Benjamin P. Austin

Curriculum Vitae

The Bio-Imaging Research Center &
The Cognitive and Clinical Neuroscience Laboratory
University of Georgia

Contact Information:
Department of Psychology
The University of Georgia
Athens, GA 30602-3013
(706) 495-7479
piya@uga.edu

EDUCATION

M.S. (2007)	University of Georgia Cognitive/Experimental Psychology
B.E. (2003)	Vanderbilt University Mechanical Engineering, cum laude

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

06/08-present J. McDowell, C. Davis, C. Krafft – *A behavioral study investigating exercise-induced changes in antisaccade and flanker performance in overweight children*

12/07-present J. McDowell, F. Meyer, M. Amlung – *An fMRI study on the neural substrates of delayed match and non-match saccades using block and event-related designs*

12/06-present J. McDowell, J. Camchong - *An fMRI study on undergraduates during saccade performance*

12/06-present J. McDowell, K. Dyckman - *An fMRI study investigating practice-based neural plasticity among normal and schizophrenia subjects*

07/06-present J. McDowell, C. Davis - *An fMRI study investigating exercise-induced changes in circuitries supporting antisaccade performance in overweight children*

02/06-07/06 J. McDowell, C. Davis, N. Yanasak - *An fMRI study on the effects of exercise on the neural substrates of antisaccade performance in overweight children*

09/05-12/07 J. McDowell - *An fMRI study on the neural substrates of delayed match and non-match saccades*

09/05-09/06 J. McDowell, K. Dyckman - *An fMRI study on the effect of context on saccade-related behavior and brain activity*

09/05-09/06 J. McDowell, J. Camchong - *An fMRI study on working memory and inhibition in schizophrenics and 1st degree relatives*

09/05-09/06 J. McDowell, K. Dyckman - *An fMRI study on the effect of practice on saccade-related behavior and brain activity*

PUBLICATIONS & MANUSCRIPTS

Austin, B. P. (Manuscript in preparation). The Human Parietal Eye Fields; a Review.

Amlung, M. T., Li, Q., Valtcheva, M., Camchong, J., Austin, B. P., Dyckman, K. A., Unsworth, N., McDowell, J. E. (Manuscript in preparation). Prosaccade latency predict antisaccade error rate in a sample of healthy normal participants.

Davis, C. L., Tomporowski, P. D., McDowell, J. E., Austin, B. P., Yanasak, N. E., Allison, J. D., Naglieri, J. A., Miller, P. H. (In Press). Exercise improves executive function and alters neural activation in overweight children; a randomized controlled trial. *Health Psychology*.

McDowell, J. E., Dyckman, K. A., Austin, B. P., Clementz, B. A. (2008). Neurophysiology and neuroanatomy of reflexive and volitional saccades: evidence from human studies. *Brain and Cognition, 68*(3), 255-270.

Camchong, J., Dyckman, K. A., Austin, B. P., Clementz, B. A., McDowell, J. E., (2008). Common neural circuitry supporting volitional saccades and its disruption in schizophrenia patients and relatives. *Biological Psychiatry, 64*(12), 1042-1050.

AWARDS & HONORS

08/09 - **ARCS Foundation Scholar**
Award of $6000 from the Achievement Rewards for College Scientists (ARCS) Foundation, Inc., a national organization recognizing exceptional accomplishment in biomedical and public health related research.

05/09 - **The Doctoral Dissertation Completion Award, The University of Georgia**
Winner of prestigious, 1-year assistantship providing full stipend from the Graduate School to devote last year to completing doctoral dissertation

05/09 - **Travel Grant Recipient, The Franklin Foundation Neuroimaging Program**
Recipient of $360 travel grant to attend the conference for the Organization for Human Brain Mapping, San Francisco

02/09 - **The Graduate School Dean's Award, The University of Georgia**
Winner of $1000 award to assist dissertation research and writing

02/09 - **The Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award, The University of Georgia**
Recipient of university-wide award for teaching excellence

02/09 - **Travel Grant Recipient, The University of Georgia Graduate School**
Recipient of $600 travel grant to present research at the meeting for the International Conference on Schizophrenia Research, San Diego

10/08 - **Conference for Southern Graduate Schools 2009 Master's Thesis Award**
Recipient of single nomination for the University of Georgia in the field of Math, Physical Sciences, and Engineering

