

Curriculum Vitae for  
**SUSAN K. (SUE) FENSTERMACHER**

Department of Psychological Science  
 University of Vermont  
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 Burlington, VT 05405  
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**EDUCATION**

- August 2008-2010* Postdoctoral Fellow, Department of Psychology  
 Georgetown University, Washington, D.C.  
 Faculty mentor: Rachel Barr, Ph.D.  
 Projects: Fostering Learning in Infants and Preschoolers (Project FLIP), Early Learning Project (ELP)
- January 2009* Doctor of Philosophy, Psychology (Human Development)  
 Boston University, Boston, Massachusetts  
 Faculty mentor: Kimberly Saudino, Ph.D.  
 Thesis Title: "Genetic and environmental influences on imitation in toddlers"
- May 2000* Master of Arts, Psychology  
 Boston University, Boston, Massachusetts
- December 1996* Bachelor of Science, Psychology /Health Science  
 Pennsylvania State University, University Park, Pennsylvania

**FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS**

- 2012-2013* Sustainability Faculty Fellowship, University of Vermont
- 2009* Kavita Jain Dissertation Award, Boston University
- 2005-2007* NIMH National Research Service Award (NRSA) Predoctoral Fellowship  
 (Award number: F31 MH07662)
- 2004* Clara Mayo Memorial Fellowship, Boston University
- 2003-2005* Boston University Human Development Program Travel Award (3 years)
- 2000-2003* Graduate Writing Fellowship (3 years), Boston University
- 2002* Outstanding Teaching Fellow award, Boston University

**TEACHING**

- August 2010-present* **LECTURER/SENIOR LECTURER, PSYCHOLOGICAL SCIENCE**  
 Department of Psychological Science, University of Vermont, Burlington, VT
- Courses taught:
- |                   |   |
|-------------------|---|
| <b>PSYS 001</b>   | Introduction to Psychological Science (in-person, remote hybrid)                |
| <b>PSYS 001OL</b> | Introduction to Psychological Science (online)                                  |
| <b>PSYS 130</b>   | Social Psychology (in-person, remote synchronous, remote asynchronous)          |
| <b>PSYS 130OL</b> | Social Psychology (online)  |
| <b>PSYS 150</b>   | Developmental Psychology: Childhood (in-person)                                 |
| <b>PSYS 230</b>   | Advanced Social Psychology (in-person, remote synchronous, remote asynchronous) |
| <b>PSYS 254</b>   | Social Development (in-person, remote synchronous, remote asynchronous)         |
- Department of Education and Social Services, University of Vermont, Burlington, VT
- |                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| <b>HDFS 295</b> | Social Development (in-person, remote asynchronous) |
|-----------------|---|
- February -May 2022* **VISITING ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF PSYCHOLOGY**  
 Department of Psychology, Middlebury College, Middlebury, VT
- Courses taught: **PSYC 0203B** Social Psychology

September 2002-  
May 2005

ADJUNCT PROFESSOR OF PSYCHOLOGY

Department of Psychology, University of Massachusetts-Boston, Boston, MA

Courses Taught: **PS 230** Social Psychology (one section/30+ students per semester; 6 semesters)

September 1998-  
May 2003

GRADUATE TEACHING FELLOW, PSYCHOLOGY

Department of Psychology, Boston University, Boston, MA

Courses Taught: **PS 261** Social Psychology (4 sections/100+ students per semester; 8 semesters)

**PS 241** Developmental Psychology (4 sections/100+ students per semester; 1 semester)

**PS 101** Introductory Psychology (4 sections/100+ students per semester; 1 semester)

September 2000-  
May 2003

WRITING FELLOW (ALL DISCIPLINES)

Educational Resource Center, Boston University, Boston, MA

*Worked one-on-one with students of diverse educational and cultural backgrounds at all degree levels to teach and review writing and organizational skills, self-editing, and grammatical convention; evaluated written work at various stages of the writing process. Additional responsibilities included scoring of writing/literacy exams administered by BU's School of Education.*

RESEARCH

August 2008-  
September 2010

POSTDOCTORAL FELLOW, DEVELOPMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY

Early Learning Project/Project FLIP, Georgetown University, Washington, DC

Principal Investigator: Rachel Barr, Ph.D.

