

Teresa K. Pegors, Ph.D.

812-322-4894
www.pegors.net
tpegors@gmail.com

Employment

2015 - 2018 **Assistant Professor**
Department of Psychology
Azusa Pacific University

Education

2014 - 2015 **Postdoctoral Teaching and Research Fellow**
University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA
Teaching advisor: Martha Farah, Center for Neuroscience and Society
Research advisor: Emily Falk, Annenberg School for Communication

2009 – 2014 **Ph.D., Psychology**
University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA
Thesis: The Perception and Evaluation of Visual Beauty
Advisor: Russell Epstein
Committee: Geoffrey Aguirre, Joseph Kable, Anjan Chatterjee

2006 – 2009 **M.T.S. (Master of Theological Studies)**
Reformed Presbyterian Theological Seminary, Pittsburgh, PA

2001 – 2005 **B.S., Cognitive Science, Departmental Honors**
Indiana University, Bloomington, IN
Honors Thesis: Information-Theoretical Aspects of Embodied Artificial Intelligence
Advisor: Olaf Sporns

Funding Awards

2017-2018 Anticipatory Thinking Grant for “Faith Integration Curriculum Plan for Undergraduate BA/BS in Psychology” (\$2,000). PIs: Teresa Pegors, William Whitney, Brian Eck, Curtis Lehman.

2017-2018 Faculty Development Counsel Innovative Teaching Grant (\$3,000). PIs: Teresa Pegors and Ben Marsh.

2017-2018 “Measuring Physiological Markers of Restorative Landscapes Using Virtual Reality Environments” APU Faculty Research Counsel Grant (\$2,615). PI: Teresa Pegors and Dan Grissom.

2015-2016 “Neural Predictors of Receptivity to Health Communication and Behavior Change” NIH administrative supplement sub-award to APU (\$46,217). PI: Emily Falk, UPenn

Academic Awards

- 2017 SURE (Scholarly Undergraduate Research Experience) award
Awarded by APU to 8 student/faculty research dyads per year
- 2014 Robert Francés Prize
One of three prizes for a "most outstanding student research contribution," awarded by the International Association of Empirical Aesthetics
- 2011 – 2014 NSF Graduate Research Fellowship
- 2011 Joseph and Helen Miller Fellowship
- 2009 – 2010 Benjamin Franklin Fellowship
- 2005 Indiana University Cognitive Science Program Award for Outstanding Contribution
Awarded every two years to one undergraduate student
- 2004-2005 Undergraduate Internship Grant (Cognitive Science Program)
- 2003 Undergraduate Research and Creative Activity Partnership Grant
- 2003 Honors College Research Grant

Peer-Reviewed Publications

In Prep

- Preston, S.D., Segar, M., Rubin, L., Stansfield, R.B., Falk, E.F., **Pegors, T.K.** Toward Sustainable Health: Promoting exercise through positive, proximate motivations that differ by gender.
- Pegors, T.K.** Kang, Y., Falk, E. Gender moderates the relationship between neural activity during and response to physical activity interventions in sedentary adults.
- Coburn, A., Murarik, M., **Pegors, T.**, Miller, A., Chatterjee, A. Preferences for Virtual Indoor Architectural Spaces.

Published

- Kanamori, Y., **Pegors, T.K.**, Hall, J., Guerra, R. Christian Religiosity and Attitudes toward the Human Value of Transgender Individuals. *Psychology of Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity*. (In Press)
- Pegors, T.K.**, Tompson, S., O'Donnell, M.B., Falk, E.B. (2017) Predicting Behavior Change From Persuasive Messages Using Neural Representational Similarity and Social Network Analyses. *Neuroimage*, 157(15), 118-128.
- Kanamori, Y., **Pegors, T.K.**, Cornelius-White, J.H.D., & Hulgus, J. F. A (2017) Comparison of Attitudes Toward Transgender between Self-identified Evangelical Christians and Nonreligious persons. *Psychology of Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity*, 4(1), 75-86.
- Kanamori, Y., Cornelius-White, J H. D., **Pegors, T.K.**, Daniel, T., & Hulgus, J. (2017) Development and Validation of the Transgender Attitudes and Beliefs Scale (TABS). *Archives of Sexual Behavior*, 46(5), 1503-1515.
- Pegors, T.K.***, Mattar, M.*, Bryan, P., Epstein, R. (2015) Simultaneous perceptual and response biases on sequential face attractiveness judgments. *Journal of Experimental Psychology: General*, 144(3), 664-73. (*equal contribution)
- Pegors, T.K.**, Kable, J., Chatterjee, A., Epstein, R. (2015) Common and unique representations in frontal cortex for face and place attractiveness. *Journal of Cognitive Neuroscience*, 27(5), 959-973.
- Perlman, S., Hudac, C., **Pegors, T.**, Minshew, N., Pelphrey, K. (2009) Experimental manipulation of face-evoked activity in the fusiform gyrus of individuals with autism. *Social Neuroscience*, 6(1), 22-30.

