARATION

- \*Abel, A. D., Sharp, B., Schneider, J. M., Zeller, A., & Maguire, M. J. (in preparation). Surrounding linguistic context influences the role of neural oscillations underlying word learning
- \*Schneider, J. M., Maguire, M. J. & Abel, A. D. (in preparation). Oscillatory dynamics reveal the role of prediction and integration during noun and verb learning.

#### PRESENTATIONS

\* indicates presentations completed with students

- \*Abel, A. D., Konja, C. Guantez, J. & Sharp, B. (2017, April). *The Neural Underpinnings of Word Learning from Context in School-aged Children*. Poster session at the Society for Research in Child Development Biennial Meeting in Austin, TX.

- \***Abel, A. D.**, Schneider, J. M., & Maguire, M. J. (2016, August). *Changes in neural oscillations provide insight into the engagement of cognitive processes during word learning*. Poster session at the Society for the Neurobiology of Language Annual Meeting in London, England.
- \*Schneider, J. M., Maguire, M. J., & **Abel, A. D.** (2016, August). *Alpha power reflects prediction differences in learning of nouns and verbs*. Poster session at the Society for the Neurobiology of Language Annual Meeting in London, England.
- \*Zeller, A., **Abel, A. D.**, Schneider, J. M., Sharp, B. J., & Maguire, M. J. (2015, October). *Surrounding linguistic context influences the role of neural oscillations underlying word learning*. Poster session at the Society for the Neurobiology of Language Annual Meeting in Chicago, IL.
- \***Abel, A. D.**, Long, M., & Price, J. M. (2015, October). *Neural oscillations related to word learning from auditory context*. Poster session at the Society for the Neurobiology of Language Annual Meeting in Chicago, IL.
- \*Schneider, J. M., **Abel, A. D.**, Middleton, A. E., Ogiela, D. & Maguire, M. J. (2015, October), *Developmental Differences in Neural Oscillations Supporting Online Sentence Processing*. Poster session at the Society for the Neurobiology of Language Annual Meeting in Chicago, IL.
- \*DeAnda, S., Blossom, M., & **Abel, A. D.** (2015, November). *A Complexity Approach to Treatment of Tense and Agreement Deficits in Children with SLI*. Poster session at the Annual Convention of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association in Denver, CO.
- Abel, A. D.**, & Maguire, M. J. (2014, November). *How the brain learns words: An EEG study of on-line word learning in school-aged children*. Technical Research Session at the Annual Convention of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association in Orlando, FL.
- Maguire, M. J. & **Abel, A. D.** (2014, August). *Theta and Beta Changes Related to Learning New Words from Linguistic Context*. Poster session at the Society for the Neurobiology of Language Annual Meeting in Amsterdam.
- Abel, A. D.** & Rice, M. L. (2013, November). *Children with SLI Show Grammatical Strengths & Weaknesses on a Sentence-Imitation Task*. Poster session at the Annual Convention of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association in Chicago, IL.
- \*Naqvi, F., **Abel, A.D.**, Kim, A. & Maguire, M. J. (2013, November). *Differences between nouns & Verbs in an Elicited-Response Task*. Poster session at the Annual Convention of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association in Chicago, IL.
- \*Fitzhugh, A., Magnon, G., **Abel, A.D.** & Maguire, M. J. (2013, November). *Improving Developmental EEG with Eye-Tracking*. Poster session at the Annual Convention of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association in Chicago, IL.
- \*Kim, A., **Abel, A.D.**, Naqvi, F., & Maguire, M. J. (2013, November). *Word Frequency & Semantic Retrieval in Nouns & Verbs*. Poster session at the Annual Convention of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association in Chicago, IL.
- Maguire, M. J. & **Abel, A.D.** (2013, November). *N400 evidence of word learning from context in adolescent children*. Poster session at the Society for the Neurobiology of Language Annual Meeting in San Diego, CA.
- \*Schneider, J. M., **Abel, A. D.**, McCord, J., Maguire, M. J. (2013, November). *Changes in neural oscillations during naturally-paced sentence processing*. Poster session at the Society for the Neurobiology of Language Annual Meeting in San Diego, CA.
- Abel, A. D.** & Rice, M. L. (2013, June). *Effects of verb familiarity on finiteness marking in children with SLI*. Poster session presented at the Symposium for Research in Child Language Disorders at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI.

