

Curriculum Vitae

David A. Townsend

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Educational Background and Interests:

David Townsend received his Ph.D. in Psychology from Rutgers University in fall 2006 in the biopsychology and behavioral neuroscience graduate program and is currently a visiting assistant professor at Radford University. With Drs. Tracey Shors and Louis Matzel, he studied individual differences in a variety of learning tasks and the effects of stressors on the learning and performance in classical conditioning paradigms. He also examined the effects of associative learning on neurogenesis. From 2005 to 2007, he worked with Dr. Carolyn Rovee-Collier on learning and memory in human infants. Dr. Townsend was a research specialist for the bio-behavioral core at the University of Maryland and has been employed as an institutional review board and training coordinator for the medical schools at the University of Maryland and Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai. Recently, David has been provided testing and assessments for developmentally delayed children for the State of New York and moonlights as the behavior research and development director for On Demand labs.

Dr. Townsend’s recent research interests explore the ontogeny of human memory and learning focusing on associative learning, transitivity, and long-term memory in preverbal infants and developmentally delayed children. Additionally, Dr. Townsend has been investigating the moral development of individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) and how such development is integrated within the framework of Theory of Mind. He is particularly interested in non-reinforcement based learning and how such memories are encoded, stored and activated. Dr. Townsend has been a single parent (Zachary Townsend, Brown University, 09; NYU, 12) for nearly twenty years, and offers this personal information to underscore his atypical path and dedication to neuroscience research, teaching, public service, and the science of Psychology.

“A good teacher can inspire hope, ignite the imagination, and instill a love of learning.”

Education:

A.A.	Brookdale, Monmouth, Early Education	1999
B.A.	Rutgers University, Biopsychology with highest honors	2001
M.S.	Rutgers University, Neuroscience	2003
Ph.D.	Rutgers University, Psychology	2007

Employment History:

2014-	Assistant Professor, Radford University
2014-	Co Founder/Behavior Research and Development Director, On Demand Labs
2014	Psychometrician/Psychologist, the Shield Institute/NYS Article 16 Clinic
2012-2014	Internal Review Board Analyst/Instructor, Mount Sinai School of medicine
2011-2012	Internal Review Board Analyst, University of Maryland
2011	Research Specialist, UM Center for Pain Studies
2010	In-home Primary Caregiver: Dementia
2009-2010	Statistical and Manuscript Consultant, William Patterson University (Dr. Amy Learmonth- Cognition Memory and Development)
2009-2010	Consultant, Institute for the Study of Child Development
2007-2009	Assistant Professor, Pittsburg State University
2007	Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Rutgers Early Learning Project
2005-2007	Instructor (lecturer), Conditioning and Learning, Rutgers University
2003-2004	Lab Manager, Matzel Lab, Rutgers University
2003-2004	Graduate Research Assistantship, Dr. Louis Matzel, Rutgers University
2001-2004	Graduate Teaching Assistantship, Dr. Tracy Shors, Rutgers University –

Employment History cont.:

2001	Research Associate, Wyeth-Ayerst Pharmacological Research, Princeton NJ
2000	Undergraduate Research Assistant, Dr. Mark O. West, Rutgers University
1999	Undergraduate Research Assistant, Dr. Thomas Walsh, Rutgers University
1985-1998	United States Postal Service

Awards and Grants:

Distinguished Faculty Advisor Award (nominee)	2014-2015
Outstanding Contribution to Scholarship in Kansas Award	2009
Research Fellow, Rutgers University	2007
Rutgers and Bevier Fellowship, Alternate	2007
Sigma Xi (Full member)	elected 2005
Norman C. Miller Award, Highest Academic Achievement	2001
Jacqueline B. Lewis Memorial Award for Graduate Studies in Psychology	2001
Phillips Award, Outstanding Honors Thesis	2001
Golden Key National Honor Society	2001
Psi Chi National Honor Society in Psychology	2001
Behavioral Pharmacology Certificate Program	2001
Patriotic Service Award, US Department of the Treasury	1992, 1993, 1995, 1996
NJ Department of Labor Scholarship (DVRs), Rutgers University	1999-2001

Courses Taught:

101: Introduction to Psychology	491: Research Lab: Special Topics – Human Conditioning (and Lecture)
155: General Psychology	491: Research Lab: Special Topics – Behavioral Analysis (and Lecture)
230: Lifespan Developmental Psychology	740: Prenatal, Neonatal, and Early Childhood Development
240: Biological (Physiological) Psychology	759: Advanced Developmental Psychology
263: Developmental Psychology	724: Physiological Psychology
301: Analysis of Psychological Data (and Lab)	761: History & Systems of Psychology (Graduate)
311: Conditioning and Learning	830: Psychology of Learning
312: Conditioning and Learning Laboratory	881: Orientation to College Teaching
340: Ethics Issues in Human Subjects Research	<i>Co-Taught:</i>
390: Ethical/ Regulatory Issues in Research	331: Infant and Child Development.
392: Research Methods in Psychology II	346: Atypical Development in Childhood and Adolescence
394: Principles of Learning	364: Motivation and Emotion.
461: Research in Personality Psychology (and Laboratory)	
470: History & Systems of Psychology (Undergraduate)	

Awards and Honors Won By Students:

Posters

K. Landreth, C. Persaud, K. Ward, & D.A. Townsend, (December, 2014). *The influence of introversion and extraversion on depression*. Poster presented at the 2nd Annual Psychology Research Symposium, Radford, VA.