Lungarella, M., **Pegors, T.**, Bulwinkle, D., Sporns, O. (2005) Methods for quantifying the informational structure of sensory and motor data. *Neuroinformatics*, 3, 243-262.

Sporns, O., and **Pegors, T.K.** (2004) Information-theoretical aspects of embodied artificial intelligence. In: *Embodied Artificial Intelligence*, Iida, F., Pfeifer, R., Steels, L., and Kuniyoshi, Y. (eds.), pp. 74-85, Springer-Verlag, Berlin.

Book Review

Pegors, T.K. (2018, May/June) [Review of the book *The Divine Imprint: Finding God in the Human Mind*, by Russell Stannard]. *Theology*, 121(3), 215-216.

Invited Talks

Common and Unique Representations of Face and Place Beauty in Frontal Cortex. Brain Imaging Center, New York University, New York, NY, October 17, 2014.

Representations of Face and Place Beauty. Olson lab, Department of Psychology, Temple University, Philadelphia, PA, December 3, 2013.

Talks

Pegors, T. and Green, A. (2018). "Choice or no choice? Personal Encounters with Free Will in Philosophy and Neuroscience." Presented on APU's Common Day of Learning, Azusa, CA.

Pegors, T. (2017). "Is God 'The Biggest Placebo of Them All'?" American Scientific Affiliation's Southern California Christians in Science Chapter 2017 Winter Day Conference. Riverside, CA.

Pegors, T., Mannoia, K., Fiala, B., and Shrier, C. (2017). "Gender in the 21st Century: Views from Scripture, Science, and Society." Presented at APU's Common Day of Learning, Azusa, CA.

Pegors, T. (2017). "Communication Neuroscience: Using Brain Imaging to Create Effective Public Health Campaigns." Psychology Department Faculty Research Forum, Azusa Pacific University. Azusa, CA.

Pegors, T.K., Mattar, M., Bryan, P., Epstein, R. (2016) "Sequence Effects on Judgments of Face Beauty." XIV Conference of the International Association of Empirical Aesthetics. Vienna, Austria.

Pegors, T., Kanamori, Y. (2016). "Transgender Attitudes and Knowledge Scale (TRANS): Development, Validation, and Application to the Evangelical Christian Community" Christian Association for Psychological Studies 2016 International Conference. Pasadena, CA.

Pegors, T. (2016). "Neuroimaging, spirituality, and the death of the 'overlapping activity' inference." American Scientific Affiliation's Southern California Christians in Science Chapter 2016 Winter Day Conference. Pasadena, CA.

Pegors, T., Kable, J., Chatterjee, A., Epstein, R. (2014). "Category-specific encoding of face and place attractiveness in the brain." Paper presented at the International Association of Empirical Aesthetics 2014 World Congress. New York, NY.

Pegors, T., Kanamori, Y. (2014). "Sex/gender ambiguity: perspectives on foundational issues." Paper

presented at the Center for Bioethics and Human Dignity Annual Conference, Deerfield, IL.

Conference Posters

- Murarik, M., Chavez, L., Ladner, J., Pegors, T. (2017). Measuring the Physiological Markers of Restorative Landscapes using Virtual Reality Environments. Dynamic Poster presented at the Society For Neuroscience Annual Conference, Washington, D.C.
- Wu, D.H., Chen, M.S., Pegors, T.K., Hung, D.L, Tzeng, O.J.L. (2017). Neural correlates of aesthetic ratings of calligraphic characters and scenery photos in experts and novices of Chinese calligraphy. Poster presented at the meeting of the Cognitive Neuroscience Society, San Francisco, California.
- Kang, Y., Pandey, P., Cooper, N., Scholz, C., O'Donnell, M. B., Elliott, A. M., Pegors, T. K., Lieberman, M. D., Taylor, S. E., Strecher, V. J., Dal Cin, S., Konrath, S., Polk, T., Resnicow, K., An, L., & Falk, E. B (2017). Increasing Receptivity to Health Communications: Effects of Self-Transcendence and Affirmation Priming on Neural Responses to Health Messages and Behavior Change, Paper presented at the 67th Annual Conference of the International Communication Association, San Diego, California. (Top 5 Paper Award)
- Pegors, T., Tompson, S., O'Donnell, M., Falk, E. (2016) Social Network Structure Modulates the Influence of Neural Representations of Message Content on Smoking Behavior. Poster presented at the Social and Affective Neuroscience Society Annual Conference, New York, NY.
- Pegors, T., Tompson, S., O'Donnell, M., Falk, E. (2015) Neural Pattern Similarity in Frontal Cortex for Health Messages: A representational similarity analysis. Poster presented at the Social and Affective Neuroscience Society Annual Conference, Boston, MA.
- Pegors, T., Bryan, P., Mattar, M., Epstein, R. (2014) Decoupling perceptual and response biases in a sequential face judgment task. Poster presented at the Vision Science Society Annual Conference, St. Pete Beach, FL.
- Pegors, T., Chatterjee, A., Kable, J., Epstein, R. (2012). Neural activity during the subjective evaluation of face and place attractiveness. Poster presented at Society for Neuroscience Annual Conference, New Orleans, LA.
- Pegors, T., Epstein, R. (2011). Sensitivity to the aesthetic value of scenes in the parahippocampal place area. Poster presented at the Vision Science Society Annual Conference, Naples, FL.
- Pegors, T., Matula, R., Farah, M. (2011). A Neuroethics learning collaborative. Poster presented at the Ethics Education in Science and Engineering PI Meeting at the National Science Foundation, Arlington, VA.
- Pegors, T., Epstein, R. (2010). Neural coding of scene affordances. Poster presented at the Vision Science Society Annual Conference, Naples, FL.

