

KATE SWEENY, PHD

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PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2018- Professor of Psychology, University of California, Riverside
- 2018-21 Teresa and Byron Pollitt Endowed Term Chair, University of California, Riverside
- 2014-18 Associate Professor of Psychology, University of California, Riverside
- 2008-14 Assistant Professor of Psychology, University of California, Riverside

EDUCATION

- 2008 Ph.D., University of Florida (Gainesville, FL), Social Psychology
Being the best bearer of bad tidings
 - 2003 M.S., University of Florida (Gainesville, FL), Social Psychology
Do people brace sensibly? Risk judgments, outcome importance, and risk prevalence
 - 2002 B.S., Furman University (Greenville, SC), Psychology
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EXTERNAL RESEARCH GRANTS

- 2020-23 National Science Foundation (NSF/BCS)
An action-obstruction coping approach to waiting and worry (BCS1941579)
Award amount: \$550,000 (Co-PI; \$335,431 to UCR)
- 2018-19 City of Hope Seed Grant
An analysis of patients' emotional needs in the context of cancer care
Award amount: \$19,651 (PI)
- 2017-18 UC Intercampus Consortium on Health Psychology Seed Grant
Promoting HPV vaccination among college students using health message framing
Award amount: \$9994 (Co-PI)
- 2013-17 National Science Foundation (NSF/BCS)
Strategies for navigating uncertainty (BCS1251672)
Award amount: \$383,213 (PI)
- 2016-17 UC Intercampus Consortium on Health Psychology Seed Grant
Identifying markers of resilience during the wait for breast diagnosis
Award amount: \$5000 (PI)
- 2011-13 Hellman Fellowship
Perceptions of surgical experiences
Award amount: \$22,000 (PI)

2006-08 NIMH Predoctoral National Research Service Award (F31)
Improving mental health providers' communication

SELECTED HONORS & AWARDS

2020 Faculty of the Year Award, Department of Psychology, UCR
2020 Commitment to Graduate Diversity Award, UCR
2019 Fellow, Society for Personality and Social Psychology
2019 Fellow, Association for Psychological Science
2017 Faculty of the Year Award, Department of Psychology, UCR
2016 APA Distinguished Scientific Award for an Early Career Contribution to Health Psychology
2016 Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Research and Creative Achievement (UCR Faculty Mentoring Award)
2014 Social Personality Health Network Early Career Award
2013 APS Rising Star, Association for Psychological Science
2012 Faculty of the Year Award, Department of Psychology, UCR
2011 Faculty Mentor of the Year Award, University Honors, UCR
2007 Pioneer Psychology Faculty Fund Award, University of Florida
2006 Schumacher Dissertation Award, University of Florida
2006 Gerber Award for Social Psychology, University of Florida
2005 University of Florida Graduate Student Teaching Award
2005 Allyn & Bacon Graduate Student Teaching Award in Psychology
2002-06 J. Hillis Miller Presidential Fellowship, University of Florida

PUBLICATIONS

(*co-authorship with a graduate student; ^co-authorship with an undergraduate student)

Peer-reviewed:

1. *Hua, J., Howell, J. L., **Sweeny, K.**, & Andrews, S. E. (in press). Outcomes of physicians' communication goals during patient interactions. *Health Communication*.
2. *Knapp, S., Wilson, M., & **Sweeny, K.** (in press). Emotion regulation tendencies during two waiting periods. *Motivation & Emotion*.
3. *Revord, J., Sweeny, K., & Lyubomirsky, S. (in press). Categorizing the function of positive emotions. *Current Opinion in Behavioral Sciences*.
4. ^***Sweeny, K.**, Tran, B. Q., & Loyola Ramirez, M. D. (in press). Religiosity as a predictor of worry during stressful periods of uncertainty. *Psychology of Religion and Spirituality*.
5. Vohs, K. D., Schmeichel, B. J., Lohmann, S., Gronau, Q., Finley, A. J....**Sweeny, K.**,... Wagenmakers, E.-J., & Albarracín, D. (in press). A preregistered paradigmatic test of the ego depletion effect. *Psychological Science*.
6. *Baranski, E., **Sweeny, K.**, Gardiner, G., Members of the International Situations Project, & Funder, D. C. (2021). International optimism: Dispositional optimism across 61 countries. *Journal of Personality*, *89*, 288–304.

7. *Harake, N., **Sweeny, K.**, & Dunlop, W. L. (2020). Narrating the nadir: Examining personal and vicarious stories of cancer-related low points among survivors and romantic partners. *Psychology & Health, 35*, 1268-1292.
8. Howell, J. L., & **Sweeny, K.** (2020). Health behavior during periods of stressful uncertainty: Associations with emotions, cognitions, and expectation management. *Psychology & Health, 35*, 1163-1183.
9. Jaremka, L. M., Ackerman^a, J. M., Gawronski^a, B., Rule^a, N. O., Sweeny^a, K., Tropp^a, L. R., Metz^b, M. A., Molina^b, L., Ryan^b, W. S., & Vick^b, S. B. (2020). Common academic experiences no one talks about: Rejection, imposter syndrome, and burnout. *Perspectives on Psychological Science, 15*, 519-543.
^{a,b}Authors within these designations are alphabetically ordered and contributed equally.
10. *Rankin, K., Andrews, S. E., & **Sweeny, K.** (2020). Awe-full uncertainty: Easing discomfort during waiting periods. *Journal of Positive Psychology, 15*, 338-347.
11. ^*Rankin, K., Le, D., & **Sweeny, K.** (2020). Preemptively finding benefit in a cancer diagnosis: A qualitative analysis. *Psychology & Health, 35*, 613-628.
12. **Sweeny, K.**, & Dunlop, W. (2020). Salient selves in uncertain futures. *Self & Identity, 19*, 863-885.
13. **Sweeny, K.**, Howell, J. L., & Kwan, V. (2020). Losing control: Comparing the role of personality during two types of stressful life experiences. *Personality and Individual Differences, 156*, 109771.
14. ***Sweeny, K.**, Rankin, K., Cheng, X., Hou, L., Long, F., Meng, Y., Azer, L., Zhou, R., & Zhang, W. (2020). Flow in the time of COVID-19: Findings from China. *PLoS ONE, 15*, e0242043.
**Downloaded over 1300 times from psyarxiv.com (<https://psyarxiv.com/e3kcw/>)*
15. *Tran, B. Q., & **Sweeny, K.** (2020). Correlates of physicians' and patients' language use during surgical consultations. *Health Communication, 35*, 1248-1255.
16. *Dooley, M. D., Wilkinson, D., & **Sweeny, K.** (2019). Social support during stressful waiting periods: An inductive analysis. *Qualitative Psychology (published online)*.
17. Howell, J. L., & **Sweeny, K.** (2019). Fulfilling self-determination needs predicts better sleep and less worry during a stressful period of uncertainty. *Stress & Health, 35*, 277-288.
18. Howell, J. L., **Sweeny, K.**, & Miller, W., Shepperd, J. A. (2019). Hot or not? How self-view threat influences avoidance of attractiveness feedback. *Self & Identity, 18*, 144-158.
19. *Rankin, K., & **Sweeny, K.** (2019). Divided we stand, united we worry: Predictors of worry in anticipation of political elections. *Motivation & Emotion (published online)*.
20. ^*Rankin, K., **Sweeny, K.**, & Xu, S. (2019). Distorted time perception during stressful waiting periods. *Stress & Health, 35*, 549-559.
21. *Rankin, K., Walsh, L., & **Sweeny, K.** (2019). A better distraction: Exploring the benefits of flow during uncertain waiting periods. *Emotion, 19*, 818-828.

