

JENNIFER GAY, PHD

Assistant Professor

University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston

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EDUCATION

Doctor of Philosophy

2008

University of South Carolina

Arnold School of Public Health

Health Promotion, Education, and Behavior

Advisor: Ruth P. Saunders, Ph.D.

Dissertation: "Testing self-determination theory and the roles of the social and physical environments in an adult beginning exerciser population"

MS in Sport & Leisure Services

2002

University of Nevada, Las Vegas

Advisor: James Busser, Ph.D.

Master's professional paper: "Title IX: Legal Strategies for Compliance"

BA in English (with honors)

2001

University of South Carolina

South Carolina Honors College

POSITIONS

Assistant Professor, Health Promotion and Behavioral Sciences

2008-present

University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston, School of Public Health, Brownsville Regional Campus

PAPERS AND PUBLICATIONS

1. **Gay, J.L.** & Corwin, S. J. (2008). Sixth grade students' perceptions of an arts-based after school program: A process evaluation. *Current Issues in Education*, 10(1).
2. Dowda, M., Saunders, R.P., Hasting, L., **Gay, J.**, & Evans, A. (2009). Physical activity and sedentary pursuits of children living in residential children's homes. *Journal of Physical Activity and Health*, 6(2), 195-202.
3. **Gay, J.**, Monsma, E., & Torres-McGehee, T. (In press). Give or take a few pounds? Comparing measured and self-reported height and weight as predictors of Social Physique Anxiety. *Research Quarterly for Exercise and Sport*.

Under Review

1. **Gay, J.**, Monsma, E.V., & Torres-McGehee, T. (2009). Developmental and contextual risks of social physique anxiety among female athletes. Manuscript re-submitted with revisions for peer-reviewed publication.
2. Gay, J.L. & Smith, J. (2009). Validity of a Scale Assessing the Built Environment for Physical Activity. Manuscript submitted for peer-reviewed publication.

Published Abstracts

1. Monsma, E.V., **Gay, J.L.**, & Torres-McGehee, T. (2008). Exploring growth, maturation, and social physique anxiety in female athletes. *Journal of Sport and Exercise Psychology*, 30(June Supplement), S188. (see Conference Presentation #2)
2. **Gay, J.L.** (2009). *Physical environment variables: Formative or reflective indicators?* Proceedings of the Active Living Research Annual Conference, February 18-20, 2009. San Diego, CA, p. 186-187. (see Conference Presentation #5)

Technical Reports

1. Wills, L.E., Rawls, A., Payne, J.R., Dahlke, K.A., Gilmore, J.A., **Gay, J.**, Monrad, D.M., Dickenson, T.S., & Johnson, R.L. (November 2006). South Carolina Reading First Evaluation Report: Summer Professional Development 2005-2006. South Carolina Educational Policy Center, Columbia, South Carolina.
2. Sesso, K.A., Dickenson, T.S., Monrad, D.M., Johnson, R., Gilmore, J., Rawls, A., Mindrila, D., Smith, J., McGuiness, P., Wills, L., **Gay, J.**, & Ermer, B. (November 2006). South Carolina Reading First Initiative: Evaluation Report 2005-2006. South Carolina Educational Policy Center, Columbia, South Carolina.
3. Monrad, D.M., May, J., DiStefano, C., Mindrila, D., Rawls, A., **Gay, J.** (April 2007). Climate for High Achievement: A Study of Gap-closing Schools in South Carolina. South Carolina Educational Policy Center, Columbia, South Carolina.
4. Sesso, K.A., Dickenson, T.S., Monrad, D.M., Johnson, R., Gilmore, J., Rawls, A., Mindrila, D., Smith, J., McGuiness, P., Wills, L., **Gay, J.**, & Ermer, B. (November 2007). South Carolina Reading First Initiative: Evaluation Report 2006-2007. South Carolina Educational Policy Center, Columbia, South Carolina.
5. Bennett, H.L., Gareau, S., Dickenson, T.S., Monrad, D.M., Johnson, R., Petrusis, R., Gilmore, J., Smith, J., Rawls, A., Galande, M., Chiuzan, C., **Gay, J.**, Gambone, L., Price, K., & Mindrila, D. South Carolina Reading First Initiative Evaluation Report 2007-2008. South Carolina Educational Policy Center, Columbia, South Carolina.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