K. M. Morgan & D.A. Townsend, (December, 2014). *How extraversion and other mediating factors interact with depression*. Poster presented at the 2nd Annual Psychology Research Symposium, Radford, VA.

S. Morgan, K. Newton, K. Conrad, & D.A. Townsend, (December, 2014). *Personality change after loss, divorce, or emotional trauma*. Poster presented at the 2nd Annual Psychology Research Symposium, Radford, VA.

N. Pavlosky, D. Green, M. Strand & D.A. Townsend, (December, 2014). *Personality and satisfaction in the workplace*. Poster presented at the 2nd Annual Psychology Research Symposium, Radford, VA.

C. Barron, L. Dye, K. Lindsay & D.A. Townsend, (December, 2014). *Birds of a feather, friends flock together: a study on personality and happiness within friendship dyads*. Poster presented at the 2nd Annual Psychology Research Symposium, Radford, VA.

Honors Projects

History and Systems of Psychology

Clare Quitno, Alfred Adler's Contributions to - Psychology

Melinda Ledlow, Erik Erikson and His Impact - on Psychology

Physiological Psychology

Melinda Ledlow, Language Acquisition and the Brain

Erin Van Anne, Traumatic Brain Injury

Honors Thesis

Greg Hall (05), student at Massachusetts

Institute of Technology

Melissa Zappulla (04), Elementary Education in the Atlanta School District

Dawn Piarulli (03), research assistant at the University of Hawaii

Sigma Xi (09), Judge- online HS science writing (USA Science & Engineering Festival)

Publications in Peer Reviewed Journals:

Shors, T.J., Townsend, D.A., Zhao, M., Kozorovitskiy, Y., & Gould, E. *Neurogenesis may relate to some but not all types of hippocampal-dependent learning*. **Hippocampus**, 12:578-584, 2002.

Townsend, D.A., & Shors, T.J. *Stress effects on fear conditioning*. **Integrative Physiological and Behavioral Science**, 39, <http://www.pavlovian.org/>, 2004.

Kolata, S., Light, K., Townsend, D.A., Hale, G., Grossman, H., & Matzel, L.D. *Variations in working memory retention predict individual differences in general learning abilities among genetically diverse mice*. **Neurobiology of Learning and Memory**, 84:241-246, 2005.

Matzel, L.D., Townsend, D.A., Grossman, H., Han, Y.R., Hale, G., Light, K., & Kolata, S. *The covariance of general learning abilities with exploratory tendencies is independent of individual variations in emotionality, sensory, and motor function*. **Neurobiology of Learning and Memory**, 86:228-240, 2006.

Grossman, H., Hale, G., Light K., Kolata, S., Townsend, D.A., Goldfarb, Y., & Kusnecov, A., Matzel, L. *Pharmacological modulation of stress reactivity dissociates general learning ability from the propensity for exploration*. **Behavioral Neuroscience**, 121:949-64, 2007.

Townsend, D.A. *The transitivity of preconditioned infantile memories during deferred imitation*. **Dissertation Abstracts International**: Section B: The Sciences and Engineering, 68:1343, 2007.

Townsend, D.A. *The transitivity of preconditioned infantile memories during deferred Imitation*. **Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey** - New Brunswick, 2008. ISBN 9781109913453

Matzel, L., Babiarz, J., Townsend, D.A., Grossman, H., & Grumet, M. *Neuronal cell adhesion molecule deletion induces a cognitive and behavioral phenotype reflective of impulsivity.* **Genes, Brain and Behavior**, 7: 470–480, 2008.

Matzel, L.D., Grossman, H., Light, K., Townsend, D., Kolata, S. *Age-related declines in general cognitive abilities of Balb/C mice are associated with disparities in working memory, body weight, and general activity.* **Learning and Memory**, 15: 733-746, 2008.

Ramos, J. W., Townsend, D.A., Kolata, S., Light, K., Piarulli, D., Hale, G., & Matzel, L.D. *Deletion of PEA-15 in mice is associated with specific impairments of spatial learning abilities.* **BMC Neuroscience**, 10:134, 2009.

Townsend, D.A. *Developmental Assessment of Young Children.* **Applied Measurement in Education**, In Press, 2015.