22. **Sweeny, K.**, Christianson, D., & McNeill, J. (2019). The psychological experience of awaiting breast diagnosis. *Annals of Behavioral Medicine*, *53*, 630-641.
23. ***Sweeny, K.**, Kwan, V., & Falkenstein, A. (2019). The role of gender in worry and efforts to cope during stressful waiting periods. *Sex Roles*, *81*, 765-778.
24. *Dooley, M. D., **Sweeny, K.**, Howell, J. L., & Reynolds, C. (2018). Perceptions of romantic partners' responsiveness during a period of stressful uncertainty. *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*, *115*, 677-687.
25. *German, K. T., **Sweeny, K.**, & Robbins, M. L. (2018). Investigating the role of the faculty advisor in doctoral students' career trajectories. *Professional Development in Education*.
26. **Sweeny, K.** (2018). On the experience of awaiting uncertain news. *Current Directions in Psychological Science*, *27*, 281-285.
27. ^*Dooley, M. D., Burreal, S., & **Sweeny, K.** (2017). "We'll call you when the results are in": Preferences for how medical test results are delivered. *Patient Education & Counseling*, *100*, 364-366.
28. *Layous, K., **Sweeny, K.**, Armenta, C., Na, S., Choi, I., & Lyubomirsky, S. (2017). The proximal experience of gratitude. *PLoS ONE*, *12*, e0179123.
29. *Nelson, S. K., Robbins, M. L., Andrews, S. E., & **Sweeny, K.** (2017). Disrupted transition to parenthood: Gender moderates the association between miscarriage and uncertainty about conception. *Sex Roles*, *76*, 380-392.
30. **Sweeny, K.**, & Andrews, S. E. (2017). Should patients be optimistic about surgery? Resolving a conflicted literature. *Health Psychology Review*, *11*, 374-386.
31. ***Sweeny, K.**, & Dooley, M. D. (2017). The surprising upsides of worry. *Social & Personality Psychology Compass*, *11*, e12311. doi: 10.1111/spc3.12311
32. ***Sweeny, K.**, & Falkenstein, A. (2017). Even optimists get the blues: Intra-individual consistency in the tendency to brace for the worst. *Journal of Personality*, *85*, 807-816.
33. **Sweeny, K.**, & Howell, J. L. (2017). Bracing later and coping better: Benefits of mindfulness during a stressful waiting period. *Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin*, *43*, 1399-1414.
34. *^Falkenstein, A., Tran, B., Ludi, D., Molkara, A., Nguyen, H., Tabuenca, A., & **Sweeny, K.** (2016). Characteristics and consequences of word use in physician-patient communication. *Annals of Behavioral Medicine*, *50*, 664-677.
35. Howell, J. L., & **Sweeny, K.** (2016). Is waiting bad for subjective health? *Journal of Behavioral Medicine*, *39*, 652-664.
36. Huynh, H. P., **Sweeny, K.**, & Miller, T. (2016). Transformational leadership in primary care: Clinicians' patterned approaches to care predict patient satisfaction and health expectations. *Journal of Health Psychology (online first)*.
37. ***Sweeny, K.**, Reynolds, C., Falkenstein, A., Andrews, S. E., & Dooley, M. D. (2016). Two definitions of waiting well. *Emotion*, *16*, 129-143.

