

Laura Maribeth Morett

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Education

- Ph.D. Candidate, University of California, Santa Cruz 2012
Thesis: The Role of Gesture in Second Language Acquisition
Advisors: Ray Gibbs & Brian MacWhinney (Carnegie Mellon)
- Master of Science, University of California, Santa Cruz 2011
Thesis: Shifting Sentence Interpretation Strategies in L2 Learners
Advisors: Ray Gibbs & Brian MacWhinney (Carnegie Mellon)
- Bachelor of Arts, Washington College, Chestertown, MD 2008
Majors: Psychology & Hispanic Studies; Minor: English
Honors: Departmental Honors, Thesis Honors, *Summa cum Laude*

Major Fellowships and Awards

- Cognitive Science Society/NSF Travel Grant & Research Fellowship 2012
Awarded to attend CogSci 2012 and conduct research in Japan.
- Psi Chi APS Society Convention Research Award 2012
Awarded for outstanding research presented at the APS convention.
- IASCL Student Research Award 2011
Awarded for outstanding student research presented at IASCL 2011.
- Federico and Rena Perlino Scholarship Award 2011
Dept. of Psychology, UCSC. 1 year of 100% financial support.
- East Asia and Pacific Summer Institutes Fellowship 2010
US National Science Foundation. 3 months of 100% financial support.
- National Defense Science and Engineering Graduate Fellowship 2008
US Department of Defense. 3 years of 100% financial support.
- First Honor Graduate 2008
Washington College. Graduating senior with highest GPA.
- Summer Research Experiences for Undergraduates Fellow 2007
Colorado State University. 3 months of 100% financial support.
- Board of Visitors and Governors Medal 2007
Washington College. Third year student with highest GPA.
- Fox Freshman Scholarship Medal 2005
Washington College. First year student with highest GPA.
- George Washington Scholarship 2004
Washington College. Awarded for outstanding academic potential.

Research and Travel Grants

Student Travel Award, International Association for Child Language (\$250)	2011
Faculty Research Grant, Committee on Research, UCSC (\$1000)	2011
Graduate Research Grant, Psi Chi (\$1373)	2011
Mini-Research Grant, Department of Psychology, UCSC (\$214)	2010
Travel Grant, Graduate Student Association, UCSC (\$365-\$452)	2009-2012
Travel Grant, Department of Psychology, UCSC (\$246-\$365)	2008-2011
Travel Grant, Colorado State University (\$465)	2008
Research Grant, Douglass Cater Society of Junior Fellows (\$822)	2007

Manuscripts in Preparation

- Morett, L. M.** (in prep). Enhancing the effectiveness of ASL sign acquisition via enactment. Planned submission to *Psychological Science*.
- Morett, L. M., MacWhinney, B., & Gibbs, R. W.** (in prep). Mental imagery, not embodied action, facilitates second language word learning. Planned submission to *Studies in Second Language Acquisition*.
- Morett, L. M., MacWhinney, B., & Gibbs, R. W.** (in prep). When the hands surmount the tongue: The role of gesture in the acquisition, communication, and retention of a novel second language. Planned submission to *Cognition*.

Manuscript Under Review

- Morett, L. M. & Tan, S. H.** (submitted). Lexical tone affects speech perception and word learning by bilingual children. Under review at *Journal of Child Language*.

Peer-Reviewed Publications

- Morett, L. M., & MacWhinney, B.** (in press). Syntactic transfer in English-speaking Spanish learners. *Bilingualism: Language and Cognition*, x, xxx-xxx.
- Morett, L. M.** (2009). The effect of instructional method on second language acquisition: An examination of some contributing factors. *Psi Chi Journal of Undergraduate Research*, 14, 107-114.
- Morett, L. M., Clegg, B. A., Blalock, L. D., & Mong, H. M.** (2009). Applying multimedia learning theory to map learning and driving navigation. *Transportation Research Part F: Traffic Psychology & Behaviour*, 12, 40-49.

