

# Laura M. Morett

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## Education and Training

Hilibrand Postdoctoral Fellow, Child Study Center Yale University	2016-present
T32 Postdoctoral Fellow, Dept. of Psychiatry University of Pittsburgh	2013-2016
Ph.D. in cognitive psychology University of California, Santa Cruz	2008-2012
B.A. in psychology and Hispanic studies Washington College, Chestertown, MD <i>Summa cum laude</i> , departmental honors (both majors)	2004-2008

## Awards and Honors

Select Speaker Award Psychonomic Society	2016
Department of Psychiatry Outstanding Poster Presentation Award University of Pittsburgh	2014
Association for Psychological Science Convention Research Award Psi Chi, International Honor Society in Psychology	2012
Student Research Award International Association for the Study of Child Language	2011
First Honor Graduate (valedictory honors) Washington College	2008
Board of Visitors and Governors Medal Washington College	2007
Fox Freshman Scholarship Medal Washington College	2005
George Washington Scholarship Washington College	2004

## External Research Support

Diversity Travel Award International Forum for Autism Research	2016
Cognitive Science Society Travel Grant and Research Fellowship	2012

US National Science Foundation Graduate Research Grant	2011
Psi Chi, the International Honor Society in Psychology East Asia and Pacific Summer Institutes Fellowship	2010
US National Science Foundation National Defense Science and Engineering Graduate Fellowship US Department of Defense.	2008

### Internal Research Support

Hilibrand Postdoctoral Fellowship in Adolescence and Adulthood	2016
MEG seed grant, UPMC Brain Mapping Center	2014
Ruth S. Kirschstein T32 Institutional Training Fellowship	2013
Summer Dissertation Fellowship, UCSC	2012
Federico and Rena Perlino Scholarship Award, UCSC	2011
Research grant, Committee on Research, UCSC	2011
Research grant, Department of Psychology, UCSC	2010, 2012
Research grant, Society of Junior Fellows, Washington College	2007

### Peer-Reviewed Publications

- Morett, L. M., O'Hearn, K., Lynn, A. S., Luna, B., & Ghuman, A. S. (2016).** Altered gesture and speech production in ASD detract from in-person communicative quality. *Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders*, 46, 998-1012.
- Morett, L. M. (2015).** How the hands cue the mind: effects of iconicity and enactment on sign language acquisition. *Journal of Cognitive Psychology*, 27, 251-276.
- Morett, L. M., & Chang, L. Y. (2015).** Emphasizing sound and meaning in tonal language acquisition: a gesture training study. *Language, Cognition and Neuroscience*, 30, 347-353.
- Morett, L. M. (2014).** When hands speak louder than words: the role of gesture in the communication, encoding, and recall of a novel second language. *The Modern Language Journal*, 98, 834-853.
- Morett, L. M., & MacWhinney, B. (2013).** Syntactic transfer in English-speaking Spanish learners. *Bilingualism: Language and Cognition*, 16, 132-151.
- 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. (2012).** The role of gesture in second language word learning: acquisition, communication, and retention. In N. Miyake, D. Peebles, & R. Cooper (Eds.), *Proceedings of the 34<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society*.
- Morett, L. M., MacWhinney, B., & Gibbs, R. W. (2012).** The effects of mental imagery

- and embodied action on L2 word learning. In N. Miyake, D. Peebles, & R. Cooper (Eds.), *Proceedings of the 34<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society*.
- Morett, L. M.** (2012). How the hands cue the mind: the effects of iconicity and enactment on sign language acquisition. In N. Miyake, D. Peebles, & R. Cooper (Eds.), *Proceedings of the 34<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society*.

### **Manuscripts Under Review, in Preparation, and in Progress**

- Morett, L. M.** (in revision). In hand and in mind: Gesture's internal and external effects on L2 word learning.
- Morett, L. M.** (under review). The power of an image: Images enhance L2 word learning more than glosses.
- Morett, L. M. & Fraundorf, S. H.** (in preparation). Contrasting contrastive pitch accent and beat gesture.