38. *Ghane, A., Sweeny, K., & Dunlop, W. L. (2015). A multi-method approach to women's experiences of reproductive health screening. *Women's Reproductive Health, 2*, 37-55.
39. *Huynh, H. P., Legg, A. M., Ghane, A., Tabuenca, A., & **Sweeny, K.** (2015). Who is satisfied with general surgery clinic visits? *Journal of Surgical Research, 192*, 339-347.
40. *Legg, A. M., Andrews, S. E., Huynh, H. P., Ghane, A., Tabuenca, A., & **Sweeny, K.** (2015). Patients' anxiety and hope: Predictors and adherence intentions in an acute care context. *Health Expectations, 18*, 3034-3043.
41. *Legg, A. M., & **Sweeny, K.** (2015). Blended news delivery: A framework for incorporating good news into bad news conversations. *Health Psychology Review, 9*, 452-468.
42. *Morse, P., **Sweeny, K.**, & Legg, A. M. (2015). A situational construal approach to healthcare experiences. *Social Science & Medicine, 138*, 170-178.
43. ***Sweeny, K.**, Andrews, S. E., Nelson, S. K., & Robbins, M. L. (2015). Waiting for a baby: Navigating uncertainty while trying to conceive. *Social Science & Medicine, 141*, 123-132.
44. ***Sweeny, K.**, & Falkenstein, A. (2015). Is waiting really the hardest part? Comparing the emotional experiences of awaiting and receiving bad news. *Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin, 41*, 1551-1559.
45. *Andrews, S. E., Ghane, A., Legg, A. M., Tabuenca, A., & **Sweeny, K.** (2014). Expectations in the context of gallbladder and hernia surgery: A descriptive report. *Health Expectations (online)*. doi: 10.1111/hex.12171
46. *Ghane, A., Huynh, H. P., Andrews, S. E., Legg, A. M., Tabuenca, A., & **Sweeny, K.** (2014). The relative importance of patients' decisional control preferences and experiences. *Psychology & Health, 29*, 1105-1118.
47. Howell, J. L., **Sweeny, K.**, & Shepperd, J. A. (2014). Psychological distance and the discrepancy between recommendations and actions. *Basic and Applied Social Psychology, 36*, 502-514.
48. *Huynh, H. P., & **Sweeny, K.** (2014). Clinician styles of care: Transforming patient care at the intersection of leadership and medicine. *Journal of Health Psychology, 19*, 1459-1470.
49. *Legg, A., & **Sweeny, K.** (2014). Do you want the good news or the bad news first? The nature and consequences of news order preferences. *Personality & Social Psychology Bulletin, 40*, 279-288.
50. ***Sweeny, K.**, & Andrews, S. E. (2014). Mapping individual differences in the experience of a waiting period. *Journal of Personality & Social Psychology, 106*, 1015-1030.
51. **Sweeny, K.**, & Dillard, A. (2014). The effects of expectation disconfirmation on appraisal, affect, and behavioral intentions. *Risk Analysis, 34*, 711-720.
52. ***Sweeny, K.**, Ghane, A., Legg, A. M., Huynh, H. P., & Andrews, S. E. (2014). Predictors of genetic testing decisions: A systematic review and critique of the literature. *Journal of Genetic Counseling, 23*, 263-288.

53. *Ghane, A., & **Sweeny, K.** (2013). Embodied health: A guiding perspective for research in health psychology. *Health Psychology Review, 7*, S159-S184.
54. Krizan, Z., & **Sweeny, K.** (2013). Causes and consequences of expectation trajectories: "High" on optimism in a public referendum. *Psychological Science, 24*, 706-714.
55. **Sweeny, K.**, & Krizan, Z. (2013). Sobering up: A quantitative review of temporal declines in expectations. *Psychological Bulletin, 139*, 702-724.
56. **Sweeny, K.**, Shepperd, J. A., & Han, P. K. J. (2013). The goals of communicating bad news in health care: Do physicians and patients agree? *Health Expectations, 16*, 230-238.
57. *Cavanaugh, A. G., & **Sweeny, K.** (2012). Hanging in the balance: The role of self-construal abstractness in navigating self-relevant uncertainty. *Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin, 38*, 520-527.
58. **Sweeny, K.** (2012). Waiting well: Tips for navigating painful uncertainty. *Social and Personality Psychology Compass, 6*, 258-269.
59. ***Sweeny, K.**, & Cavanaugh, A. G. (2012). Waiting is the hardest part: A model of uncertainty navigation in the context of health news. *Health Psychology Review, 6*, 147-164.
60. **Sweeny, K.**, & Miller, W. (2012). Predictors of information avoidance: When does ignorance seem most blissful? *Self & Identity, 11*, 185-201.
61. **Sweeny, K.**, Shepperd, J. A., & Howell, J. (2012). Do as I say (not as I do): Inconsistency in behaviors and values. *Basic and Applied Social Psychology, 34*, 128-135.
62. **Sweeny, K.**, & Vohs, K. D. (2012). On near misses and completed tasks: The nature of relief. *Psychological Science, 23*, 464-468.
63. ***Sweeny, K.**, & Legg, A. M. (2011). Predictors of interest in direct-to-consumer genetic testing. *Psychology & Health, 26*, 1259-1272.
64. **Sweeny, K.**, Melnyk, D., Miller, W., & Shepperd, J. A. (2010). Information avoidance: Who, what, when, and why. *Review of General Psychology, 14*, 340-353.
65. **Sweeny, K.**, & Shepperd, J. A. (2010). The costs of optimism and the benefits of pessimism. *Emotion, 10*, 750-753.
66. **Sweeny, K.**, & Shepperd, J. A. (2009). Responding to negative health events: A test of the Bad News Response Model. *Psychology & Health, 24*, 895-907.
67. **Sweeny, K.**, Shepperd, J. A., & Carroll, P. J. (2009). Expectations for others' outcomes. *Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin, 35*, 160-171.
68. Shepperd, J. A., Malone, W., & **Sweeny, K.** (2008). Exploring causes of the self-serving bias. *Social and Personality Psychology Compass, 2*, 895-908.
69. **Sweeny, K.** (2008). Crisis decision theory: Decisions in the face of negative events. *Psychological Bulletin, 134*, 61-76.
70. Carroll, P. J., Shepperd, J. A., **Sweeny, K.**, Carlson, E., & Benigno, J. P. (2007). Disappointment for others. *Cognition and Emotion, 11*, 1565-1576.

71. Shepperd, J. A., **Sweeny, K.**, & Cherry, L.C. (2007). Influencing audience satisfaction by manipulating expectations. *Social Influence*, 2, 98-111.
72. **Sweeny, K.**, & Shepperd, J. A. (2007). Do people brace sensibly? Risk judgments and risk prevalence. *Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin*, 33, 1064-1075.
73. **Sweeny, K.**, & Shepperd, J. A. (2007). Being the best bearer of bad tidings. *Review of General Psychology*, 11, 235-257.
74. Carroll, P., **Sweeny, K.**, & Shepperd, J. A. (2006). Forsaking optimism. *Review of General Psychology*, 10, 56-73.
75. **Sweeny, K.**, Carroll, P. J., & Shepperd, J. A. (2006). Thinking about the future: Is optimism always best? *Current Directions in Psychological Science*, 15, 302-306.

*Reprinted in A. A. Baird (Ed.), *Current Directions in Introductory Psychology*, 2nd edition (June 2008), pp. 169-176. Prentice Hall.