- Fiorentino, R., Bost, J., Graebner, A., Zuccarelli, J. & **Abel, A.** (2010, March). *The online instantiation and syntactic consequences of the constraint on plurals in compounds*. Poster session presented at the City University of New York Conference on Sentence Processing in New York, NY.
- Rice, M. L., Ash, A., **Abel, A. D.** & Lee, J. (2008, June). *A comparison of children with SLI and control children on the PPVT-R and the PPVT-III: Effects of test revision on sensitivity to affectedness*. Poster session presented at the Symposium for Research in Child Language Disorders at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI.
- Lee, M. W., Schuele, C. M., Barako Arndt, K., Spencer, E., **Abel, A.**, Guillot, K., Lineback, A., Rosenthal, J. & Foran, C. (2008, November). *Language in infants, toddlers, and preschoolers: SES influences on preschoolers' performance on the PLS & PPVT*. Poster session presented at the Annual Convention of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association in Chicago, IL.
- Abel, A. D.** (2007, June). *The influence of phonological awareness, vocabulary knowledge and phonological memory on children's incidental word learning*. Poster session presented at the Symposium for Research in Child Language Disorders at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI.
- Abel, A. D.**, Schuele, C. M. & Barako, K. M. (2006, November). *Word Learning: The effect of phonological awareness*. Technical session presented at the Annual Convention of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association in Miami, FL.

## GRANTS

### FUNDED

- 2015-2017 “Behavior and brain correlates of word learning from context in children with Specific Language Impairment”; NIH, Division of Loan Repayment; Role: PI - \$21,444
- 2016-2019 “How poverty impacts brain and language development: Understanding the vocabulary gap”; NSF BCS-1551770; Role: Co-Principal Investigator (Dr. Mandy Maguire, PI) - \$90,365
- 2016-2017 “Behavior and brain correlates of word learning from context in children with Specific Language Impairment”; SDSU University Grants Program; Role: PI - \$8450
- 2016-2017 “Neural Correlates of Specific Language Impairment”; SDSU Center for Clinical and Cognitive Neuroscience Collaborative Pilot Grant Program; Role: PI - \$9,974

### UNDER REVIEW

- UCSD CTRI Pilot Project (Stage 2)  
“Brain Structure and Function in Children with Specific Language Impairment”; Role: PI, Co-Investigators: Inna Fishman, Tracy Love

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

### **COURSES TAUGHT**

SLHS 300, Introduction to Language Science, SDSU, Spring 2017  
SLHS 513, Foundations of Speech-Language: Development, SDSU, Fall 2015, 2016  
SLHS 613, Language Disorders: Infancy through Preschool, SDSU, Fall 2014, 2015, 2016  
SLHS 614, Language Disorders: School age and Adolescence, SDSU, Spring 2015, 2016, 2017

### **GRADUATE TEACHING ASSISTANT**

LING 438, Introduction to Neurolinguistics, University of Kansas, Spring 2010  
SPLH 566, Language Development, University of Kansas, Fall 2009

### **SDSU STUDENT RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM**

Guantez, J., Stow, K., Konja, C., & Sharp, B. (2016). *Word Learning from Context: School-Aged Children with Typical and Atypical Language*. Paper presented at the annual Student Research Symposium, San Diego State University.  
Konja, C. T., Stow, K., Guantez, J. M., & Sharp, B. (2016). *The Neural Underpinnings of Word Learning from Context Through Repeated Exposure*. Paper presented at the annual Student Research Symposium, San Diego State University.

