

ERIN SMOLAK, Ph.D.

Curriculum Vitae

Updated November 2022

University of South Carolina

Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders

Arnold School of Public Health

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RESEARCH INTEREST

The interrelations between vocabulary structure, semantic processing, and domain general learning mechanisms; the relation between early language and downstream linguistic and cognitive development; identifying early screening and intervention techniques for children with language disorder

EDUCATION

Ph.D. San Diego State University 2014 – 2019
& **University of California San Diego**
Joint Doctoral Program, Language and Communicative Disorders
Advisor: Margaret Friend, Ph.D.

B.A. Ohio University 2010 – 2014
Bachelor of Arts in Psychology, graduated *cum laude*

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Assistant Professor 2022 – Present
University of South Carolina
Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders

Postdoctoral Research Fellow 2019 – 2022
Boys Town National Research Hospital
Center for Childhood Deafness, Language and Learning
Word Learning Lab
PI: Dr. Karla McGregor

PUBLICATIONS

*undergraduate student **graduate student

Smolak, E., Helm, J.L., **Patrucco-Nanchen, T., Poulin-Dubois, D., Zesiger, P., & Friend, M. (2022). Convergence and divergence in prediction from vocabulary and speed of word processing. *Cognitive Development, 64*, 101249. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cogdev.2022.101249>

McGregor, K.K., **Smolak, E., **Jones, M., Oleson, J., Eden, N., Arbisi-Kelm, T., & Pomper, R. (2022).** What children with developmental language disorder teach us about cross-situational word learning. *Cognitive Science, 46*(2), e13094. <https://doi.org/10.1111/cogs.13094>

- McGregor, K.K., Pomper, R., Eden, N., Arbisi-Kelm, T., Ohlmann, N., *Gajre, S., & **Smolak, E.** (2021). Children's language abilities predict success in remote communication contexts. *Language Development Research, 1*(1), 245-282. <https://doi.org/10.34842/8jgf-r802>
- Smolak, E.**, Hendrickson, K., Poulin-Dubois, D., Zesiger, P., & Friend, M. (2021). Visual and haptic responses as measures of word comprehension and speed of processing in toddlers: Relative predictive utility. *Journal of Experimental Child Psychology, 203*, 105032. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jecp.2020.105032>
- Smolak, E.**, McGregor, K.K., Arbisi-Kelm, T., & Eden, N. (2020). Sustained attention in developmental language disorder and its relation to working memory and language. *Journal of Speech, Language, and Hearing Research, 63*, 4096-4108. https://doi.org/10.1044/2020_JSLHR-20-00265
- Smolak, E.**, **DeAnda, S., *Enriquez, B., Poulin-Dubois, D., & Friend, M. (2020). Code-switching in young bilingual toddlers: A longitudinal, cross-language investigation. *Bilingualism: Language and Cognition, 23*, 500-518. <https://doi.org/10.1017/S1366728919000257>
- Friend, M., **Smolak, E.**, **Patrucco-Nanchen, T., & Zesiger, P. (2019). Language status at age 3: Group and individual prediction from vocabulary comprehension in the second year. *Developmental Psychology, 55*, 9-22. <https://doi.org/10.1037/dev0000617>
- Friend, M., **Smolak, E.**, **Liu, Y., Poulin-Dubois, D., & Zesiger, P. (2018). A cross-language study of decontextualized vocabulary comprehension in toddlerhood and kindergarten readiness. *Developmental Psychology, 54*, 1317-1333. <https://doi.org/10.1037/dev0000514>
- **Woody, A., **Smolak, E. L.**, **Rabideau, E. M., **Figueroa, W. S., & Zoccola, P. M. (2015). Trait rumination moderates the effect of mentation type on heart rate responses to stressor recall. *Stress, 18*, 554-560. <https://doi.org/10.3109/10253890.2015.1055726>