*Research design, data collection and analysis, organizational recruiting, student supervision/training, grant and manuscript preparation for multi-site longitudinal intervention project assessing the impact of media exposure on early cognitive and social development, learning, and subsequent school readiness in a low-income sample aged 6 months-4 years.*

May 2003-  
August 2008

RESEARCH ASSISTANT/ NRSA-FUNDED RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENTAL BEHAVIOR GENETICS

Boston University Twin Project, Boston University, Boston, MA

Principal Investigator: Kimberly Saudino, Ph.D.

*Data collection, analysis, writing for longitudinal behavioral genetic study of activity level and related cognitive and social behaviors in 314 pairs of twins seen at ages 24 and 36 months. Additionally designed and conducted independent NRSA-funded research on imitative behavior in this sample.*

August 2002-  
December 2003

RESEARCH CONSULTANT, I/O PSYCHOLOGY

Project Techforce, University of Massachusetts-Lowell, Lowell, MA

Principal Investigator: Paula Rayman, Ph.D.

*Conducted and participated in analysis of interviews with individuals working in the information technology industry as part of a National Science Foundation-funded project investigating factors related to long-term retention of women in IT professions.*

January 2000-  
December 2001

RESEARCH ASSISTANT, SOCIAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY

Income Inequality Research Group, Boston University, Boston, MA

Principal Investigator: Deborah Belle, Ed.D.

*Data collection for project examining children's understanding of economic inequality and ways that parents communicate with children about social issues.*

September 1999-  
May 2003

RESEARCH ASSISTANT, DEVELOPMENTAL BEHAVIOR GENETICS

Developmental Behavioral Genetics Laboratory, Boston University, Boston, MA

Principal Investigator: Kimberly Saudino, Ph.D.

*Pilot actometer study of temperament and activity level in preschool-aged siblings.*

September 1997-  
August 1998

RESEARCH ASSISTANT, COGNITIVE PSYCHOLOGY

Psychology Department, University of Scranton, Scranton, PA

Principal Investigator: Brad Alford, Ph.D.

*Library research, literature review, writing and editorial work.*

## MANUSCRIPTS AND BOOK CONTRIBUTIONS

### Manuscripts

Ronfard, S., **Fenstermacher, S.**, Kelemen, D., & Saudino, K. (in revision). Evidence for a genetically distinct imitative mechanism of cultural transmission.

Wagner, N.J., Waller, R., Flom, M., Ronfard, S., **Fenstermacher, S.**, & Saudino, K.J. (2020). Less imitation of arbitrary actions is a specific developmental precursor to callous-unemotional traits in early childhood. *Journal of Child Psychology and Psychiatry*. doi:[10.1111/jcpp.13182](https://doi.org/10.1111/jcpp.13182)

**Fenstermacher, S. K.**, & Saudino, K. J. (2016). Exploring links among imitation, mental development, and temperament. *Infancy: the official journal of the International Society on Infant Studies*, 21(5), 536–559. <https://doi.org/10.1111/inf.12132>

Schroeder, K. B., Asherson, P., Blake, P. R., **Fenstermacher, S. K.**, & Saudino, K. J. (2016). Variant at serotonin transporter gene predicts increased imitation in toddlers: relevance to the human capacity for cumulative culture. *Biology letters*, 12(4), 20160106. <https://doi.org/10.1098/rsbl.2016.0106>

**Fenstermacher, S.K.**, Barr, R., Brey, E., Pempek, T.A., Ryan, M., Calvert, S.L., Shwery, C., & Linebarger, D. (2010). Interactional quality depicted in infant-directed videos: Where are the interactions? *Infant and Child Development*, 19, 594-612.

**Fenstermacher, S.K.**, Barr, R., Garcia, A., Salerno, K., Calvert, S.L., Shwery, C., & Linebarger, D.L. (2010). Infant-directed media: An analysis of product information and claims. *Infant and Child Development*, 19, 557-576.

Vaala, S.E., Barr, R., **Fenstermacher, S.K.**, Tedone, A., Shwery, C., & Linebarger, D. (2010). Language development and joint attention strategies in infant media. *Infant and Child Development*, 19, 628-648.

**Fenstermacher, S.K.** & Saudino, K.J. (2007). Toddler see, toddler do? Genetic and environmental influences on laboratory-assessed elicited imitation. *Behavior Genetics*, 37, 639-647.

**Fenstermacher, S.K.** & Saudino, K.J. (2006). Understanding individual differences in young children's imitative behavior. *Developmental Review*, 26, 346-364.\*

\*Cited in the top ten most downloaded *Developmental Review* papers of 2006

### Book Contributions

Linebarger, D. N., Brey, E., **Fenstermacher, S.**, & Barr, R. (2017). What makes preschool educational television educational? A content analysis of literacy, language-promoting, and prosocial preschool programming. In *Media Exposure During Infancy and Early Childhood* (pp. 97-133). Springer International Publishing.