Edited books:

76. **Sweeny, K.**, & Robbins, M. L. (Volume editors; 2020). *The Wiley encyclopedia of health psychology: The social bases of health behavior (Vol. II)*. Wiley.
<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/book/10.1002/9781119057840>

Book and encyclopedia chapters:

77. *Knapp, S., & **Sweeny, K.** (in press). Stress and coping with stress. In R. Gurung (Ed.), *Routledge encyclopedia of psychology in the real world*. Routledge.
78. *Falkenstein, A., Dooley, M., & **Sweeny, K.** (2020). Waiting for medical news. In K. Sweeny & M. L. Robbins (Eds.), *The Wiley encyclopedia of health psychology: The social bases of health behavior*. Wiley.
<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/abs/10.1002/9781119057840.ch132>
79. *Kwan, V., & **Sweeny, K.** (2020). [Delay of gratification](#). In V. Zeigler-Hill & T. Shackelford (Eds.), *The encyclopedia of personality and individual differences*. Springer.
80. Morse, P., & **Sweeny, K.** (2020). Medical situations. In D. Funder, J. Rauthmann, & R. Sherman (Eds.), *The Oxford handbook of psychological situations*. New York, NY: Oxford University Press.
81. *Tran, B. Q., & **Sweeny, K.** (2020). [Expectancy \(Rotter\)](#). In V. Zeigler-Hill & T. Shackelford (Eds.), *The encyclopedia of personality and individual differences*. Springer.
82. *Shepperd, J. A., Falkenstein, A., & **Sweeny, K.** (2018). Fluctuations in future outlooks: From unrealistic optimism to bracing for the worst. In G. Oettingen, A. T. Sevincer, & P. M. Gollwitzer (Eds.), *The psychology of thinking about the future* (pp. 231-249). Guilford Press.
83. ***Sweeny, K.**, & Rankin, K. (2018). The role of attitudes in cancer. In D. Albarracín & B. T. Johnson (Eds.), *Handbook of attitudes Vol 2* (2nd ed.; pp. 3-30). Routledge.
84. *Andrews, S. E., **Sweeny, K.** (2015). A multi-level approach to managing threatening health information. To appear in P. J. Carroll, R. M. Arkin, & A. Wichman (Eds.), *The Handbook of Personal Security* (pp. 275-296). New York: Taylor & Francis.

85. ***Sweeny, K.**, & Ghane, A. (2015). Principles for effective coping in uncertain situations. To appear in J. Vuori, R. Blonk, & R. Price (Eds.), *Sustainable Working Lives: Managing Work Transitions and Health throughout the Life Course* (pp. 129-143). Springer.
86. *Legg, A., & **Sweeny, K.** (2012). Crisis management. In V. S. Ramachandran (Ed.) *Encyclopedia of Human Behavior, 2nd Edition*, pp. 618-622. London, UK: Elsevier Academic Press.
87. Shepperd, J. A., Carroll, P. J., & **Sweeny, K.** (2007). A functional approach to explaining fluctuations in future outlooks: From self-enhancement to self-criticism. In E. Chang (Ed.), *The complexities of self-criticism and self-enhancement: Theory, research and clinical implications*, pp. 161-180. Washington, DC: APA press.
88. Terry, M., **Sweeny, K.**, & Shepperd, J. A. (2007). Self-presentation. In R. Baumeister & K. D. Vohs, (Eds.), *Encyclopedia of Social Psychology*. Newbury Park, CA: Sage.
89. Shepperd, J. A., **Sweeny, K.**, & Carroll, P. J. (2006). Abandoning optimism in predictions about the future. In L. J. Sanna & E. Chang (Eds.), *Judgments over time: The interplay of thoughts, feelings and behaviors*, pp. 13-33. New York: Oxford University Press.

Other publications:

90. **Sweeny, K.** (2020). [Can anything cure the pandemic of waiting and worrying?](#) *Zocalo Public Square*.
91. ^*Medina, J., Rankin, K., & **Sweeny, K.** (2020). The benefits of trait mindfulness and flow during a period of stressful preparation. *UCR Undergraduate Research Journal, 14*.
92. ^*Acheampong, R., Bergman, K., Wilson, M., & **Sweeny, K.** (2020). Fear of cancer recurrence among Black and White mothers. *UCR Undergraduate Research Journal, 14*.
93. ^*Saini, S. K., Mendoza, M., Tran, B., & **Sweeny, K.** (2020; conference proceeding). Allow children to speak up for their own healthcare. *Journal of Allergy and Clinical Immunology, 145*, AB245.
94. *Rankin, K., Walsh, L., & **Sweeny, K.** (2019). [Forget your worries and find your flow](#). Blog post for the SPSP Character & Context blog.
95. **Sweeny, K.** (2018). [For dreamers, fear of deportation is scary—but waiting is even worse](#). *Washington Post*.
96. *Dooley, M. D., & **Sweeny, K.** (2017). [The stress of academic publishing](#). *Chronicle of Higher Education*.
97. *Kruse, E., & **Sweeny, K.** (2018). Comment: Well-being can improve health by shaping stress appraisals. *Emotion Review, 10*, 63-65.
98. ^*Oleskiewicz, D., Falkenstein, A., & **Sweeny, K.** (2017). The role of behavioral activation when navigating uncertainty. *UCR Undergraduate Research Journal, 11*, 29-34.
99. ^*Spillane, K., Rankin, K., & **Sweeny, K.** (2017). Predicting political engagement from moral values during the 2016 U.S. presidential election. *UCR Undergraduate Research Journal, 11*, 51-56.