1. **Gay, J.**, Monsma, E.V., & Torres-McGehee, T. (2007) *Controlling for Physical Variables in Social Physique Anxiety Research: Aesthetic Sport Athletes*. Poster presented at the Association for Applied Sport Psychology Annual Conference, Louisville, KY.
2. DiStefano, C., Monrad, D.M., May, J., Smith, J., **Gay, J.**, Mindrila, D., Gareau, S., & Rawls, A. (2008). *Parent, student, and teacher perceptions of school climate: Investigations across organizational levels*. Paper presented at the American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting, New York, NY.

3. Monsma, E.V., **Gay, J.L.**, & Torres-McGehee, T. (2008). *Exploring growth, maturation, and social physique anxiety in female athletes*. Oral presentation at the North American Society for the Psychology of Sport and Physical Activity Annual Conference, Niagra Falls, ON.
4. Monsma, E.V., **Gay, J.L.**, & Torres-McGehee, T. (2008). *Developmental and contextual risks of social physique anxiety among adolescent female athletes*. Poster presentation at the Carolina Women's Health Research Forum, Columbia, SC.
5. **Gay, J.L.** & Montgomery, K.M. (2008). *Nutrition beliefs and practices of college students enrolled in health education courses*. Poster presented at the American Public Health Association Annual Meeting, San Diego, CA.
6. **Gay, J.L.** (2009). *Physical environment variables: Formative or reflective indicators?* Poster presentation at the Active Living Research Annual Conference 2009 Annual Conference, San Diego, CA.
7. **Gay, J.L.** & **Saunders, R.P.** (2009). *Examining the relationship of social support and perceptions of the social environment in an exercise context*. Abstract accepted for presentation at the Society of Behavioral Medicine Annual Meeting in April 2009.
8. Monsma, E.V., **Gay, J.L.**, & Torres-McGehee, T. (2009). *Developmental and contextual risks of social physique anxiety among adolescent female athletes*. Abstract accepted for presentation at the Society of Behavioral Medicine Annual Meeting in April 2009.
9. **Gay, J.L.**, Torres-McGehee, T., & Monsma, E.V. (2009). *Validity and reliability of maturity offset in post-menarcheal female athletes*. North American Society for the Psychology of Sport and Physical Activity Annual Conference, Austin, TX.
10. **Gay, J.L.** (2009). *Self-determination theory and the built environment: If we build it will they feel competent?* North American Society for the Psychology of Sport and Physical Activity Annual Conference, Austin, TX.
11. Torres-McGehee, T., **Gay, J.L.**, & Monsma, E.V. (2009). *Physical, psychological and contextual factors involved in eating disorder risk among female collegiate equestrian athletes*. North American Society for the Psychology of Sport and Physical Activity Annual Conference, Austin, TX.

Under Review

1. Torres-McGehee, T., **Gay, J.L.**, & Monsma, E.V. (under review). *Uniform and regular clothing body image risk factors of social physique anxiety among varsity equestrian athletes*. Association for Applied Sport Psychology, Salt Lake City, UT.

UNIVERSITY TEACHING

Teaching Assistant: Applied Aspects of Human Nutrition Spring 2008

University of South Carolina

Department of Health Promotion, Education, and Behavior

- A class of 65 graduate and undergraduate students covering nutritional needs, metabolic mechanisms, energy requirements, and health education components.

Instructor: Personal and Community Health (2 semesters) Spring & Fall 2007

University of South Carolina

Department of Health Promotion, Education, and Behavior

- This is a class of approximately 25-30 undergraduate students covering a variety of health topics with in-class, group, and on-line assignments as well as exams and a behavior change project.

Preparing Future Faculty (PFF) Certification Fall 2007

University of South Carolina

Center for Teaching Excellence and the Graduate School

- This program requires successful completion of mentored experiences in several areas of faculty life including teaching, research experience and communication, student mentoring, service, and outreach.