**Fenstermacher, S.K.** (2005). Dishabituation. In G. Davey (Ed), *The Encyclopaedic Dictionary of Psychology*. (p. 186). London: Hodder Arnold Publishers Ltd.

**Fenstermacher, S. K.** (2005). Habituation. In G. Davey (Ed), *The Encyclopaedic Dictionary of Psychology*. (p. 197). London: Hodder Arnold Publishers Ltd.

**Fenstermacher, S. K.** (2005). Imitation. In G. Davey (Ed), *The Encyclopaedic Dictionary of Psychology*. (pp. 198-199). London: Hodder Arnold Publishers Ltd.

**Fenstermacher, S. K.** (2005). Infant learning. In G. Davey (Ed), *The Encyclopaedic Dictionary of Psychology*. (pp. 199-200). London: Hodder Arnold Publishers Ltd.

### In Progress

**Fenstermacher, S.K.**, Flom, M., & Saudino, K.J. (in prep). The changing role of imitative learning across toddlerhood: Genetic and environmental associations with mental development at ages 24 and 36 months.

**ABSTRACTS AND PRESENTATIONS**

**Fenstermacher, S.K.** & Saudino, K.J. (2019). *Immediate and deferred imitation: Varying contributions of temperament, working memory, and mental development*. Presented at the Biennial Meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Baltimore, MD. March 2019.

Ronfard, S., **Fenstermacher, S.**, Kelemen, D., & Saudino, K.J. (2017). *Genetic contributions to over-imitation in early childhood*. Presented at the Biennial Conference of the Cognitive Development Society, Portland, OR. October 2017.

Uccello, K.J., Flom, M., **Fenstermacher, S.K.**, & Saudino, K.J. (2017). *Spontaneous imitation and the developing mind*. Presented at the Biennial Meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Austin, TX. April 2017.

Flom, M., **Fenstermacher, S.K.**, & Saudino, K.J. (2015). *Links between imitation. mental development: A cross-lagged twin study*. Presented at the Biennial Meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Philadelphia, PA. March 2015.

Wang, M., **Fenstermacher, S.K.**, & Saudino, K.J. (2014). The genetic overlap between emotion regulation and imitation in early childhood. *Behavior Genetics*, 44, 687-688 (abstract). Presented at the 44<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the Behavior Genetics Association, Charlottesville, VA. June 2014.

Barr, R., Horn, P., **Fenstermacher, S.K.**, Zachary, C., Ramirez, J., Binoche, P., Benasich, A., Choudhury, N., & Linebarger, D. (2012). *Factors associated with poor Rapid Auditory Processing in low-income minority families*. Presented at the 45<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the International Society for Developmental Psychobiology, New Orleans, LA. October 2012.

Zachary, C., Finch, J.E., Zimmermann, L., Oot, E., **Fenstermacher, S.K.**, Linebarger, D., & Barr, R. (2012). *Parent-infant interactions in low-income minority families*. Presented at the Biennial Meeting of the International Conference on Infant Studies, Minneapolis, MN. June 2012.

Zimmermann, L., Zachary, C., Finch, J.E., Van Nipsen, A., Blanchfield, O., Beinfeld, S., Oot, E., **Fenstermacher, S.K.**, Linebarger, D., & Barr, R. (2012). *Parent-infant interactions in low-income minority families*. Presented at the 75<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Eastern Psychological Association, Pittsburgh, PA. March 2012.

Horn, E.P., Linebarger, D., **Fenstermacher, S.K.**, Benasich, A.A., Choudhury, N. & Barr, R. (2011). *Preliminary findings on factors associated with Rapid Auditory Processing in 6-Month-Olds: Risks and potential buffering factors*. Presented at the 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Convention of the Association for Psychological Science, Washington, DC. May 2011.

Barr, R., Horn, P., **Fenstermacher, S.K.**, Linebarger, D., Alvarez, A., Martire, J., Sauerhoff, E., Benasich, A.A., & Choudhury, N. (2011). *The influence of environmental and familial factors on rapid auditory processing in 6-month-olds*. Presented at the 74<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Eastern Psychological Association, Cambridge, MA. March 2011.

