

Helen Wasielewski

Curriculum Vitae

March, 2014

Rutgers University
Department of Anthropology
Ruth Adams Building, 3rd Floor
131 George Street
New Brunswick, New Jersey 08901-1414

Telephone: 732-236-9916
Email: helen.wasielewski@rutgers.edu

ACADEMIC POSITIONS AND AFFILIATIONS

2013-present Visiting Scholar, Department of Anthropology, Rutgers University
2013-present Adjunct Instructor, Department of Anthropology, Montclair State University
2012-present Associate Member, Center for Human Evolutionary Studies, Rutgers University
2012-2013 Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of Anthropology, Rutgers University

EDUCATION

2012 Ph.D., Evolutionary Anthropology, Rutgers University.
Dissertation: *Social Learning Mechanisms of Cumulative Cultural Evolution*. Committee: Lee Cronk, Chair; Susan Cachel; Alex Mesoudi; Ryne Palombit; Robert S. Scott.

1999 B.A., Cultural Anthropology, Hobart and William Smith Colleges.

PUBLICATIONS

2014 Wasielewski, H. Imitation is necessary for cumulative cultural evolution in an unfamiliar, opaque task. *Human Nature* 25(1):161-179.

2008 Cronk, L. and Wasielewski, H. An unfamiliar social norm rapidly produces framing effects in an economic game. *Journal of Evolutionary Psychology* 6(4):283-308.

Manuscripts in preparation

n.d. Wasielewski, H. and Dunham, B. Cross-cultural data in support of co-sleeping as a mechanism of increasing paternal involvement in infancy.

GRANTS AND AWARDS

2011-2012 Graduate School, Rutgers University
Dissertation Year Fellowship (Bevier Fellowship)

2011-2012 Graduate School, Rutgers University
Excellence in Mentoring Fellowship

2010-2011	National Science Foundation Dissertation Improvement Grant, Cultural and Physical Anthropology
2011	Center for Human Evolutionary Studies, Rutgers University International conference travel grant
2011	Office for the Promotion of Women in Science, Engineering, and Mathematics, Rutgers University Women in STEM travel award
2007; 2010; 2011 2007	Graduate School, Rutgers University Conference Travel Award Special Opportunity Grant
2007; 2008; 2009	Department of Anthropology, Rutgers University Bigel Award (pre-dissertation research grant)
2006; 2008; 2009; 2011	Center for Human Evolutionary Studies, Rutgers University Pre-dissertation research grant

PRESENTATIONS

Invited conference presentations:

- 2011 Wasielewski, H. "Tracing mechanisms of cultural evolution: an experimental micro-society study of social learning." Invited paper in symposium on "Re-envisioning culture: challenging legacies and shifting tides in the study of human diversity." American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Montreal, Canada.
- 2010 Cronk, L., Wutich, A., Aktipis, C. A., & Wasielewski, H. "The circulation of cultural variants: exploring the relationship between culture and behavior." Invited paper in symposium on "Parsing the "complex whole" without losing it: understanding the dynamic role of culture in health and environmental research." American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, New Orleans, Louisiana.

Conference presentations:

- 2012 Wasielewski, H. "Social learning strategies of cultural evolution when observed payoff is uncertain." Paper presented at the American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, San Francisco, California.

- 2012 Wasielewski, H., and Wise, S. "Co-Sleeping and the Role of Fathers in Infancy: A Global Perspective." Poster presented at the Annual Global Health Fair, sponsored by the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey and Rutgers University.
- 2012 Wasielewski, H. "Cultural transmission and individual variation in learning strategies." Paper presented at the joint meeting of the Animal Behavior Society and the Human Behavior and Evolution Society, Albuquerque, New Mexico.
- 2011 Wasielewski, H. "Ratcheting up the transmission chain with a functional task: identifying the social learning mechanisms of cumulative cultural evolution." Paper presented at the Annual Human Behavior and Evolution Society Conference, Montpellier, France.
- 2010 Wasielewski, H. "Individual variation in social learning mechanisms used to circulate culture." Chaired session and presented paper at the American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, New Orleans, Louisiana.
- 2007 Wasielewski, H. "Hormones, facial morphology, and trust game play." Poster presented at the Annual Human Behavior and Evolution Society Conference, College of William & Mary.

Invited lectures:

- 2012 Wasielewski, H. "Cultural evolution." Invited lecture, Columbia University, Department of Ecology, Evolution, and Environmental Biology.
- 2011 Wasielewski, H. "The tangled bank: biological contributions to human behavior." Invited lecture, Rutgers University, Department of Anthropology.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- Summer, 2010-Fall, 2012 Rutgers University. Doctoral dissertation research consisting of 600-person study comparing social learning conditions for cumulative cultural evolution; supervising 2 undergraduate research assistants.
- Summer, 2009-Fall, 2010 Rutgers University. Completed a 50-person pilot study to investigate inter-individual variation in the tendency to innovate or imitate; supervised 1 undergraduate research assistant.
- Fall, 2006; Spring, 2007 Rutgers University. Conducted research on cultural framing effects on trust game play with 150 subjects; supervised 3 undergraduate research assistants.
- Fall, 2005 Rutgers University. Collected anthropometric data on participants for the second phase of dance ratings being done as part of the Jamaican Symmetry Project.

Summer, 2000 Ethnographic Field School (Northwestern University), Red Valley, Arizona. Completed two months of ethnographic research on Navajo leadership concepts; developed and administered community survey for local government.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Courses Taught

2013-2014 Instructor, Anthropology Department, Montclair State University
 Course: Introduction to Physical Anthropology
 (lecture and laboratory)

2012-2013 Instructor, Anthropology Department, Rutgers University
 Courses: Introduction to Social Evolution (two classes)
 Evolution and Culture
 Evolution and Cooperation

Winter, 2010-2011 Instructor, Anthropology Department, Rutgers University
 Course: Introduction to the Four Fields

Fall, 2009/2010 Instructor, Writing Program, Rutgers University
 Course: Expository Writing (two sections)

Spring, 2007/2008/2009
Fall, 2006 Teaching Assistant, Anthropology Department, Rutgers University
 Course: Introduction to Human Evolution (3 laboratory sections)

Fall, 2008 Teaching Assistant, Anthropology Department, Rutgers University
 Course: Anthropology of Latin America

Fall, 2007 Teaching Assistant, Anthropology Department, Rutgers University
 Course: Introduction to Social Evolution

ACADEMIC SERVICE

2013 Undergraduate Honors Committee, Nicolette Waksmundzki

2010-2011 Undergraduate Advising Collective

2007-2008 Co-president, Rutgers University Anthropology Graduate Student Association

2007-2008 Graduate Student Mentor

2006-2007 Co-founded a reading group for bi-weekly review and critique of graduate student papers