Peer-Reviewed Proceedings Papers

- Morett, L. M., MacWhinney, B., & Gibbs, R. W.** (forthcoming). The role of gesture in second language word learning: Acquisition, communication, and retention. To appear in N. Miyake, D. Peebles, & R. Cooper (Eds.), *Proceedings of the 34th Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society*.
- Morett, L. M., MacWhinney, B., & Gibbs, R. W.** (forthcoming). The effects of mental imagery and embodied action on L2 word learning. To appear in N. Miyake, D. Peebles, & R. Cooper (Eds.), *Proceedings of the 34th Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society*.

Morett, L. M. (forthcoming). How the hands cue the mind: The effects of iconicity and enactment on sign language acquisition. To appear in N. Miyake, D. Peebles, & R. Cooper (Eds.), *Proceedings of the 34th Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society*.

Peer-Reviewed Conference Presentations: Papers

- Morett, L. M.** (2012, August). *The role of gesture in second language word learning: Acquisition, communication, and retention*. To be presented at the 34th annual meeting of the Cognitive Science Society, Sapporo, Japan.
- Morett, L. M., Gibbs, R. W., & MacWhinney, B.** (2012, May). *From hands to mouths to minds: Enhancement of second language acquisition via conversational gesture*. To be presented at the 11th biannual Conceptual Structure, Discourse, and Language Conference, Vancouver, British Columbia.
- Morett, L. M.** (2012, March). *Gesture facilitates second language acquisition, communication, and retention*. In L. M. Morett (Chair), *The psycholinguistic bases of second language acquisition: Consistency and change across languages*. Presented at the 100th annual meeting of the Eastern Psychological Association.
- Morett, L. M. & Tan, S. H.** (2011, July). *Lexical tone affects speech perception and word learning by bilingual children*. Presented at the 12th triannual meeting of the International Association for the Study of Child Language, Montréal, Québec. **[Awarded Student Research Award]**

Peer-Reviewed Conference Presentations: Posters

- Morett, L. M., Gibbs, R. W., & MacWhinney, B.** (2012, August). *The effects of mental imagery and embodied action on L2 word learning*. To be presented at the 34th annual meeting of the Cognitive Science Society, Sapporo, Japan.
- Morett, L. M., Gibbs, R. W., & MacWhinney, B.** (2012, August). *How the hands cue the mind: The effects of iconicity and enactment on sign language acquisition*. To be presented at the 34th annual meeting of the Cognitive Science Society, Sapporo, Japan.
- Morett, L. M.** (2012, May). *Enactment enhances ASL sign acquisition*. To be presented at the 24th annual meeting of the Association for Psychological Science, Chicago, IL. **[Awarded Psi Chi/APS Research Award]**
- Morett, L. M.** (2012, May). *Saying it with the hands: How gesture promotes second language acquisition*. To be presented at the 24th annual meeting of the Association for Psychological Science, Chicago, IL.
- Morett, L. M.** (2012, May). *The role of mental imagery and embodied motion in sign language learning*. To be presented at the 11th biannual Conceptual Structure, Discourse, and Language Conference, Vancouver, British Columbia.
- Morett, L. M.** (2012, March). *Can gesture enhance second language word learning?* Presented at the 100th annual meeting of the Eastern Psychological Association, Pittsburgh.
- Morett, L. M.** (2012, March). *Enactment facilitates ASL sign acquisition*. Presented at the 100th annual meeting of the Eastern Psychological Association, Pittsburgh.
- Morett, L. M., MacWhinney, B., & Gibbs, R. W.** (2011, November). *The role of gesture in second language word learning*. Presented at the 15th annual Sigma Xi Student Research Conference, Raleigh, NC.
- Morett, L. M., & MacWhinney, B.** (2011, April). *Bilingual sentence processing strategies in English-speaking learners of Spanish*. Presented at the 3rd annual meeting of the California Cognitive Science Conference, Berkeley, CA.