### **Conference Presentations**

- Morett, L. M. & Fraundorf, S. H.** (forthcoming). The impact of beat gesture and pitch accenting on memory for spoken discourse. Paper to be presented at the 57<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the Psychonomic Society, Boston, MA.
- Morett, L. M., Li, Y., Coffman, B. A., Luna, B., & Ghuman, A. S.** (2016). Biomarkers of abnormal temporal gesture-speech integration in ASD. In L. M. **Morett** (Chair), *Translational approaches to abnormal communication in ASD*. Paper presented at the 15<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the International Forum for Autism Research, Baltimore, MD.
- Morett, L. M., Li, Y., Luna, B., & Ghuman, A.S.** (2015). *The role of pSTC and IFG in temporal gesture-speech integration*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Society for Neuroscience, Chicago, IL.
- Morett, L. M.** (2014, May). *Gesture and speech production indicate audience hypersensitivity in ASD*. Poster presented at the 13<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the International Forum for Autism Research, Atlanta, GA.
- Morett, L. M.** (2013, November). *Signs in the mind's eye: Embodied action and mental imagery enrich sign representation*. Poster presented at the 54<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the Psychonomics Society, Toronto, ON.
- Morett, L. M.** (2013, October). *Images prime the pump for L2 word-meaning association*. Paper presented at the 22<sup>nd</sup> annual Second Language Research Forum, Pittsburgh, PA.
- Morett, L. M.** (2012, October). *Pitch gestures enhance Mandarin lexical tone perception and word learning*. Paper presented at the 21<sup>st</sup> annual Second Language Research Forum, Pittsburgh, PA.
- Morett, L. M.** (2012, August). *The role of gesture in second language word learning: Acquisition, communication, and retention*. Paper presented at the 34<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the Cognitive Science Society, Sapporo, Japan.
- Morett, L. M., Gibbs, R. W., & MacWhinney, B.** (2012, August). *The effects of mental imagery and embodied action on L2 word learning*. Poster presented at the 34<sup>th</sup> 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.* Poster presented at the 34<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the Cognitive Science Society, Sapporo, Japan.
- Morett, L. M. (2012, May).** *Enactment enhances ASL sign acquisition.* Poster presented at the 24<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the Association for Psychological Science, Chicago, IL. [**Psi Chi Research Award**]
- Morett, L. M. (2012, May).** *Saying it with the hands: How gesture promotes second language acquisition.* Poster presented at the 24<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the Association for Psychological Science, Chicago, IL.
- Morett, L. M., Gibbs, R. W., & MacWhinney, B. (2012, May).** *From hands to mouths to minds: Enhancement of second language acquisition via conversational gesture.* Paper presented at the 11<sup>th</sup> biannual Conceptual Structure, Discourse, and Language Conference, Vancouver, BC.
- Morett, L. M. (2012, May).** *The role of mental imagery and embodied motion in sign language learning.* Poster presented at the 11<sup>th</sup> biannual Conceptual Structure, Discourse, and Language Conference, Vancouver, BC.
- 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.* Paper presented at the 100<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the Eastern Psychological Association, Pittsburgh.
- Morett, L. M. (2012, March).** *Can gesture enhance second language word learning?* Poster presented at the 100<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the Eastern Psychological Association, Pittsburgh, PA.
- Morett, L. M. (2012, March).** *Enactment facilitates ASL sign acquisition.* Poster presented at the 100<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the Eastern Psychological Association, Pittsburgh, PA.
- Morett, L. M., MacWhinney, B., & Gibbs, R. W. (2011, November).** *The role of gesture in second language word learning.* Poster presented at the 15<sup>th</sup> annual Sigma Xi Student Research Conference, Raleigh, NC.
- Morett, L. M. & Tan, S. H. (2011, July).** *Lexical tone affects speech perception and word learning by bilingual children.* Presented at the 12<sup>th</sup> triannual meeting of the International Association for the Study of Child Language, Montréal, QC. [**IASCL Student Research Award**]
- Morett, L. M., & MacWhinney, B. (2011, April).** *Bilingual sentence processing strategies in English-speaking learners of Spanish.* Poster presented at the 3<sup>rd</sup> 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.* Poster presented at the 51<sup>st</sup> 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.* Poster presented at the 2<sup>nd</sup> 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.* Poster presented at the 50<sup>th</sup> 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.* Poster presented at the 20<sup>th</sup> 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.* Poster presented at the 78<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the Rocky Mountain Psychological Association, Boise, ID.

**Morett, L. M. (2008, March).** *Applications of psycholinguistics: Undergraduate L2 learning.* Poster presented at the 96<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of Eastern Psychological Association, Boston, MA.

### **External Invited Talks**

University of Rochester, Human Language Processing Lab, Dept. of Psychology, May 2016.