100. **Sweeny, K.** (2017). The downsides of positivity. Invited piece in *The Psychologist*, 30, 30-35. (published as cover story in print edition)
101. **Sweeny, K.** (2016). Kate Sweeny: Award for Distinguished Scientific Early Career Contributions to Psychology. Award profile in the *American Psychologist*, 71, 705-707.
102. ^Perez, N., & **Sweeny, K.** (2015). University students' attitudes and behaviors towards cognitive enhancement drugs. *UCR Undergraduate Research Journal*, 9, 103-108.
103. ^Ramirez Loyola, M. D., & **Sweeny, K.** (2015). The role of religiosity and spirituality in waiting experiences. *UCR Undergraduate Research Journal*, 9, 109-114.
104. ^Tran, B. Q., & **Sweeny, K.** (2015). Pronoun usage by doctors and patients in surgical consultations. *UCR Undergraduate Research Journal*, 9, 131-136.
105. ^*Nguyen, A., Legg, A., & **Sweeny, K.** (2011). Do you want the good news or the bad news first? News order influences recipients' mood, perceptions, and behavior. *UCR Undergraduate Research Journal*, 5, 31-36.
106. ^Jamilano, C., & **Sweeny, K.** (2009). Facing the inevitable: Predictors of two types of acceptance. *UCR Undergraduate Research Journal*, 3, 13-20.

MANUSCRIPTS UNDER REVIEW OR REVISION

1. ^*Tran, B. Q., Mendoza, M., Saini, S. K., & **Sweeny, K.** (2021, March). *Let the kid speak: Dynamics of triadic medical interactions involving pediatric triads*. Invited resubmission to *Health Communication*.
2. Howell, J. L., **Sweeny, K.**, Hua, J.^a, Werntz, A.^a, Hussain, M.^a, Hinojosa, B.^a, Johnson, A.^a, Lindgren, K.^a, Meese, W.^a, O'Shea, B.^a, Campbell, S. A.^b, Zhang, W.^b, & Zhou, R.^b (2021, March). *Uncertainty is worse when one lacks control: Physical, mental, and social well-being in China during the COVID-19 outbreak*. Manuscript under review.
^{a,b}Authors within these designations are alphabetically ordered and contributed equally.
3. *Rankin, K., & **Sweeny, K.** (2020, October). *Consequences of preemptively finding benefits in bad news*. Manuscript under review.

MANUSCRIPTS IN PREPARATION

1. Howell, J. L., & **Sweeny, K.** (2021, March). *Information behavior during stressful waiting periods*. Manuscript in preparation.
2. *Rankin, K., & **Sweeny, K.** (2021, March). *Development of a scale to assess subjective coping efficacy*. Manuscript in preparation.
3. ***Sweeny, K.**, & Medina, J. (2021, March). *Links between well-being and sleep during the wait for breast biopsy results*. Manuscript in preparation.
4. *Wilson, M., & Rankin, K., Ludi, D., & **Sweeny, K.** (2021, March). *Emotional, cognitive, and physical well-being during the wait for breast biopsy results*. Manuscript in preparation.

5. *Wilson, M., & **Sweeny, K.** (2021, March). *Volatility in expectations while awaiting important news*. Manuscript in preparation.

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

(*co-authorship with a graduate student; ^co-authorship with an undergraduate student)

Recent talks (2017-present):

- ^*Tran, B. Q., Mendoza, M. M., Saini, S. K., & Sweeny, K. (2021, April). *Let the kid speak: Exploring the dynamics of triadic medical interactions involving pediatric patients*. Talk presented at the Annual Meeting for the Society of Behavioral Medicine.
- *Wilson, M., & **Sweeny, K.** (2021, April) *Pessimistic expectations predict distress during the wait for biopsy results*. Talk to be presented at the virtual Conference of the Western Psychological Association.
- Sweeny, K.** (2021, March). *Dealing with uncertainty in the era of COVID-19*. Invited talk for YohoCare.
- Sweeny, K.** (2021, February). *Dealing with uncertainty in the era of COVID-19*. Invited talk for the UCR Retirees' and Emeriti Associations.
- *Tran, B. Q., Loscalzo, M., Clark, K., & Sweeny, K. (2021, February). *Affective concerns and desires for support at cancer-related healthcare visits*. Talk presented at the Health Preconference for the Annual Conference for the Society for Personality and Social Psychology.
- *Wilson, M., Rankin, K., & **Sweeny, K.** (2021, February). *Waiting for results: Expectations matter more than risk factors*. Data blitz presented at the Health Preconference for the Annual Conference of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology.
- Sweeny, K.** (2020, October). *Dealing with uncertainty in the era of COVID-19*. Invited talk for the UCR Staff Assembly Meeting.
- *Wilson, M., & **Sweeny, K.** (2020, October). *Volatility in expectations while awaiting important news*. Talk presented at the virtual Conference of the Western Psychological Association.
- Sweeny, K.** (2020, August). *Dealing with uncertainty in the era of COVID-19*. [TEDxUCR Bloom Event](#), Riverside, CA.
- Sweeny, K.** (2020, June). *Dealing with uncertainty in the era of COVID-19*. Invited talk for the UCR CHASS Staff Meeting.
- Sweeny, K.** (2020, May). *Dealing with uncertainty in the era of COVID-19*. Keynote address at the 2nd Annual UCR R'PSYC Undergraduate Research Conference, Riverside, CA.
- Sweeny, K.** (2020, April). *Dealing with uncertainty in the era of COVID-19*. Invited webinar for the UCR Healthy Campus Initiative.
- ^*Saini, S. K., Tran, B. Q., Mendoza, M., & **Sweeny, K.** (2020, March). *Allow children to speak up for their own healthcare*. Paper presentation at the Annual Meeting for the American Academy of Allergy, Asthma & Immunology, Philadelphia, PA.