- Morett, L. M., & MacWhinney, B. (2010, November).** *The relationship between cue-based sentence interpretation strategies and proficiency of second language learners.* Presented at the 51st annual meeting of the Psychonomics Society, St. Louis, MO.
- Morett, L. M., Massaro, D. W., & Gawade, M. (2010, May).** *Second language pronunciation training by ear and eye: The role of internal articulators in phonetic acquisition.* Presented at the 2nd annual meeting of the California Cognitive Science Conference, Berkeley, CA.
- Morett, L. M., Massaro, D. W., & Gawade, M. (2009, November).** *Second language pronunciation training by ear and eye: The role of internal articulators in phonetic acquisition.* Presented at the 50th annual meeting of the Psychonomics Society, Boston, MA.
- Morett, L. M., Clegg, B.A., Blalock, L.D., & Mong, H.M (2008, May).** *Applications of multimedia learning theory to map learning and driving navigation.* Presented at the 20th annual meeting of the Association for Psychological Science, Chicago, IL.
- Morett, L. M., Clegg, B.A., Blalock, L.D., & Mong, H.M (2008, April).** *Applications of multimedia learning theory to map learning and driving navigation.* Presented at the 78th annual meeting of the Rocky Mountain Psychological Association, Boise, ID.
- Morett, L. M. (2008, March).** *Applications of psycholinguistics: Undergraduate L2 learning.* Presented at the 96th annual meeting of Eastern Psychological Association, Boston, MA.

Local Research Presentations

- Morett, L. M. (2012, March).** *Gesture facilitates real-time and delayed second language comprehension.* Paper presented at the 9th annual Graduate Research Exposition, University of Pittsburgh, Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences.
- Morett, L. M. (2012, March).** *The contributions of embodied action, mental imagery, and iconicity to L2 lexical acquisition.* Paper presented at Cognitive Brown Bag, Department of Psychology, University of Pittsburgh.
- Morett, L. M. (2011, May).** *The role of embodied manual action on second language acquisition.* Paper presented at the 7th annual Graduate Research Symposium, UCSC.
- Morett, L. M. (2010, May).** *Second language pronunciation training by ear and eye: The role of internal articulators in phonetic acquisition.* Poster presented at the 6th annual Graduate Research Symposium, UCSC.
- Morett, L. M. (2007, October).** *Applications of psycholinguistic theory: Second language learning in an undergraduate population.* Poster presented at the Parents' Day Research Symposium, Washington College, Chestertown, MD.
- Morett, L. M., Clegg, B.A., Blalock, L.D., & Mong, H.M (2007, September).** *Applications of multimedia learning theory to map learning and driving navigation.* Poster presented at the Summer Research Symposium, Washington College, Chestertown, MD.
- Morett, L. M., Clegg, B.A., Blalock, L.D., & Mong, H.M (2007, August).** *Applications of multimedia learning theory to map learning and driving navigation.* Poster presented at the Summer Program on Mind & Brain Symposium, Colorado State University, Fort Collins.
- Morett, L. M. (2007, May).** *Applications of psycholinguistic theory: Second language learning in an undergraduate population.* Poster presented at the Senior Capstone Experience Symposium, Washington College, Chestertown, MD.

Other Publications

- Morett, L. M. (2009).** In search of funding. *APS Observer*, 22 (5), 33-35.
- Morett, L. M. (2008).** Second language learning in an undergraduate population: Applications of psycholinguistic theory. (ERIC Document Reproduction Service No. ED502164).

Research Interests

Second Language Acquisition
 Bilingual Language Development
 Embodied and Situated Cognition

Vocabulary Learning
 Sentence Processing
 Gesture-Speech Integration

Research Experience

The Role of Gesture in Lexical Processing and Acquisition.

Summer 2011-present. Department of Psychology, University of Pittsburgh.

Principal Investigator: Jana Iverson

Embodied Language Comprehension.

Fall 2010-present. Department of Psychology, University of California, Santa Cruz.

Principal Investigator: Ray Gibbs

The Relationship Between Speech Perception and Bilingual Language Development.

Summer 2010. Department of Psychology, National University of Singapore.

Principal Investigator: Tan Seok Hui

Sentence Processing in Second Language Learners and Bilinguals.

Fall 2009-Spring 2010. Department of Psychology, Carnegie Mellon University.

Principal Investigator: Brian MacWhinney

Speech Perception and Language Learning via Baldi, an Embodied Conversational Agent.

Fall 2008-Spring 2009. Department of Psychology, University of California, Santa Cruz.

Principal Investigator: Dominic Massaro

Cognitive Influences on the Dynamics of Complex Human Performance.

Summer 2007. Department of Psychology, Colorado State University.

Principal Investigator: Benjamin Clegg

The Effects of Neurological Damage and Dysfunction on High-Level Cognition.