PRESENTATIONS

Oral presentations

- Smolak, E.** (March 2019). *Continuity in Vocabulary Development: Predictions from Decontextualized Vocabulary and Lexical Access*. Invited talk presented at Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN.
- Smolak, E.**, Hendrickson, K., Zesiger, P., & Friend, M. (March 2019). *Continuity in Vocabulary Development: Predictions from Decontextualized Vocabulary and Lexical Access*. Presentation given at the Society for Research in Child Development, Baltimore, MD.
- Friend, M., **Smolak, E.**, Zesiger, P., Poulin-Dubois, D., Højen, A., Jensen, P., Bleses, D., Dale, P., & Barlow, J. (March 2019). *The Computerized Comprehension Task: Cross-language evaluation of psychometric properties and prediction to developmental outcomes*. Presentation given at the Society for Research in Child Development, Baltimore, MD.
- Smolak, E.**, *Villanueva, A., **Liu, Y., *Campos, A., Poulin-Dubois, D., Zesiger, P., & Friend, M. (June 2018). *Executive Function in Young Spanish-English Bilingual Children: Are They Really Special?* Flash talk presented at the International Congress on Infant Studies, Philadelphia, PA.
- Smolak, E.**, *Enriquez, B., Poulin-Dubois, D., Zesiger, P., & Friend, M. (July 2017). *Code-Switching in Young Bilingual Toddlers and Their Parents*. Presentation given at the International Association for the Study of Child Language, Lyon, France.
- Smolak, E.** (April 2017). *Out of the Mouths of Babes: Child Language and the Economy*. Presentation given at the UCSD grad SLAM competition, San Diego, CA.

Smolak, E., & Friend, M. (March 2017). *Convergence and Divergence in the Predictions of Looking vs. Haptic Measures*. Presentation given at the SDSU Student Research Symposium, San Diego, CA.

Smolak, E. (September 2016). *Convergence and Divergence in Prediction from Looking vs. Haptic Measures*. Presentation given at the SDSU/UCSD Joint Doctoral Program in Language and Communicative Disorders Doctoral Student Colloquium, San Diego, CA.

Smolak, E. (September 2015). *Age, Vocabulary Size, and Individual Trajectory Influence Early Predictions of Language Outcomes*. Presentation given at the SDSU/UCSD Joint Doctoral Program in Language and Communicative Disorders Doctoral Student Colloquium, San Diego, CA.

Smolak, E., & Friend, M. (March 2015). *Age and Individual Trajectory Influence Early Predictions of Language Outcomes*. Presentation given at the SDSU Student Research Symposium, San Diego, CA.

Poster Presentations

Smolak, E., McGregor, K.K., & Ohlmann, N. (June 2022). *Language and Literacy Abilities among Children with Emotional-Behavioral Disorders*. Poster presented at the Symposium on Research in Child Language Disorders, Madison, WI.

McGregor, K.K., Pomber, R., Eden, N., Arbisi-Kelm, T., Ohlmann, N., *Gajre, S., & **Smolak, E.** (June 2021). *Children's Success in Remote Communication Contexts Varies with Language Ability*. Poster presented virtually at the Symposium on Research in Child Language Disorders.

Smolak, E., McGregor, K.K., Arbisi-Kelm, T. & Eden, N. (November 2020). *Developmental Language Disorder: The Role of Sustained Attention and Working Memory in Language Ability*. Poster accepted at the Annual Convention of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, San Diego, CA (convention cancelled due to COVID-19).

Smolak, E., Helm, J., **Patrucco-Nanchen, T., Poulin-Dubois, D., Zesiger, P., & Friend, M. (July 2020). *Convergence and Divergence in Prediction from Vocabulary and Speed of Lexical Access*. Poster presented virtually at the International Congress of Infant Studies.

Smolak, E., McGregor, K.K., Arbisi-Kelm, T. & Eden, N. (May 2020). *Sustained Attention in Developmental Language Disorder and its Relation to Working Memory and Language*. Poster accepted to the Symposium on Research in Child Language Disorders, Madison, WI (event cancelled due to COVID-19).

*Villanueva, A., **Smolak, E.,** & Friend, M. (March 2018). *Executive Function and Translation Equivalents in Young Spanish-English Bilingual Children*. Poster presented at the SDSU Student Research Symposium, San Diego, CA.

Smolak, E., *Villanueva, A., **Liu, Y., *Campos, A., Poulin-Dubois, D., Zesiger, P., & Friend, M. (October 2017). *Executive Function and Translation Equivalents in Young Spanish-English Bilingual Children*. Poster presented at the Bilingualism Matters research conference, Riverside, CA.

Smolak, E., **Patrucco-Nanchen, T., Zesiger, P., Poulin-Dubois, D., & Friend, M. (April 2017). *Language Screening Using Early Decontextualized Vocabulary*. Poster presented at the Society for Research in Child Development, Austin, TX.