**Fenstermacher, S.K.**, Barr, R., Brey, E., Vaala, S., Pempek, T., Calvert, S., Tedone, A., Huynh, H., Kumar, S., & Linebarger, D. (2010). *Conveying educational content to babies: how infant-directed programming aims to teach*. Symposium paper presented at the Biennial Meeting of the International Conference on Infant Studies, Baltimore, MD. March 2010.

**Fenstermacher, S.K.**, Barr, R., Salerno, K. Lapierre, M., Vaala, S., Brey, E., Garcia, A., Pempek, T., Calvert, S., & Linebarger, D. (2010). *"Educational" media for infants: Does the content match the claims?* Presented at the Biennial Meeting of the International Conference on Infant Studies, Baltimore, MD. March 2010.

Vaala, S., Barr, R., **Fenstermacher, S.K.**, Brey, E., Salerno, K., Garcia, A., Pempek, T., Moses, A., Calvert, S., & Linebarger, D. (2010). *Content analysis of language-promoting strategies in infant educational videos*. Presented at the Biennial Meeting of the International Conference on Infant Studies, Baltimore, MD. March 2010.

**Fenstermacher, S.K.**, Barr, R., Calvert, S., Pempek, T., Brey, E., Moses, A., Vaala, S., Ryan, M., Garcia, A., & Linebarger, D. (2009a). *Social emotional content in media for infants*. Presented at the annual meeting of the Children's Digital Media Center, Washington, DC. May 2009.

**Fenstermacher, S.K.**, Barr, R., Calvert, S., Pempek, T., Brey, E., Moses, A., Vaala, S., Ryan, M., Garcia, A., & Linebarger, D. (2009b). *Interactional modeling in infant-directed media*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the International Communication Association, Chicago, IL. May 2009

Vaala, S., Barr, R.F., Garcia, A., Salerno, K., Brey, E., **Fenstermacher, S.K.**, Pempek, T.A., Moses, A.M., Calvert, S.L., & Linebarger, D.L. (2009). *Content analysis of teaching strategies embedded in infant educational programming*. Presented at the biennial meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Denver, CO. April 2009.

**Fenstermacher, S.K.**, Brey, E., Salerno, K., Ryan, M., Huynh, H., Vaala, S., Calvert, S., Fiovorati, C., Garcia, A., Barr, R.F., & Linebarger, D. (2009). *An analysis of learning strategies and educational content utilized in infant-directed media products*. Presented at the annual meeting of the Eastern Psychological Association, Pittsburgh, PA. March 2009.

**Fenstermacher, S.K.** & Saudino, K.J. (2008). Spontaneous vocal and gestural imitation as separate predictors of cognitive ability and elicited imitation performance. *Behavior Genetics*, 38, 626 (abstract). Presented at the 38<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the Behavior Genetics Association, Louisville, KY. June 2008.

**Fenstermacher, S.K.** & Saudino, K.J. (2007b). All imitation is not created equal: an examination of elicited and spontaneous imitation performance in twins. *Behavior Genetics*, 37, 751-752 (abstract). Paper presented at the 37<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the Behavior Genetics Association, Amsterdam, Netherlands. June 2007.

**Fenstermacher, S.K.** & Saudino, K.J. (2007c). *Exploring children's imitative behavior: Spontaneous imitation, elicited imitation, and cognitive performance at age two*. Presented at the Biennial Meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Boston, MA. April 2007.

**Fenstermacher, S.K.** & Saudino, K.J. (2007d). *Relative contributions of genes and environment to the relationship between imitation, cognitive ability, and temperament factors*. Presented at the Biennial Meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Boston, MA. April 2007.

**Fenstermacher, S.K.** & Saudino, K.J. (2006). Multivariate heritability for imitation, cognitive ability, and task orientation at age two. *Behavior Genetics*, 36, 963-964 (abstract). Paper presented at the 36<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the Behavior Genetics Association, Storrs, CT. June 2006.

**Fenstermacher, S. K.** & Saudino, K. J. (2005a). Investigating individual differences in imitative performance at age two: A twin study. *Behavior Genetics*, 35, 800 (abstract). Paper presented at the 35<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the Behavior Genetics Association, Hollywood, CA. June 2005.

**Fenstermacher, S.K.** & Saudino, K.J. (2005b). *Genetic and environmental influences on imitative performance at age 24 months*. Presented at the Biennial Meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Atlanta, GA. April 2005.