Spring 2006-Fall 2007. Department of Psychology, Washington College.

Principal Investigator: George Spilich

Teaching Interests

Introduction to Psychology
 Cognitive Psychology
 Research Methods

Psychology of Language
 Second Language Acquisition
 Gesture, Language, and Thought

Teaching Experience

Graduate Student Mentor, Embodied Language and Cognition Lab 2008-present

Average load: 2-3 undergraduate research assistants per term

Guest Lecturer, Neurodiversity and the Autism Spectrum, Ursinus College Spring 2012

Topic: Living with Asperger's Syndrome: A Personal Account

Teaching Assistant, Human Learning and Memory, UCSC Fall 2010

Average overall effectiveness rating: 4.65/5.0

Guest Lecturer, Child Development, San José State University Spring 2010

Topic: Cognitive Development in Adolescence

Teaching Assistant, Human Factors, UCSC Winter 2009

Average overall effectiveness rating: 4.51/5.0

Reviewing

Second Language Research Forum (SLRF)	2012
Cognitive Science Society Conference (CogSci)	2012
<i>Speech Communication</i>	2010
APS Student Research Award Competition	2010
APS Student Grant Competition	2009

Other Professional Service

Chair, Prospective Visiting Day Committee, Dept. of Psychology, UCSC	2011
Organizer, Bilingualism Journal Club, Dept. of Psychology, UCSC	2011
Graduate Panelist, Psi Chi Roundtable, Dept. of Psychology, UCSC	2011
Graduate Student Representative, Dept. of Psychology, UCSC	2010
Member, University of California Student Regent Selection Committee	2010
Board Member, University of California Students Association	2009
External Vice President, Graduate Student Association, UCSC	2009
Editor, <i>On Your Mind</i> , Dept. of Psychology, Washington College	2007
Treasurer, Psychology Club, Washington College	2007

Community Service

Judge, Pittsburgh Regional Science Fair	2012
Judge, Santa Cruz County Board of Education Science Fair	2010-2011
ESL Instructor, Latin American Community Center, Wilmington, DE	2007
Mentor, ESL Learning Opportunity Program, Garnett Elementary	2007
Instructor, Spanish in the Schools Program, Church Hill Elementary	2006
Mentor, Office of International Programs, Washington College	2006

Other Professional Experience

Multimodal Neuroimaging Summer Workshop, University of Pittsburgh Will attend workshop demonstrating implementation of multiple neuroimaging techniques, focusing on MEG and EEG.	2012
Symposium Organizer, EPA Convention, Pittsburgh, PA Chaired peer-reviewed paper symposium entitled <i>The psycholinguistic bases of second language acquisition: Consistency and change across languages</i> .	2012
Pittsburgh Science of Learning Center Summer School, Carnegie Mellon Attended workshop focusing on the design and implementation of in vivo experimentation in educational settings.	2011
Linguistic Society of America Summer Institute, UC Berkeley Attended classes, colloquia, and workshops in various fields of psycholinguistics offered by prominent linguists.	2009
Paraprofessional, Christina School District, Newark, DE Taught severely developmentally disabled children in a supplementary summer learning program at Keene Elementary.	2008

Substitute Teacher, Kelly Educational Services, New Castle, DE Taught various classes in local elementary and middle schools.	2008
Staff Tutor, Huntington Learning Center, Newark, DE Tutored elementary and middle school children in reading, writing, and mathematics.	2008

Professional and Academic Affiliations

Sigma Xi, Scientific Research Society	2012
Eastern Psychological Association	2012
International Association for the Study of Child Language	2011
Association for Psychological Science	2008
Omicron Delta Kappa, National Leadership Honor Society	2007
Sigma Delta Pi, National Hispanic Honor Society	2007
Pi Lambda Theta, National Education Honor Society	2007
Psi Chi, International Honor Society in Psychology	2006
Douglass Cater Society of Junior Fellows, Washington College	2006

Languages and International Experience

Visiting Research Fellow, NICT, Tokyo, Japan Languages: English, Japanese	2012
Visiting Research Fellow, National University of Singapore Languages: English, Mandarin	2010
International Student, Universidad San Francisco de Quito Language: Spanish	2006

Referees

Raymond W. Gibbs
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Jana M. Iverson
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