## **PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES**

### **SERVICE**

#### **SCHOOL OF SPEECH, LANGUAGE & HEARING SCIENCES**

Member, SLHS/Clinical and Cognitive Neuroscience Faculty Search Committee, 2015-2016  
Member, MA Admissions Committee, 2015 -  
Chair, Special Events Committee, 2015 -

#### **SDSU/UCSD JOINT DOCTORAL PROGRAM**

Presenter, doctoral workshop: *The Job Search*, 2015

#### **COLLEGE OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

Member, Academic Policy & Planning Committee, 2015 -  
Marshall, Convocation, 2015

#### **SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY**

Judge, Student Research Symposium, 2015 -

### **NATIONAL ASSOCIATIONS**

2016

Member, *Speech and Language Science* Topic Committee for Annual Convention of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association  
Reviewer, *Graduate Student Scholarship Competition*, American Speech-Language-Hearing Foundation  
Reviewer, *Conference Submissions*, Society for the Neurobiology of Language Annual Meeting

2015

Faculty-Researcher Partner, *PROmoting the next GENeration of Researchers (PROGENY) Program*, Annual Convention of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association in Denver, CO

2014

Faculty-Researcher Partner, *PROmoting the next GENeration of Researchers (PROGENY) Program*, Annual Convention of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association in Orlando, FL

Member, *Language in Infants, Toddler, and Preschoolers* Topic Committee for Annual Convention of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association

Reviewer, *Students Preparing for Academic and Research Careers (SPARC) Award*, American Speech-Language-Hearing Association

#### COMMUNITY

Presentation at the Boys & Girls Club: Encanto Branch, *Speech-Language Pathology*, San Diego, CA, October 2016

Presentation at the Boys & Girls Club Teen Center: Linda Vista, *Speech-Language Pathology*, San Diego, CA, July 2016

Invited Presentation for Girls, Inc., *Operation SMART*, Symposium on neuroscience to middle- and high-school girls interested in STEM research and careers from families with limited resources, Dallas, TX, 2014

Invited Presentation for the College Journey Camp 4 Girls, sponsored by the University of Texas at Dallas and the Girl Scouts of North Texas, Symposium on neuroscience to underrepresented middle- and high-school girls interested in STEM research and careers, Dallas, TX, 2013, 2014

#### AD-HOC MANUSCRIPT REVIEWER

Applied Psycholinguistics

Journal of Psycholinguistic Research

Journal of Language and Cognitive Processes

Journal of Speech, Language & Hearing Research

#### AWARDS AND HONORS

Nominee, Provost's Award for Faculty Excellence in Undergraduate Research Mentoring, University of Texas at Dallas, 2013

Mentee, Lessons for Success Research Workshop, American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA), Rockville, MD, 2013

Trainee, University of Kansas, Child Language Doctoral Program, United States National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders, T32DC000052: *Training Researchers in Language Impairments*, 2007-2009

Schiefelbusch Child Language Scholarship, University of Kansas, 2007

National Institutes of Health Student Travel Award for the Symposium on Research in Child Language Disorders, Madison, WI, June 2007

Students Preparing for Academic & Research Career (SPARC) Award, American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, Mentor: C. Melanie Schuele, Ph.D., 2005-2006

Alyson D. Abel, Ph. D.

Trainee, Vanderbilt University, Department of Hearing and Speech Sciences, United States  
Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs, H325A020009:  
*Preparation of Speech and Language Specialists to Serve Children with Autism Spectrum  
Disorders*, 2004-2006

### **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

University of California-San Diego Clinical and Translational Research Institute, Member,  
2016 -

SDSU Center for Clinical and Cognitive Neuroscience, Core faculty, 2014 -

American Speech-Language and Hearing Association, 2005 -

### **CONSULTING**

Sandbox Learning Company, Consulting on an NIH Phase 1 SBIR related to computer-  
based training for parents of children with language delays and disorders, PI: Amy  
Truong, 2013