- Hussain, M., **Sweeny, K.**, & Howell, J. L. (2020, February). *The shifting relevance of advisor and romantic partner support for health while on the academic job market*. Data blitz presentation at the Health Preconference of the Annual Conference of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, New Orleans, LA.
- [^]**Sweeny, K.**, & Jacob, J. (2020, February). *Social support during the wait for breast cancer diagnosis*. Symposium presentation at the Annual Conference of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, New Orleans, LA.
- Sweeny, K.** (2020, February). *Common difficulties of academia that no one talks about: Take 2*. Professional development symposium presentation (co-chair) at the Annual Conference of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, New Orleans, LA.
- *Tran, B. Q., & **Sweeny, K.** (2020, February). *Why worry? Exploring the benefits of worry reappraisal during periods of uncertainty*. Paper presentation at the Annual Conference of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, New Orleans, LA.
- Sweeny, K.** (2019, October). *Can worry make us sicker? Implications of stressful uncertainty for health behavior*. Invited talk at the Claremont Symposium on Applied Social Psychology, Claremont, CA.
- Sweeny, K.** (2019, October). *How to wait well*. Invited talk for the Claremont Graduate University psychology colloquium series, Claremont, CA.
- Sweeny, K.**, & Howell, J. L. (2019, May). *Disruptions in health behavior during periods of uncertainty about one's future*. Symposium presentation at the Annual Convention for the Association for Psychological Science, Washington, DC.
- *Knapp, S. E., **Sweeny, K.**, & Davis, E. L. (2019, April). *The function of emotions in meeting implicit needs for power, achievement, and affiliation*. Paper presented at the Annual Conference for the Western Psychological Association, Pasadena, CA.
- *Rankin, K., & **Sweeny, K.** (2019, April). *Seeking silver linings in bad news*. Paper presented at the Annual Conference for the Western Psychological Association, Pasadena, CA.
- Sweeny, K.** (2019, February). *Common difficulties of academia that no one talks about: Shadow CV and repeated rejection*. Professional development symposium presentation at the Annual Conference of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, Portland, OR.
- [^]***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.
- Sweeny, K.**, & Howell, J. L. (2018, April). *Fulfilling self-determination needs predicts better sleep and less worry during a stressful period of uncertainty*. Symposium presentation at the Annual Conference for the Society for Affective Science, Los Angeles, CA.
- *Rankin, K., & **Sweeny, K.** (2018, April). *Divided we stand, united we worry: Exploring the role of uncertainty in the 2016 U.S. presidential election*. Symposium presentation at the Conference for the Western Psychological Association, Portland, Oregon.
- Sweeny, K.** (2018, March). *The waiting game: To worry or not to worry?* Presentation at the Citizens University Committee breakfast meeting, Riverside, CA.

*Rankin, K., & **Sweeny, K.** (2018, March). *Preemptively finding benefit in a cancer diagnosis: A qualitative analysis*. Data blitz talk at the Social Personality Health Network's Preconference for the Annual Conference of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, Atlanta, GA.

Sweeny, K. (2018, March). *Oxford-style debate: The findings from a paper published in Health Psychology are more likely to be replicated than the findings from a paper published in JPSP*. Social Personality Health Network's Preconference for the Annual Conference of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, Atlanta, GA.

Sweeny, K. (2018, February). *How to wait well*. Invited talk for the Pacific Lutheran University psychology colloquium series, Tacoma, WA.

Sweeny, K. (2018, January). *How to wait well*. Invited presentation for the Osher Lifelong Learning Series, Riverside, CA.

Sweeny, K. (2018, November). *How to wait well*. Invited presentation for the University of California, Riverside Parents' Association Weekend, Riverside, CA.

Recent posters and informal paper presentations (2018-present):

^*Adhami, N., Knapp, S., Rankin, K., & **Sweeny, K.** (2021, May). *Emotional experiences with true crime: taking the good with the bad*. Poster presentation at the Annual Convention for the Association for Psychological Science.

^*Dik, D., Rivera-Ramirez, I., Huang, M., Knapp, S., & **Sweeny, K.** (2021, May). *Violating the norm: Religiosity and moral foundation preferences in COVID-19 memes*. Poster presentation at the Annual Convention for the Association for Psychological Science.

^Hirulkar, S. D., & **Sweeny, K.** (2021, May). *Social distancing during COVID-19: The role of approach- and avoidance-oriented coping*. Poster presentation at the Annual Convention of the Association for Psychological Science.

*Knapp, S., Rankin, K., & **Sweeny, K.** (2021, May). *Motivation for watching true crime: Exploring emotion regulation flow*. Poster presentation at the Annual Conference for the Society for the Science of Motivation.

^*Rivera-Ramirez, I., Dik, D., Huang, M., Knapp, S., & **Sweeny, K.** (2021, May). *Humor in COVID-19 memes: Maladaptive humor Is universally appealing*. Poster presentation at the Annual Convention for the Association for Psychological Science.

^Zafra, A. J., & **Sweeny, K.** (2021, May). *Psychological experiences with gambling*. Poster presentation at the Annual Convention for the Association for Psychological Science.

*Knapp, S., Rankin, K., & **Sweeny, K.** (2021, April). *Motivation for consuming true crime programming*. Poster presentation at the Annual Conference for the Society for Affective Science.

^Zafra, A. J., & **Sweeny, K.** (2021, April). *The role of uncertainty-relevant traits in gambling behavior and experiences*. Poster presentation at the Annual Convention for the Western Psychological Association.

- ^*Bergman, K., Wilson, M., & **Sweeny, K.** (2021, February). *Differences in fear of cancer recurrence amongst black and white mothers*. Poster presentation at the Annual Conference of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology.
- ^*Huang, M., Rivera-Ramirez, I., Dik, D., Knapp, S., & **Sweeny, K.** (2021, February). *Laughing through the pain: Men and women's humor styles are differently associated With How bothered They Are By COVID-19*. Poster presentation at the Happiness and Well-being Preconference for the Annual Conference for the Society for Personality & Social Psychology.
- *Knapp, S., Rankin, K., & **Sweeny, K.** (2021, February). *Approaching the negative: Exploring emotion regulation flow as a motive for true crime consumption*. Poster presentation at the Emotions Preconference for the Annual Conference for the Society for Personality and Social Psychology.
- ^*Knapp S., Rivera-Ramirez, I., Huang M., & **Sweeny, K.** (2021, February). *Collective coping with memes during COVID-19*. Poster presentation at the Annual Conference for the Society for Personality & Social Psychology.
- *Rankin, K., Wilson, M., & **Sweeny, K.** (2021, February). *Shifts in well-being while waiting for health news*. Poster presentation at the Health Preconference for the Annual Conference of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology.
- *Rankin, K., & **Sweeny, K.** (2021, February). *Comparing dispositional mindfulness and flow proneness while waiting for uncertain news*. Poster presentation at the Happiness and Well-being Preconference for the Annual Conference of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology.
- ^*Rivera-Ramirez, I., Dik, D., & **Sweeny, K.** (2021, February). *Well-being in the age of COVID-19: The effects of social distancing*. Poster presentation at the Annual Conference of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology.
- ^*Rosales, S. A., Tran, B. Q., & **Sweeny, K.** (2021, February). *Communicating effectively: Exploring patient empowerment in surgical consultations*. Poster presentation at the Annual Conference for the Society for Personality and Social Psychology.
- *Wilson, M., & **Sweeny, K.** (2021, February). *Expectations related to COVID-19 predict well-being in nuanced ways*. Poster presentation at the Annual Conference of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology.
- ^*Bergman, K., Wilson, M., & **Sweeny, K.** (2020, October). *Fear of cancer recurrence and perceived partner responsiveness among breast cancer survivors*. Poster presentation at the Annual Conference of the Western Psychological Association.
- ^*Knapp, S., **Sweeny, K.**, & Davis, E. (2020, February). *You've lost that lovin' feelin': You-talk in love songs predicts declines in birth rate*. Poster presentation at the Annual Conference of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, New Orleans, LA.
- *Medina, O. J., Rankin, K., & **Sweeny, K.** (2020, February). *The benefits of trait mindfulness and flow during a stressful period of preparation*. Poster presentation at the Annual Conference of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, New Orleans, LA.