Teaching/Mentoring

Courses

Introduction to Neuroscience – (7) – APU
Brain and Behavior – (6) – APU
Neurobiology (PsyD) – (1) – APU
Cognitive Neuroscience – (1) - APU
Neuroscience of Human Motivation and Behavior (1) – UPenn

Foundations of Social, Cognitive and Affective Neuroscience (1) – UPenn

Research Methods in Psychology – (1) - APU

Introduction to Psychology (1) – APU

Neuroscience Boot Camp, Journal club session leader (3) – UPenn

A 3-week summer course for non-scientist professionals

Undergraduate Research Mentorship

APU

2018 Aubree Marsh, Isaac Aday, Jolia Awadallah, Madeline Feyrer-Melk, Chanyang Kim, Valeria Joaquin Valencia

2017 Lauren Rietkerk, Daniel Cheng, Lindsay Burke, Jonathan Ladner, Rebekah Guerra, Brianna Askew (*Scholarly Undergraduate Research Experience award recipient*)

2016 Jada Hall, Brittany Daniels, Lauren Rietkerk, Adam Harr, Miranda Murarik, Whitney Dempster, Jonathan Ladner, Shih-En (Steven) Huang, Rebekah Guerra

Penn

2012-2013 Peter Bryan

2012, Summer Lois Dankwa, Spatial Intelligence and Learning Center (SILC) Summer Minority Fellowship

2012, Spring Yael Gottlieb

2011, Summer Ben van Buren, Undergraduate Summer Program in Computational Neuroscience

Graduate Research Mentorship

Miranda Murarik
Master of Research Psychology and Data Analysis, APU 2017 - 2018

Benjamin Bledsoe
Master of Research Psychology and Data Analysis, APU 2017 – 2018
now a PsyD student at California Baptist University

Christopher Leonardo (“Leo”) Jimenez Chavez
Master of Research Psychology and Data Analysis, APU 2016 – 2017
NSF GRFP award recipient (2017)
now a PhD student in Psychological and Brain Sciences at UC Santa Barbara

Yasuko Kanamori (*served as external committee member*)
Master of Mental Health Counseling, Missouri State University 2015 – 2016
now a PhD student in Educational Psychology at the University of Memphis

Curricula Development

2014-2015 K-12 Neuroscience Curricula Development
Supported by the NIH and the Franklin Institute.
Developed neuroscience teaching modules for 11th and 12th grade teachers.

2004-2006 Undergraduate Cognitive Science Curricula
Supported by the NSF Department of Undergraduate Education and the Mind Project. Wrote an online tutorial and curriculum that used LEGO Robotics to teach cognitive science principles.
[\(http://cognitnrn.psych.indiana.edu/CogsciSoftware/\)](http://cognitnrn.psych.indiana.edu/CogsciSoftware/)

Academic Memberships

Society for Neuroscience
Social and Affective Neuroscience Society (2015 – 2017)
International Association of Empirical Aesthetics (2015 – 2018)
Faculty for Undergraduate Neuroscience (2014 – 2018)

Service

Post-hoc reviewer

Animal Behaviour
Cerebral Cortex
Journal of Experimental Psychology: General
Journal of Experimental Psychology: Learning, Memory, and Cognition
Human Brain Mapping
Nicotine and Tobacco Research
PLOS ONE
Social, Cognitive and Affective Neuroscience

APU

2016 – 2018	APU Institutional Review Board (IRB), full voting member
2017, 2018	Brain Awareness Week, Co-organizer
Fall 2015 – 2018	APU Psychology Department Research Forums, organizer
2016 – 2018	Psychology Department Faith Integration