*Villanueva, A., **Smolak, E.,** & Friend, M. (March 2017). *The Relationship of Code-Switching and Translation Equivalents, and How Does It Relate to Executive Functioning in Young Children?* Poster presented at the SDSU Student Research Symposium, San Diego, CA.

Smolak, E., **Barlam, D., Zesiger, P., Poulin-Dubois, D., & Friend, M. (May 2016). *It's Comprehension and Production! The Efficacy of Canonical Analysis for Predicting Language Outcomes*. Poster presented at the International Conference on Infant Studies, New Orleans, LA.

Smolak, E., Poulin-Dubois, D., Zesiger, P., & Friend, M. (October 2015). *Using Comprehension to Predict Production: Variability in Individual Trajectories*. Poster presented at the Cognitive Development Society, Columbus, Ohio.

Smolak, E., Zesiger, P., Poulin-Dubois, D., & Friend, M. (June 2015). *Predicting Language Outcomes from Early Comprehension: Contributions of Age, Vocabulary Size, and Trajectory*. Poster presented at the Workshop on Infant Language Development, Stockholm, Sweden.

FUNDING

FUNDED

2020 – 2022 National Institutes of Health-National Institute of Deafness and other Communicative Disorders (NIH-NIDCD) Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Award (NRSA) F32 DC019253-01, *Prediction processes in children with developmental language disorder*; Role: PI

NOT FUNDED

2019 (not funded) National Institutes of Health-National Institute of Deafness and other Communicative Disorders (NIH-NIDCD) Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Award (NRSA), *Mechanisms that support prediction in language processing*; Role: PI

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

COURSES TAUGHT AS INSTRUCTOR OF RECORD

Preschool Language Development and Disorders (COMD 706), University of South Carolina, Fall 2022

TEACHING ASSISTANT

Creativity (PSYC 176), University of California San Diego, Spring 2017
Foundations of Speech-Language Development (SLHS 513), San Diego State University, Fall 2015, Fall 2016

AWARDS AND HONORS

NIH T32, NIDCD 5T32DC000013-39, June 2019 – December 2020
PI: Dr. Douglas Keefe, Dr. Monita Chatterjee. Role: Postdoctoral Fellow

SDSU Graduate Student Travel Fund – Student Success Fee, 2019, \$1,000
Travel award received from SDSU to attend the biennial meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Baltimore, MD, March 2019.

SDSU University Graduate Fellowship, Fall 2018 – Spring 2019

Merit-based program of funding for PhD students. Role: Research Fellow.

IASCL travel bursary award, 2017, \$1250

Travel bursary award to attend the 14th International Congress for the Study of Child Language, Lyon, France, July 2017.

UCSD Grad SLAM competition, 2017, 3rd place award, \$1500

SDSU Center for Clinical and Cognitive Neuroscience travel award, 2017, \$500

Travel award attend the biennial meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Austin, Texas, April 2017.

NIH T32, NIDCD 5T32DC007361-09, Fall 2014 – Spring 2016; Fall 2017 – Spring 2018

Neurocognitive Approaches to Communication Disorders. PI: Dr. Lew Shapiro, Dr. Tracy Love. Role: Doctoral Trainee.

Phi Beta Kappa honor society member, 2014 – present

Ohio University Gateway Excellence Scholarship, 2010 – 2014

Merit-based academic scholarship covering full tuition and fees.

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES AND DEVELOPMENT

American Speech-Language-Hearing Association Lessons for Success, 2022

American Speech-Language-Hearing Association's Pathways Program, 2020

Graduate Certificate Workshop: Introduction to Evidence-Based Teaching, 2019

San Diego State University: Training workshop in evidence-based best teaching practices.

Service

National Associations

2021

Member, Language and Learning in School-Age Individuals Topic Committee for the Annual Convention of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association

Doctoral Student Representative, Fall 2015 – Spring 2019

Student representative for the Joint Doctoral Program in Language and Communicative Disorders at San Diego State University & the University of California San Diego.

Ad Hoc Reviewer

<i>Language, Cognition, and Neuroscience</i>	2022
<i>International Journal of Language & Communication Disorders</i>	2021, -22
<i>Developmental Science</i>	2021, -22
<i>Autism & Developmental Language Impairments</i>	2020, -21
<i>Journal of Child Language</i>	2021
<i>Journal of Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences</i>	2019, -20
<i>Child Development</i> , co-reviewer with Dr. Margaret Friend	2019
<i>Developmental Psychology</i> , co-reviewer with Dr. Margaret Friend	2018