10/08 - **Travel Grant Recipient, The Franklin Foundation Neuroimaging Program**
Recipient of $600 travel grant to present research at the meeting for the International Conference on Schizophrenia Research, San Diego

06/08 - **Visiting Lab Scholar, The University of California San Diego**
Invited visit to Martin Paulus Laboratory at UCSD to study advanced fMRI data processing techniques using AFNI software

06/08 - **Workshop on Schizophrenia and Related Disorders at The Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, NY**. *Participant in highly-selective, 10-day workshop and recipient of $1000 award*

10/07 - **Travel Grant Recipient, The University of Georgia Graduate School**
Recipient of $400 travel grant to present research at the meeting for the Society for Psychophysiological Research in Savannah, GA

09/07 - **Travel Grant Recipient, The Franklin Foundation Neuroimaging Program**
Recipient of $150 travel grant to present research at the meeting for the Society for Psychophysiological Research in Savannah, GA

08/07 - **University of Michigan Training Course in fMRI**
Participant in highly-selective, 2-week fMRI course at the University of Michigan, fully-funded by the National Science Foundation

08/05-05/07 - **Graduate School Scholarship, The University of Georgia**
Awarded prestigious, 2-year fellowship providing full stipend by the University of Georgia Graduate School

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

06/09-present ***Organization for Human Brain Mapping (OHBM)***
05/09-present ***Graduate Students & Postdocs in Science (GSPS), University of Georgia***
09/08-present ***International Congress on Schizophrenia Research (ICOSR)***
07/07-present ***Society for Psychophysiological Research (SPR)***
08/06-present ***Bio-Imaging Research Center (BIRC), University of Georgia***
05/06-present ***Society for Neuroscience (SfN)***

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

01/09-05/09 **Teaching Assistant**, PSYC 4140 – *Cognitive Neuroscience*
01/08-05/08 **Lab Instructor**, PSYC 4100 – *Cognitive Psychology*
06/07-08/07 **Lab Instructor**, PSYC 2990 – *Research Analysis in Psychology*

PRESENTATIONS

07/09 - **1st Interdisciplinary Scientific Research Conference, UGA** – Athens, GA (Poster)
Austin, B.P., Dyckman, K.A., Amlung, M.T., Li, Q., Clementz, B.A., & McDowell, J.E. *Practice-induced Changes in Neural Circuitries Supporting Saccade Performance in Schizophrenia: an fMRI Study.*

07/09 - **1st Interdisciplinary Scientific Research Conference, UGA** – Athens, GA (Poster)
Krafft, C., Davis, C.L., Austin, B.P., Tomporowski, P.D., Miller, P., & McDowell, J.E. *The Effects of Exercise on Executive Control in Overweight Children.*

04/09 - **GA/SC Neuroscience Consortium Meeting**– Athens, GA (Poster)
Krafft, C., Davis, C.L., Austin, B.P., Tomporowski, P.D., Miller, P., & McDowell, J.E. *The Effects of Exercise on Executive Control in Overweight Children.*

04/09 - **GA/SC Neuroscience Consortium Meeting**– Athens, GA (Poster)
Amlung, M.T., Li, Q., Austin, B.P., Camchong, J., & McDowell, J.E. *Neural Correlates of Poor Saccadic Control in Undergraduates; an fMRI Study.*

03/09 - **International Conference on Schizophrenia Research** – San Diego, CA (Poster)
Austin, B.P., Dyckman, K.A., Amlung, M.T., Li, Q., Clementz, B.A., & McDowell, J.E. *Practice-induced Changes in Neural Circuitries Supporting Saccade Performance in Schizophrenia: an fMRI Study.*

03/09 - **International Conference on Schizophrenia Research** – San Diego, CA (Poster)
Moore, M., Austin, B.P., Dyckman, K.A., Li, Q., Amlung, M.T., Meyer, F., Clementz, B.A., & McDowell, J.E. *Behavioral Changes Following Daily Practice of Saccade Tasks in Schizophrenia.*

03/09 - **International Conference on Schizophrenia Research** – San Diego, CA (Poster)
Amlung, M.T., Li, Q., Austin, B.P., Camchong, J., & McDowell, J.E. *Behavioral and Neural Correlates of Poor Saccadic Control in Undergraduates.*

08/08 - **Network of Greater Georgia Institutions of Neuroimaging and Statistics Workshop**– Athens, GA (Lecture) Amlung, M.T., Li., Q., Austin, B.P., Camchong, J., & McDowell, J.E. *Neural Correlates of Poor Saccadic Control in Undergraduates.*

