

Kyla Rankin, M.A.

University of California, Riverside | Department of Psychology
900 University Ave. | Riverside, CA, 92521
kyla.rankin@email.ucr.edu

EDUCATION

University of California, Riverside, *expected*: 2020
Ph.D. Social/Personality Psychology

University of California, Riverside, 2017
M.A. Social/Personality Psychology
Thesis: "Divided We Stand, United We Worry: Exploring the Role of Uncertainty in the 2016 U.S. Presidential Election"

California State University, Fresno, 2015
B.A. Psychology, Summa Cum Laude, Psychology Honors Program

PUBLICATIONS

(*co-authorship with an undergraduate student)

***Rankin, K., *Le, D., & Sweeny, K.** (in press). Preemptively finding benefit in a cancer diagnosis: A qualitative analysis. *Psychology and Health*.

Rankin, K. & Sweeny, K. (in press). Divided we stand, united we worry: Predictors of worry in anticipation of a political election. *Motivation and Emotion*.

***Rankin, K., Sweeny, K., & Xu, S.** (in press). Associations between subjective time perception and well-being during stressful waiting periods. *Stress and Health*.

Rankin, K., Andrews, S., Sweeny, K. (2019). Awe-full uncertainty: Easing discomfort during waiting periods. *Journal of Positive Psychology*.

Rankin, K., Walsh, L. C., & Sweeny, K. (2018). A better distraction: Exploring the benefits of flow during uncertain waiting periods. *Emotion*.

Sweeny, K. & **Rankin, K.** (2018). The role of attitudes in cancer. In D. Albarracín & B. T. Johnson, (Eds.), *Handbook of Attitudes* (2nd ed.).

Under review and under revision

Rankin, K., Sweeny, K. (under revision). Downstream consequences of preemptively finding benefits in bad news.

***Dooley, M. D., Rankin, K., Sweeny, K., & Tehrani, K.** (under revision). Being optimistic versus seeming optimistic: Consequences for interpersonal success.

PRESENTATIONS

Talks

Rankin, K. & Sweeny, K. (April, 2019). *Seeking silver linings in bad news*. Presented at the Annual Western Psychological Association, Pasadena, CA.

Rankin, K. (2019, April). *Best practices in graduate school applications*. Presented at the Annual Western Psychological Association, Pasadena, CA.

Rankin, K. (2019, April). *Life as a graduate student*. Presented at the Annual Western Psychological Association, Pasadena, CA.

Sweeny, K., **Rankin, K.**, & Walsh, L. (2018, October). *Finding flow during life transitions*. Symposium presentation at the Annual Conference for the Society of Experimental Social Psychology, Seattle, WA.

Rankin, K. & Sweeny, K. (2018, April). *Divided we stand, united we worry: Coping with uncertainty in the 2016 U.S. presidential election*. Presented at the Annual Western Psychological Association, Portland, OR.

Rankin, K. (2018, April). *Life as a graduate student*. Presented at the Annual Western Psychological Association, Portland, OR.

Rankin, K., Le, D., & Sweeny, K. (2018, March). *Finding benefit in a breast cancer diagnosis: A qualitative analysis*. Data blitz presented at Health Preconference at Society for Personality and Social Psychology Conference, Atlanta, GA.

Rankin, K. (2018, February). *Finding benefit in a breast cancer diagnosis: A qualitative analysis*. Presented at brown bag series at University of California, Riverside.

Sweeny, K., & **Rankin, K.** (2017, May). *The role of attitudes in cancer*. Invited presentation at the conference for the *Handbook of Attitudes*, Philadelphia, PA.

Rankin, K. (2017, March). *The relationship between flow and well-being while waiting for bar exam results*. Presented at University of California Well-Being Conference, University of California, Riverside.

Rankin, K. (2014, May). *The effects of virtual eye-height on memories of object size*. Presented at the California State University Student Research Competition, California State University, East Bay, *placed second*.

Posters

Medina, O., **Rankin, K.** & Sweeny, K. (under review). *The Benefits of Mindfulness and Flow during a Period of Stressful Preparation*. Under review for the 2020 Society for Personality and Social Psychology Conference, New Orleans, LA.

Rankin, K. & Sweeny, K. (2020, February). *Satisfaction with Life Predicting Well-being in Response to a Stressful Life Event*. To be presented at the 2020 Society for Personality and Social Psychology Conference, New Orleans, LA.

Rankin, K., Andrews, S., & Sweeny, K. (2019, February). *Awe-full uncertainty: Easing discomfort during waiting periods*. Presented at the 2019 Happiness and Well-Being Preconference at Society for Personality and Social Psychology Conference, Portland, OR.

Rankin, K., Xu, S., Sweeny, K. (2019, February). *Distorted time perception during stressful waiting periods*. Presented at 2019 Society for Personality and Social Psychology Conference, Portland, OR.

Rankin, K. & Sweeny, K. (2018, March). *The benefits of flow while awaiting uncertain news*. Presented at 2018 Society for Personality and Social Psychology Conference, Atlanta, Georgia.

Rankin, K., & Sweeny, K. (2017, July). *Individual differences in managing uncertainty during the 2016 U.S. presidential election*. Presented at 2017 Association for Research in Personality Psychology, Sacramento, California.

Rankin, K., & Sweeny, K. (2017, January). *The complex dynamics of subjective time perception while waiting for uncertain news*. Presented at 2017 Society for Personality and Social Psychology Conference, San Antonio, Texas.

Hilliard, S., **Rankin, K.**, & Lachs, L. (2015, April). *Embodied perception: The effect of optical flow on embodied reaching in virtual reality*. Presented at 2015 Annual Western Psychological Association, Las Vegas, Nevada.