**Fenstermacher, S.K.**, Gagne, J.R., & Saudino, K.J. (2005). *Predictors of imitative performance at age 24 months*. Presented at the Biennial Meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Atlanta, GA. April 2005.

Gagne, J.R., **Fenstermacher, S.K.**, & Saudino, K.J. (2005). *Parent- and observer-rated inhibitory control at age two*. Presented at the Biennial Meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Atlanta, GA. April 2005.

**Fenstermacher, S.K.** (2002). *Genetic and environmental factors influencing susceptibility to modeled aggression*. Paper presented at Boston University's First Annual Human Development Psych colloquium, Boston, MA. March 2002.

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

### Training/Skills

2020-present	Participated in diversity, inclusion and anti-bias workshops and trainings through the University of Vermont and UVM's Department of Psychological Science
2020-present	Participated in training workshops in Microsoft Teams, remote instruction, pedagogy, and assessment through the University of Vermont's Center for Teaching and Learning.
2020-present	Adapted courses and student meetings for presentation via <b>Microsoft Teams</b> , <b>Zoom</b> platforms.
2016	Completed 4-week <b>Teaching Effectively Online</b> course through the University of Vermont's Center for Teaching and Learning.
2012-present	Adapting course curricula as a <b>Sustainability Faculty Fellow</b> through the University of Vermont's Center for Teaching and Learning.
2010-present	Trained in online Learning Management Systems including <b>Blackboard</b> , <b>Canvas</b> , and <b>Brightspace</b>
2008-2010	Completed training in <b>Rapid Auditory Processing (RAP)</b> assessment under the direction of Drs. April Benasich and Naseem Choudhury at Rutgers University, NJ.
2008	Completed training in <b>Emotional Availability (EA)</b> assessment under the direction of Dr. Zeynep Biringen at the University of Colorado, Boulder.
2004	Completed <b>Behavior Genetic Model-Fitting</b> training through the <i>Introductory International Workshop on the Methodology of Twin and Family Studies</i> , Boulder, Colorado.
2003	Trained on administration of the <b>Bailey Scales of Infant Development-II</b> (ages 18-42 months) through the <i>Boston University Twin Project</i> , Boston, MA.
2003	Trained on administration of the <b>Laboratory Temperament Assessment Battery (Lab-TAB)</b> through the <i>Boston University Twin Project</i> , Boston, MA.

### Peer Review

2014-2022	Review editor (Social and Personality Psychology), <i>Frontiers in Psychology</i>
2014-2019	Ad-hoc reviewer, <i>Journal of Children and Media</i>
2017-2019	Ad-hoc reviewer, <i>Child Development</i>
2018	Invited reviewer, <i>Frontiers in Education</i>
2016-2017	Ad-hoc reviewer, <i>British Journal of Developmental Psychology</i>
2013	Textbook reviewer, <i>Social Psychology (Routledge Press)</i> Textbook reviewer, <i>Developmental Psychology (W.W. Norton)</i>
2011-2013	Ad-hoc reviewer, <i>Developmental Science</i>
2010	Ad-hoc reviewer, <i>Human Communication Research</i>
2009	Ad-hoc reviewer, <i>Infant Behavior and Development</i>
2007	Ad-hoc reviewer, <i>Journal of Experimental Child Psychology</i>

### Invited contributions

2015-2018	Consultant for the <i>American Institutes for Research</i> (Washington, DC) writing and reviewing item sets for a nationally administered test development project.
2012	Interviewed for documentary film, <i>Redefining Intelligence: Adapting Education to the Digital Age</i> . (St. Michael's College, Colchester, VT; March 2012).
2011	Interviewed for article on observational learning in infancy for <i>Babytalk Magazine</i> ("Copycat Cutie"; May 2011)
2009	Invited presenter on infant-directed media, <i>Children's Digital Media Center</i> annual interdisciplinary meeting, Washington, DC.
2009	Invited presenter on educational media for <i>Project Jumpstart</i> , Georgetown University, Washington, DC.

### Symposia/Colloquia

2009	Symposium <b>Chair</b> ( <i>Infants, Preschoolers, and Teenagers</i> ), Annual Meeting of the Eastern Psychological Association, Pittsburgh, PA.
2006-2007	<b>Chair</b> , Student Series in Developmental Psychology, Boston University
2002	<b>Co-Chair</b> , Boston University Human Development Student Psycolloquium

### Professional Memberships

- Association for Psychological Science; Society for the Teaching of Psychology; Society for Personality and Social Psychology; Behavior Genetics Association; Society for Research in Child Development