- *Revord, J., Lyubomirsky, S., & **Sweeny, K.** (2020, February). *Going through the (e)motions: Rethinking affect measurement*. Poster presentation at the Annual Conference of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, New Orleans, LA.
- *Wilkinson, D., Rankin, K., & **Sweeny, K.** (2020, February). *Latinx individuals' reactions following the 2016 presidential election*. Poster presentation at the Annual Conference of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, New Orleans, LA.
- *Wilson, M., & **Sweeny, K.** (2020, February). *Volatility in expectations while awaiting important news*. Poster presentation at the Annual Conference of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, New Orleans, LA.
- *Wilson, M., & **Sweeny, K.** (2020, February). *Volatile expectations and physical and psychological health while awaiting news*. Poster presentation at the Emotion Preconference for the Annual Conference of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, New Orleans, LA.
- Howell, J. L., & **Sweeny, K.** (2019, October). *Health behavior during periods of stressful uncertainty: Associations with emotions, cognitions, and expectation management*. Informal conference paper at the Annual Meeting of the Society of Experimental Social Psychology, Toronto, Ontario.
- ^*Mendoza, M. M., Tran, B. Q., & **Sweeny, K.** (2019, May). *Let the kid speak: Exploring the dynamics of triadic medical interactions involving pediatric patients*. Poster presentation at the Annual Convention for the Association for Psychological Science, Washington, DC.
- *Dooley, M. D., **Sweeny, K.**, & Howell, J. L. (2019, February). *Uncertain together: A dyadic exploration of social support during uncertain waiting periods*. Poster presentation at the Annual Conference for the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, Portland, OR.
- *Kwan, V., & **Sweeny, K.** (2019, February). *Personality, stress, and situational agency*. Poster presentation at the Annual Conference for the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, Portland, OR.
- *Rankin, K., Andrews, S., & **Sweeny, K.** (2019, February). *Awe-full uncertainty: Easing discomfort during waiting periods*. Poster presentation at the Happiness and Well-Being Preconference at the Annual Conference for the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, Portland, OR.
- ^*Rankin, K., Xu, S., & **Sweeny, K.** (2019, February). *Distorted time perception during stressful waiting periods*. Poster presentation at the Annual Conference for the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, Portland, OR.
- *Tran, B. Q., & **Sweeny, K.** (2019, February). *Outcomes of physician-patient dyadic language use during surgical consultations*. Poster presentation at the Annual Conference for the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, Portland, OR.
- *Tran, B. Q., & **Sweeny, K.** (2019, February). *Confronting cancer: A qualitative analysis of distress at a breast biopsy appointment*. Poster presentation at the Health Preconference of the Annual Convention for the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, Portland, OR.

- *Wilson, M., Knapp, S., & **Sweeny, K.** (2019, February). *Emotion regulation during an uncertain waiting period*. Poster presentation at the Emotion Preconference at the Annual Conference for the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, Portland, OR.
- *Dooley, M. D., Wilkinson, D., & **Sweeny, K.** (2018, March). *"You aren't helping!": A qualitative review of what helps (and doesn't) during periods of uncertainty*. Poster presentation at the Annual Conference of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, Atlanta, GA.
- *Falkenstein, A., & **Sweeny, K.** (2018, March). *Does optimism feel good? Relationships among performance expectations and indicators of well-being*. Poster presentation at the Annual Conference of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, Atlanta, GA.
- *German, K., **Sweeny, K.**, & Robbins, M. (March, 2018). *Academic career aspirations differ by individual versus relational efficacy beliefs*. Poster presentation at the Annual Conference of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, Atlanta, GA.
- *Kwan, V., Falkenstein, A., & **Sweeny, K.** (March, 2018). *Gender differences in worry and coping during uncertain waiting periods*. Poster presentation at the Annual Conference of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, Atlanta, GA.
- *Layous, K., **Sweeny, K.**, Armenta, C., Na, S., Choi, I., & Lyubomirsky, S. (March, 2018). *The proximal experience of gratitude*. Poster presentation at the Annual Conference of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, Atlanta, GA.
- *Rankin, K., Walsh, L., & **Sweeny, K.** (2018, March). *The benefits of flow while awaiting uncertain news*. Poster presentation at the Annual Conference of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, Atlanta, GA.
- *Tran, B. Q., Dooley, M. D., Ramirez Loyola, M., & **Sweeny, K.** (2018, March). *The role of religiosity and spirituality in coping with uncertain waiting periods*. Poster presentation at the Annual Conference of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, Atlanta, GA.
- *Tran, B. Q., & **Sweeny, K.** (2018, March). *Correlates of patients' and physicians' communication styles during surgical consultations*. Poster presentation at the Social Personality Health Network's Preconference for the Annual Conference of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, Atlanta, GA.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE AND SERVICE