Teaching Assistant Training January 2006

University of South Carolina

- A one-day training covering multiple aspects of teaching and assessing undergraduates, including problem students and ethical issues

University 101: The Student in the University May 2005

Instructor Training, University of South Carolina

National Resource Center for the First-Year Experience

- Two-day training focusing on teaching students in transition

Graduate Teaching Assistant: Introduction to Event Planning Fall 2001

University of Nevada, Las Vegas

Department of Hotel Administration

- Primary responsibilities included grading assignments and exams. Presented material related to event management on several occasions.

AWARDS and HONORS

Best Social Science Research Poster 2008
 Carolina Women's Health Research Forum
 Columbia, SC

Delta Omega Society, Mu Chapter 2008
 National honorary public health society
 University of South Carolina

2008 Summer Dissertation Fellowship 2008
 The Graduate School, University of South Carolina
 Awarded for excellence in doctoral studies and to facilitate
 program completion for August graduation

2007-2008 Outstanding Doctoral Student Award 2008
 Department of Health Promotion, Education, and Behavior
 Arnold School of Public Health, University of South Carolina

Dean's Student Travel Award – Summer 2008
 Arnold School of Public Health, University of South Carolina

Competitive award to fund travel for presenting research with matching funds from the Department of Health Promotion, Education, and Behavior	
Nominee, USC Education Foundation Outstanding Graduate Teaching Assistant Award Department of Health Promotion, Education, and Behavior Arnold School of Public Health, University of South Carolina	2008
The Graduate School Fall Travel Grant University of South Carolina Competitive award to fund travel for presenting research	2007
Dean's Student Travel Award - Fall Arnold School of Public Health, University of South Carolina Competitive award to fund travel for presenting research with matching funds from the Department of Health Promotion, Education, and Behavior	2007
William F. Harrah College of Hotel Administration Masters Fellowship, University of Nevada, Las Vegas Full tuition and stipend for masters program	2001-2002
The Outstanding Achievement & Student Triumph (TOAST) Award, University of South Carolina Award recognizing student achievement in student organizations	2001
South Carolina Honors College Senior Thesis Grant Award, University of South Carolina \$1000 funding for thesis research	2000
University Scholar Scholarship, University of South Carolina Partial tuition for undergraduate program	1997-2001

PROFESSIONAL and COMMUNITY SERVICE

Reviewer

Reviewer, Current Issues in Education	2009
Reviewer, Journal of Physical Activity and Health	2009
Reviewer, Journal of School Health	2008
Reviewer, South Carolina Public Health Association, Contributed Papers Committee	2006

Graduate Student Committees

<u>Student</u>	<u>Degree</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Role</u>
Lorraine E. Bautista	MPH	Thesis	Member

Invited Talks

1. Invited Guest Lecturer: "Self-Determination Theory". Presented at University of South Carolina, Psychology of Physical Activity Course, September 13, 2007.
2. Invited Guest Lecturer: "Developmental and Contextual Risk Factors of Social Physique Anxiety". Presented at University of Texas School of Public Health, Health Promotion and Behavioral Sciences Research Seminar, March 17, 2009.

Community Service

Author, newspaper article for Tu Salud Si Cuenta mass media campaign	2009
Statistics Consultant, Volunteer Undergraduate Independent Research Project	2008
Event Staff Volunteer, Ray Tanner "Home" Run 12K and 5K runs, Miracle Mile Walk, and Kids Fun Run to benefit the Ray Tanner Foundation	2007
Member, Healthy Carolina Task Force, Physical Activity Subcommittee, University of South Carolina	2006-2008
Graduate Student Representative, University Athletics Advisory Committee, University of South Carolina	2006-2008

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Member, American College of Sports Medicine	2008-present
Member, Association for Applied Sport Psychology Special Interest Group for Exercise and Health Psychology	2007-present
Member, North American Society for the Psychology of Sport and Physical Activity	2007-present
Member, American Public Health Association	2006-present