***Curriculum Vitae***

**Samantha N. Plourde, M.A.**

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Doctoral Student

Department of Psychology

George Mason University

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Last updated: 9/23/2014

**Education:**

August 2011 – May 2016 (*Expected Completion)*

Doctor of Philosophy in Psychology, George Mason University, Fairfax, VA

Concentration: Applied Developmental Psychology

Primary Advisor: Susanne A. Denham, Ph.D.

Research Interests:

* Social-emotional development of young children in familial and educational contexts
* Social-emotional competence
* Prosocial behaviors and empathy
* Social relationships with peers, teachers, and parents

August 2011 – December 2013

Master of Arts in Psychology, George Mason University, Fairfax, VA

Concentration: Applied Developmental Psychology

Primary Advisor: Susanne A. Denham, Ph.D.

Thesis Title: *The association of teacher emotional expression and reactions to emotions and toddler emotional interactions with peers*

August 2008 – May 2011

Bachelor of Science, Magna Cum Laude, in Psychology, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA

Double Major: Philosophy

Minor: English Literature

Primary Advisor: Julie Dunsmore, Ph.D.

**Awards:**

Graduate Funding, George Mason University, 2011-2015

Graduate Student Travel Award, 2013

Psi Chi, National Honor Society for Psychology, Virginia Tech chapter, 2010

William H. Williams Prize for Undergraduate Excellence in Philosophy, 2011

**Teaching Experience:**

August 2011 – May 2012

Lab Instructor: Psychology 301- Research Methods in Psychology, George Mason University

Teaching Assistant: Psychology 211- Developmental Psychology, George Mason University

**Research Experience:**

August 2011 – Present

*Teachers as Socializers of Social Emotional Learning (TASSEL)*

* Project Manager
* Graduate Research Assistant

Child Development Lab

Department of Psychology, George Mason University

Principal Investigator: Susanne A. Denham, Ph.D.

* Research grant funded by the Institute for Education Sciences

*Computerized Assessment of Preschool Social Emotional Learning (CAPSEL)*

* Graduate Research Assistant

Child Development Lab

Department of Psychology, George Mason University

Principal Investigator: Susanne A. Denham, Ph.D.

* Research grant funded by the National Institute for Child Health and Human Development

August 2010 – May 2011

*Children’s decisions about helping others*

* Undergraduate Research Assistant

Social Development Lab

Department of Psychology, Virginia Tech

Principal Investigator: Julie Dunsmore, Ph.D.

* Research grant funded by the National Institute for Child Health and Human Development

**Relevant Work Experience:**

August 2011 – present

TASSEL Project Manager

Directly worked with Principal Investigator in managing the logistics of a working research project. Scheduled all participant recruiting events, which led to the recruitment of 40+ teachers in more than 20 centers. Additionally, served as the primary grant liaison for personnel in the school districts and parents of child participants. When first applicable, was responsible for all contact with school districts to follow-up on participants entering kindergarten and in charge of handling all grant-related petty cash expenditures. Initiated a grant amendment to involve the study of social emotional development of two year olds and coordinated recruitment and data collection on two year olds and their teachers for two summers. Was a member of the Leadership, Recruitment, and Professional Development working groups.

**Advanced Research Training:**

August 2014 – December 2014

Psychometric Methods\*

Seth Kaplan, Ph.D.

January 2014 – May 2014

Meta-Analysis and Structural Equation Modeling\*

Seth Kaplan, Ph.D.

August 2013 – December 2013

Issues and Methods in Longitudinal Developmental Research

Timothy W. Curby, Ph.D.

Naturalistic Methods in Psychology

Susanne A. Denham, Ph.D.

August 2012 – December 2012

Psychological Applications of Regression Techniques\*

Patrick McKnight, Ph.D.

\* Meets the requirements for the quantitative methods emphasis doctoral track at George Mason University

**Measures and Assessment Certifications:**

* The Denham Affect Knowledge Test (AKT)
* The Challenging Situation Task (CST)
* The Pre-K Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS)
* The FOCAL-T observation tool
* The Minnesota Preschool Affect Checklist (MPAC)
* The Emotion Elicitation and Regulation Assessment (EERA)
* The Bracken School Readiness Assessment (BSRA)
* The Computerized Assessment of Preschool Social Emotional Learning (CAPSEL)

**Professional Affiliations:**

American Psychological Association

* Graduate Student Affiliate

Society for Research in Child Development

* Student Affiliate

**Invited Symposiums:**

**Plourde, S. N.** (2014, August). *Teacher socialization of toddler peer emotional interactions*. APA Division 7 Young Investigators in Developmental Psychology Symposium conducted at the annual meeting of the American Psychological Association, Washington, DC.

**Poster Presentations:**

**Plourde, S. N.,** Ferrier, D. E., & Denham, S. A. (under review). *The mediating effect of executive functioning on the association of emotion expression and emotion knowledge*. Poster presented at the biennial meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, March 2015 Philadelphia, PA.

Ferrier, D. E., **Plourde, S. N.,** Denham, S. A., Curby, T. W., Bassett, H. H., & Bailey, C. S. (under review). *The emotional classroom: Interactions of socializing agents predicting future emotionality and executive function*. Poster to be presented at the Society for Research in Child Development Biennial Meeting, March 2015, Philadelphia, PA.

**Plourde, S. N.**, Curby, T. C., Bassett, H. H., & Denham, S. A. (2014, October). *The relation between the classroom environment and teacher-student emotional interactions*​. Poster presented at the Advances in Educational Psychology Conference, Fairfax, VA.

Denham, S.A., Bassett, H. H., Zinsser, K.M., Bailey, C. S., **Plourde, S. N.**, & Herndon, K. J. (2014, August). *Emotional transactions among teachers and children in the preschool classroom*. Poster presented at the annual meetings of the American Psychological Association, Washington, DC.

Denham, S. A., Bassett, H. H., Zinsser, K., Bailey, C., **Plourde, S**., & Curby, T. (2014, July).  *Teachers contribute to preschoolers’ emotional competence.* Poster presented at the Biennial Head Start Research Conference, Washington, DC.

Sullivan, K., de Silva, A., **Plourde, S. N.,** Denham, S.A., & Curby, T. (2013, April).   *The Influence of Child Age on Early Childhood Teachers’ Modeling of Emotions*.  Poster presented at the Society for Research in Childhood Development Biennial Meeting. Seattle, W.A.

**Professional References**

Susanne A. Denham, Ph.D.

University Professor

Applied Developmental Psychology Program Director

Department of Psychology, MSN 3F5

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George Mason University

Fairfax, VA, 22030

(703) 993-1378

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Timothy W. Curby, Ph.D.

University Professor

Applied Developmental Psychology Assistant Program Director

Department of Psychology, MSN 3F5

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George Mason University

Fairfax, VA, 22030

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[tcurby@gmu.edu](mailto:tcurby@gmu.edu)

Hideko H. Bassett, Ph.D.

Research Professor

Department of Psychology, MSN 3F5

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Julie Dunsmore, Ph.D.

University Professor

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