Rankin, K., & Lachs, L. (2014, April). *The effects of virtual eye-height on memories of object size*. Presented at 2014 Annual Western Psychological Association, Portland, Oregon.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Evaluations upon request

Associate Instructor—University of California, Riverside

- Psychological Research Methods: Summer 2018, Summer 2019
- Health Psychology: Fall 2019

Teaching Assistant—University of California, Riverside

- Health Psychology: Fall 2018
- Health and Behavior Change: Spring 2018
- Social Psychology: Fall 2016, Winter 2019
- Psychological Research Methods: Summer 2016, Summer 2017, Winter 2018
- General Psychology: Fall 2017

Extending the Class Leader—Fresno City College, Fresno, California

- Introduction to Psychology: Spring 2015, Fall 2015
- Psychological Research Methods: Fall 2014

AWARDS, SCHOLARSHIPS, & HONORS

Heritage Dissertation Research Award

Selected by department to submit full application; currently under review

Award amount: \$2,000

Dissertation Year Program Award, 2019

Award amount: \$7,200

Society for Personality and Social Psychologists Conference Graduate Travel Award, 2018

Award amount: \$500

Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award, 2018

Psi Chi Steering Committee Travel Grant, 2018-2019

Award amount: \$750

Eugene Cota Robles Award, UC, Riverside, 2015-2016

Award amount: \$24,000

California State University Pre-Doctoral Scholarship, 2015

Award amount: \$3,000

McNair Summer Research Project Award, CSU, Fresno, 2014

Award amount: \$2,700

Faculty Sponsored Student Research Award, CSU, Fresno, 2014

Award amount: \$1,000

Edward V. Tenney Memorial Award, CSU, Fresno, 2014

Award amount: \$200

McNair Honors Scholars Program, CSU, Fresno, 2013-2015

Psychology Honors Program, CSU, Fresno, 2013-2014

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

GradSuccess Summer Coordinator, July-September, 2019

Grad Success Program, UC, Riverside

Independent Contractor/Consultant, February, 2019-Present

Project Title: "Authors without Borders: Continuing Investigation of International Authorship Norms among Scientists and Engineers"

Client: Sigma Xi: The Scientific Research Honor Society

Scope of Work: Qualtrics survey design

Graduate Student Peer Mentor (university), 2016-Present

Graduate Student Mentorship Program, UC, Riverside

Transfer Student Summer Program Lead Mentor, 2015

Student Support Services Program, Fresno City College, Fresno

SERVICE EXPERIENCE

Reviewer, 2019-Present

Journal of Health Psychology

Graduate Representative Steering Committee Member, 2017-Present

Psi Chi National Honors Society

Graduate Student Representative, 2017-2018

Psychology Department, University of California, Riverside

Chair, Psi Chi National Honors Society Speakers; Western Psychological Association Conference

Bryan Dik, Career Speaker, 2019

Theodore Burnes, Distinguished Speaker, 2019

Eric Landrum, Psi Chi President and Career Speaker, 2018

Reviewer, Society for Personality and Social Psychology Conference

Outstanding Research Award, 2018

Reviewer, Psi Chi National Honors Society; Western Psychological Association Conference

Travel Award, 2018-2019

Undergraduate Research Award, 2018-2019

Graduate Student Peer Mentor, 2016-Present

Psychology Department, UC, Riverside

Reoccurring Graduate Student Panelist, 2016-2018

CHASS F1RST and Transfer Outreach Program, UC, Riverside

Psychology Outreach Board Member, 2016-2017

Graduate Student Association, UC, Riverside

President and Vice President, 2013-2015

Psi Chi National Honors Society, California State University, Fresno

UNDERGRADUATE MENTORING

Research

- Janine Medina Huerta—Spring 2019-Present
Awarded Undergraduate Education Research Mini-Grant (Summer/Fall 2019; \$1,000). Mentoring focuses on project development, conducting literature reviews, and data collection for large on-going study.
- Sandra Xu—Paper under review; Spring 2017-Fall 2018
Project focused on subjective time perception. Paper is currently under review.
- Dakota Le—Paper under review; Fall 2016-Spring 2017
Project focused on preemptive benefit finding while women await breast biopsy results. Paper is currently under review.
- Kaitlyn Spillane—Published in UCR undergraduate journal; Winter 2017
Spillane, K., **Rankin, K.**, & Sweeny, K. (2017). Predicting political engagement from moral values during the 2016 U.S. presidential election. *University of California, Riverside: Undergraduate Research Journal*.

Teaching

- Kyle Kester—Introduction to American Sign Language R'Course; Winter 2018
Mentored undergraduate student instructor; assisted in developing the course, managing students, and ensuring course instruction was completed in a professional manner.

MEDIA COVERAGE

[*The Zen of Video Games*](#)

NPR Wow in the World, January, 2019.

[*Can't stop worrying? Try Tetris to ease your mind.*](#)

NPR, November 2018.

[*Researching Flow to Cope with Stress*](#)

BTR Today, November 2018

[*Classic video games can help people achieve flow state.*](#)

KQED Morning Report, October, 2018.

[*For dreamers, fear of deportation is scary – but waiting is even worse.*](#)

Washington Post, April 2018.

TRAINING & WORKSHOPS

Research and Scholarship Ethics, Graduate Division Course
Led by Dena Plemmons, Director of the Research Ethics Education Program

Health Psychology Summer Workshop, Summer (2016 & 2017)
Intercampus Consortium on Health Psychology at University of California, Los Angeles

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Society for Personality and Social Psychology
Association for Psychological Science
Western Psychological Association
Social Personality Health Network
Association for Research in Personality