- 2021- Associate Editor, *Personality & Social Psychology Bulletin*
- 2021- Consulting Editor, *Emotion*
- 2019-20 Editorial Board, *Social Science & Medicine*
- 2018 Coalition for National Science Funding Capitol Hill Exhibition, APA Representative
- 2018- SPSP Government Relations Committee, Member (2018-19), Co-Chair (2019-20)
- 2018- Graduate Advisor, Department of Psychology, UCR
- 2018-20 Editorial Board, *Journal of Research in Personality*
- 2017- Editorial Board, *Health Psychology Review*
- 2016-20 Social/Personality Area Head, Department of Psychology, UCR
- 2016- Vice Chair, Biomedical/Clinical Institutional Review Board, UCR

- 2017-19 Chair, College of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences Executive Committee, UCR
 2016-20 NSF Review Panelist, SBE Directorate
 2015-16 Training Committee Chair, UC Intercampus Consortium on Health Psychology
 2015-17 Program Chair, Social Personality Health Network Preconference, SPSP
 2014-17 Social Personality Health Network Early Career Award Committee
 2013-15 Chair, Social Personality Health Network Virtual Brownbag Program
 2010-16 NIH Fellowship Study Section
 2009 Participant, Summer Institute on Social/Personality Psychology and Health, National Cancer Institute
 2008 Advanced Training Institute on Health Behavior Theory, Hosted by the National Cancer Institute, Madison, Wisconsin
 2007 Fellow, Summer Institute in Informed Patient Choice, Dartmouth College

SELECTED MEDIA COVERAGE

Television:

[*NOVA's The Secret Lives of Scientists and Engineers*](#). Profiled in Season 4, 2014.

Radio:

[*How to be happy: Crush COVID-19 blues*](#). Morning Wave in Busan (South Korea). October 2020.

[*Can't stop worrying? Try Tetris to ease your mind*](#). NPR's Morning Edition. November 2018.

[*Classic video games can help people achieve flow state*](#). California Report. KQED radio. October 2018.

[*Mindfulness and the stress of waiting*](#). The Academic Minute. WAMC radio. July 2017.

[*The upside of worry*](#). KERA's Think with Krys Boyd. May 2017.

[*Fear not worrywarts, there's an upside to those thoughts*](#). Science Friday with Ira Flatow. NPR. April 2017.

Podcasts:

[*10 Percent Happier*](#). May 2020.

[*UCR's Mental Health Fireside Chats*](#). August 2019.

[*Wow in the World by NPR*](#). December 2018.

[*The Daily Beat with Joe Virgillito \(Part 1 & Part 2\)*](#). November 2018.

[*The Existential Files by Dr. Louie Savva & Dr. Matthew Smith*](#). June 2017.

[*Who cares? What's the point? A psychology podcast with Dr. Sarb Johal*](#). June 2017.

Magazine:

[*How planning for tomorrow can ease uncertainty today*](#). The Atlantic, November 2020.

[*Kate Sweeny bändigt die Sorgen \(Kate Sweeny curbs worries\)*](#). Jochen Metzger, Psychologie Heute, July 2020.

[*Get your head in the game*](#). Elizabeth Bacharach, *Women's Health*. March 2019.

[*A happy medium*](#). Nancy Rones, *Martha Stewart Living*. April 2017.

[*Here's how to make waiting a little less excruciating*](#). Alice Park, *TIME*. December 2014.

[*This is only a \(medical\) test...*](#) Julia Edelstein, *Real Simple Magazine*. July 2014.

[*The uses and abuses of optimism \(and pessimism\)*](#). Annie Murphy Paul, *Psychology Today*. November 2011.

The part-time optimist: When to hope for the best, when to brace yourself. Jill Coody Smits, *Psychology Today*. May 2011.

The optimism revolution. Jill Neimark, *Psychology Today*. May 2007.

Newspaper:

[What to expect when you're expecting the worst.](#) Emil P. G. Erickson, *New York Times*, January 2021.

[How long is this going to take? Americans settle in to wait.](#) Sarah Lyall, *New York Times*, November 2020.

[You're waiting for election results. It's agony. Here's what to do.](#) Charlie Warzel, *New York Times*, November 2020.

[Camp is canceled. Three more months of family time. Help.](#) Jennifer Senior, *New York Times*, May 2020.

[When a little agonizing helps.](#) Elizabeth Bernstein, *Wall Street Journal*, May 2017.

[Good news about worrying.](#) Jan Hoffman, *New York Times*, November 2015.

[Lean toward the sunny side, but don't overdo it.](#) Alina Tugend, *New York Times*. September 2011.

Web articles:

[If an activity does these two things, it could help your brain combat quarantine.](#) Sarah Sloat, *Inverse*, November 2020.

[A psychologist explains why one unexpected upside of worry is perfect for 2020.](#) Sarah Sloat, *Inverse*, November 2020.

[Anxious about election Results? Here's what's happening in your brain as you wait.](#) Elizabeth Landau, *Smithsonian Magazine*, November 2020.

[Managing the psychological effects of the 2020 election.](#) Yalda Safai, *ABC News*, November 2020.

[How to deal with the anxiety of uncertainty.](#) Stéphanie Thomson, *WIRED*, September 2020.

[The surprising upsides of worrying.](#) Christine Ro, *BBC*, August 2020.

[Can you access the joy and benefits of flow in lockdown?](#) Susan K. Perry, *Psychology Today Blog*, May 2020.

[Getting good at waiting: 'You want something that challenges you but not too much.'](#) Ruhi Lee, *The Guardian*, April 2020.

[„Im Flow vergisst man seine Corona-Sorgen“ \(In flow, you forget your coronavirus worries\).](#) Jochen Metzger, *Psychologie Heute*, March 2020.

[Positivity may not be as powerful as you think.](#) Ashley Abramson, *Medium*, July 2019.

[A stress researcher shares 3 ways to make anxious waiting periods easier.](#) Sarah Sloat, *Inverse*, June 2019.

Web videos:

[Flow as a tool during a time of uncertainty.](#) Two for You, *University of Minnesota*, November 2020.

[Psychology professor explains how to fight COVID-19 stress through a "flow" state.](#) *UCR Media Team*, August 2020.

[The best way to deal when you're waiting for big news.](#) *OWN Show, Oprah.com*, October 2015.

[The best way to prepare for bad news.](#) *OWN Show, Oprah.com*, October 2015.