08/08 - **American Psychological Association Convention** – Boston, MA (Symposium Lecture)
McDowell, J.E., Austin, B.P., Allison, J., Yanasak, N.E., Camchong, J., Tomporowski, P.D., Tkacz, J., Miller, P.H., & Davis, C.L. *Changes in Brain Activation Following Exercise Training in Overweight Children.*

11/07 - **Society for Neuroscience Conference –** San Diego, CA (Poster)
Austin, B.P., McDowell, J.E., Allison, J., Yanasak, N.E., Camchong, J., Tomporowski, P.D., Creech, C., Tkacz, J., Miller, P.H., & Davis, C.L. *Exercise-induced changes in circuitries supporting antisaccade performance in overweight children; an fMRI study.*

10/07 - **Society for Psychophysiological Research Conference -** Savannah, GA (Poster)
Austin, B.P., Dyckman, K.A., Camchong, J., & McDowell, J.E. *The neural substrates of delayed match and non-match saccades; an fMRI investigation.*

11/06 - **Society for Psychophysiological Research Conference –** Vancouver, British Columbia (Symposium Lecture) McDowell, J.E., Camchong, J., Dyckman, K.A., & Austin, B.P. *Neural correlates of antisaccade and delayed response task performance in participants with schizophrenia and their biological relatives.*

10/06 - **Biomedical & Health Sciences Institute Conference -** Athens, GA (Poster)
Austin, B.P., McDowell, J.E., Allison, J., Yanasak, N.E., Camchong, J., Tomporowski, P.D., Creech, C., Tkacz, J., Miller, P.H., & Davis, C.L. *Exercise effects on the neural substrates of antisaccade performance in overweight children; an fMRI study.*

09/06 - **Society for Neuroscience Conference -** Atlanta, GA (Poster)
Austin, B.P., McDowell, J.E., Allison, J., Yanasak, N.E., Camchong, J., Tomporowski, P.D., Creech, C., Tkacz, J., Miller, P.H., & Davis, C.L. *Exercise effects on the neural substrates of antisaccade performance in overweight children; an fMRI study.*

PUBLISHED ABSTRACTS

Austin, B.P., Dyckman, K.A., Amlung, M.T., Li, Q., Clementz, B.A., & McDowell, J.E. (2009). *Schizophr Bull*, *35*(1), 178. Practice-induced Changes in Neural Circuitries Supporting Saccade Performance in Schizophrenia: an fMRI Study.

Moore, M., Austin, B.P., Dyckman, K.A., Li, Q., Amlung, M.T., Meyer, F., Clementz, B.A., & McDowell, J.E. (2009). *Schizophr Bull*, *35*(1), 62. Behavioral Changes Following Daily Practice of Saccade Tasks in Schizophrenia.

Amlung, M.T., Li, Q., Austin, B.P., Camchong, J., & McDowell, J.E. (2009). *Schizophr Bull*, *35*(1), 193. Behavioral and Neural Correlates of Poor Saccadic Control in Undergraduates.

Austin, B.P., McDowell, J.E., Allison, J., Yanasak, N.E., Camchong, J., Tomporowski, P.D., Creech, C., Tkacz, J., Miller, P.H., & Davis, C.L. (2007). *Society for Neuroscience Public Education and Communication Committee Press Book.* Exercise-induced changes in circuitries supporting antisaccade performance in overweight children; an fMRI study.

***This abstract was among the top 5% chosen from a pool of over 16,000 submissions for press book publication**

Austin, B.P., McDowell, J.E., Allison, J., Yanasak, N.E., Camchong, J., Tomporowski, P.D., Creech, C., Tkacz, J., Miller, P.H., & Davis, C.L. (2006). *Society for Neuroscience Public Education and Communication Committee Press Book.* Exercise effects on the neural substrates of antisaccade performance in overweight children; an fMRI study.

***This abstract was among the top 5% chosen from a pool of over 14,000 submissions for press book publication**

FMRI EXPERIENCE

08/07-present - **MRI Scanner Operator (220+ hours)**
Bio-Imaging Research Center, The University of Georgia

08/05-present - **MRI Researcher (310+ hours)**
Bio-Imaging Research Center, The University of Georgia
Department of Radiology, Medical College of Georgia
Athens Orthopedic Clinic MRI Center, Athens, Georgia