Kent State University, Dept. of Speech Pathology and Audiology, May 2016.

Louisiana State University, Dept. of Communication Sciences and Disorders, January 2016.

Bowling Green State University, Dept. of Communication Sciences and Disorders, December 2015.

University of South Carolina, Dept. of Communication Sciences and Disorders, December 2015.

University of Pittsburgh, Dept. of Psychiatry, February 2013.

University of Canterbury, New Zealand Institute of Brain and Behavior, November 2011.

### **Professional Workshop Participation**

Summer Institute for Autism Research, Summer 2015, 2016

International Society for Autism Research

Dynamics of Music and Language Summer School, Summer 2014

University of California, Merced

Multimodal Neuroimaging Summer Workshop, Summer 2012

University of Pittsburgh

Pittsburgh Science of Learning Center Summer School, Summer 2011

Carnegie Mellon University

Linguistic Society of America Summer Institute, Summer 2009

University of California, Berkeley

### **Teaching Experience and Preparation**

Practitioner Level Certification in STEM instruction, Spring 2016.

University of Pittsburgh Center for Integration of Research, Teaching, and Learning

Guest Lecturer, Neurobiology of Language, Fall 2015  
Duquesne University  
Guest Lecturer, Language Development, Fall 2015  
University of Pittsburgh  
Participant, Writing Across the Curriculum seminar, Spring 2011  
University of California, Santa Cruz  
Guest Lecturer, Child Development, Spring 2010  
San José State University  
Teaching Assistant, Human Learning and Memory, Fall 2010  
University of California, Santa Cruz  
Teaching Assistant, Human Factors, Winter 2009  
University of California, Santa Cruz

### **Ad Hoc Reviewing**

National Science Foundation  
*Bilingualism: Language and Cognition (2)*  
*Language Learning (2)*  
*Journal of Memory and Language (2)*  
*Computers and Education*  
*Speech Communication*  
Society for Research in Child Development  
Second Language Research Forum  
Cognitive Science Society (Program Committee, 2016)

### **Professional Service**

Postdoctoral Representative, Center for the Neural Basis of Cognition, 2015-2016  
Chair, Visiting Day Committee, Dept. of Psychology, UCSC, 2011  
Graduate Panelist, Psi Chi Roundtable, Dept. of Psychology, UCSC, 2011  
Organizer, Bilingualism Journal Club, Dept. of Psychology, UCSC, 2010-2011  
Graduate Student Representative, Dept. of Psychology, UCSC, 2010-2011  
Member, University of California Student Regent Selection Committee, 2009-2010  
Board Member, University of California Students Association, 2009-2010  
External Vice President, Graduate Student Association, UCSC, 2009-2010  
Reviewer, Association for Psychological Science Student Research Award, 2009-2010

### **Professional and Academic Affiliations**

International Society for Autism Research  
Psychonomic Society  
Sigma Xi, Scientific Research Society  
Omicron Delta Kappa, National Leadership Honor Society  
Sigma Delta Pi, National Hispanic Honor Society  
Pi Lambda Theta, National Education Honor Society  
Psi Chi, International Honor Society in Psychology  
Douglass Cater Society of Junior Fellows, Washington College

## Community Service

Judge, International Science and Engineering Fair, 2015  
Judge, Pennsylvania Junior Academy of Science, 2014-2015  
Judge, Pittsburgh FIRST Lego League Competition, 2013  
Judge, Pittsburgh Regional Science and Engineering Fair, 2012-2016  
Judge, Santa Cruz County Board of Education Science Fair, 2010-2011  
ESL instructor, Latin American Community Center, Wilmington, DE, 2007

## Referees

Jana Iverson, Ph.D.  
Professor of Psychology  
University of Pittsburgh  
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210 S. Bouquet St.  
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Raymond Gibbs, Ph.D.  
Professor of Psychology  
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Diane Williams, Ph.D., CCC-SLP  
Associate Professor of Speech-Language Pathology  
Anna Rangos Rizakus Endowed Chair for Health Sciences and Ethics  
Duquesne University  
409 Fisher Hall  
600 Forbes Ave.  
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Scott Fraundorf, Ph.D.  
Assistant Professor of Psychology  
University of Pittsburgh  
LRDC 608  
3939 O'Hara St.  
Pittsburgh, PA 15213  
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Email: [sfraundo@pitt.edu](mailto:sfraundo@pitt.edu)