University and Departmental Committees and Service:

Tournament Official/Moderator for NAQT Quiz 2014 Quiz Bowl
Psychology and Counseling Assessment Committee
Psychology and Counseling Comprehensive Exam Committee
Psychology and Counseling Graduate Comprehensive Review Committee
Psychology and Counseling Scholarship Committee
Undergraduate Curriculum Committee COE Constitution/Ethics Committee
Graduate Comprehensive Review Committee

Community Service:

Autism Society of America & Autism Speaks
TFAHawaii- *Teach for America* (STEM instructor, summer 2012)
Defeat Autism Now (DAN)
Counselor, Scoles Opportunity Center, Monmouth County, NJ.
(Autistic and MR Adult Populations)
Facilitator, Substance Abuse Resources, Lincroft, NJ. United Way of Monmouth County
American Cancer Society
Alzheimer's Association - Heart of America
Students against Violence through Education (SAVE)

Professional Affiliations:

American Association for the Advancement of Science
American Psychological Association
Association for Psychological Science
Association for Behavior Analysis International
Association for Behavioral and Cognitive -- Therapies
Eastern Psychological Association
International Society for Developmental Psychobiology

Public Responsibility in Medicine and Research
Pavlovian Society
Society for Neuroscience
Virginia Psychological Association.

Reviewer:

Burros Center for Testing
Journal of Psychological Inquiry
Mental Measurements
Prentice Hall Psychology
Pearson Psychology
McGraw-Hill Psychology

Selected Presentations at Professional Meetings and Invited Talks:

Light, K., Kolata, S., Townsend, D., Grossman, H., Matzel, L. (2008, March). Age-related declines in general cognitive abilities are associated with variations in working memory span, capacity, and body weight in genetically homogeneous mice. Paper presented at the meeting of the Eastern Psychological Association, Boston, MA.

Bullman, A., Atkins, L., Townsend, D., Rovee-Collier, C. (2008, March). Long-term memory of latent learning in 6-and 9-month old infants. Poster presented at the meeting of the Eastern Psychological Association, Boston, MA.

Townsend, D., & Rovee-Collier, C. (2007, March). The Transitivity of 6-month-old infants' preconditioned memories and deferred imitation. Paper presented at the meeting of the Eastern Psychological Association, Philadelphia, PA.

Rovee-Collier, C., & Townsend, D. (2006, October). 6-month-old infants form bidirectional associative chains. Paper presented at the meeting of the Society for Experimental Psychologists, Storrs, CT.

Townsend, D., Weimer, C., & Rovee-Collier, C. (2006, March). Can infants form a bidirectional associative chain? Paper presented at the meeting of the Eastern Psychological Association, Baltimore, MD. [Chair, Learning Processes I session.]

Townsend, D., & Matzel, L. (2005, March). Age and sex influences on individual differences in domain-specific and general learning abilities in mice. Paper presented at the meeting of the Eastern Psychological Association, Boston, MA. [Chair, Learning and Motivation session.]

Townsend, D. (2004, December). Age and sex influences on crystallized, fluid, and general intelligence in mice. Paper presented at the Biopsychology Behavioral Neurosciences Brown Bag Symposium, Rutgers University, Piscataway, NJ.

Townsend, D., Hale, G., Light, K., Kolata, S., Grossman, H., & Matzel, L. (2004, September). Age and sex influences on individual differences in domain-specific and general learning abilities in mice. Paper presented at the meeting of The Pavlovian Society, Washington, DC.

Townsend, D., Piarulli, D., Kolata, S., Light, K., Hale, G., Matzel, L., & Ramos, J. (2004, March). Transgenic depletion of PEA-15 (a modulator of receptor-activated ERK kinase) affects general learning abilities. Paper presented at the meeting of the Eastern Psychological Association, Washington, DC.

Townsend, D. (2003, December). The amygdala and autistic spectrum disorder. Paper presented at the Biopsychology and Behavioral Neurosciences Autism Symposium, Rutgers University, Piscataway, NJ.

Townsend, D., & Shors, T. (2003, November). Acute stressor effects are contingent on stress timing, type, and are specific to certain hippocampal-dependent tasks. Poster presented at the Society for Neuroscience Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA.

Townsend, D., & Shors, T. (2003, September). Stress effects on conditioning: Learning or performance? Poster presented at the meeting of The Pavlovian Society, Bloomington, IN.

Townsend, D., & Shors, T. (2003, March). Stress effects on conditioning: Learning or performance? Paper presented at the meeting of the Eastern Psychological Association, Baltimore, MD.

Townsend, D., Zhao, M., Kozorovitskiy, Y., Gould, E., & Shors, T. (2002, October). Neurogenesis may relate to some but not all types of hippocampal-dependent learning. Poster presented at the Society for Neuroscience Annual Meeting, Orlando, FL.

Townsend, D., Zhao, M., Kozorovitskiy, Y., Gould, E., & Shors, T. (2002, March). Neurogenesis may relate to some but not all types of hippocampal-dependent learning. Paper presented at the meeting of the Eastern Psychological Association, Baltimore, MD.

Townsend, D. (2001, September). Experiments on the road to understanding the role of ER-beta modulators in water maze performance. Paper presented at the Wyeth-Ayerst Program Symposium, Princeton, NJ.

Selected Invited Talks:

Bloomfield College
New Jersey Institute of Technology
The Ohio State
Rollins College
Rutgers University

San José State University
University of Bridgeport
University of Maryland (Baltimore)
Wayne State University

References:

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