

KENNETH A. BLOCKER

Curriculum Vitae

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
College of Education
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EDUCATION

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Champaign-Urbana, Illinois August 2017 – Present
Advisor: Wendy A. Rogers, Ph. D.

- ◆ Completing the requirements for the Ph.D. in Educational Psychology with a focus in the Cognitive Science of Teaching and Learning
- ◆ GPA: 3.90

Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, Georgia August 2015 – July 2017
Advisor: Wendy A. Rogers, Ph.D.

- ◆ Master of Science in Psychology with a focus in Cognitive Aging
- ◆ Thesis: *Assessing Influences on the Medication Management Strategies of Older Adults with Hypertension*
- ◆ GPA: 3.77

Florida State University, Tallahassee, Florida August 2009 – May 2013

- ◆ Bachelor of Science in Psychology and Sociology – GPA: 3.71
 - Upper-division GPA: 3.93; Psychology GPA: 3.73
- ◆ Graduated: May 2013; Magna Cum Laude

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Graduate Research Assistant: Human Factors and Aging Laboratory, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Champaign-Urbana, Illinois August 2017 – Present
Supervisor: Wendy A. Rogers, Ph.D.

- ◆ Providing research support on various projects concerning the topics of human factors and aging

Graduate Research Assistant: Human Factors and Aging Laboratory, Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, Georgia August 2015 – August 2017
Supervisor: Wendy A. Rogers, Ph.D.

- ◆ Provided research support on various projects concerning the topics of human factors and aging

Project Coordinator: Center for Research and Education on Aging and Technology Enhancement, Florida State University, Tallahassee, Florida August 2013 – May 2015
Supervisors: Neil Charness, Ph.D., Walter R. Boot, Ph.D.

- ◆ Responsible for administration and organization of CREATE research projects, as well as the management of CREATE personnel, data integrity, and participant recruitment

Research Assistant: Center for Research and Education on Aging and Technology Enhancement, Florida State University, Tallahassee, Florida August 2012 – August 2013

Supervisors: Neil Charness, Ph.D., Walter R. Boot, Ph.D.

- ◆ Assisted with the management and organization of CREATE research projects

Undergraduate Honors Thesis Research, Florida State University, Tallahassee, Florida August 2012 – April 2013

Mentoring Professors: Walter R. Boot, Ph.D., Neil Charness, Ph.D., Valerie J. Shute, Ph.D.

- ◆ **Project:** *Gaming Preferences of Aging Generations*
 - Thesis explored the gaming preferences of older adults in order to aid in designing digital game interventions based on individual difference characteristics

Directed Individual Study: Center for Research and Education on Aging and Technology Enhancement, Florida State University, Tallahassee, Florida August 2011 – August 2012

Supervisors: Neil Charness, Ph.D., Walter R. Boot, Ph.D.

- ◆ Program for undergraduate students to gain experience and provide assistance in research environments

HONORS & AWARDS

2018 Department of Educational Psychology Block Grant Student Travel Support Award

March 2018

- ◆ Award: \$222

Arnold Small Best Student Paper Award: Aging Technical Group

2017 Human Factors and Ergonomics Society Annual Meeting

- ◆ A paper I authored, entitled “Understanding the Medication Adherence Strategies of Older Adults with Hypertension,” was reviewed by committee as well as the final review performed by the program chair and rated as the best student paper submitted to the Aging Technical Group.
- ◆ Award: \$200 and commemorative award plaque

Best Paper Award of the 2nd International Conference on Human Aspects of IT for the Aged Population

July 2016

Human-Computer Interaction International (HCII) Conference

- ◆ A paper I coauthored, entitled "The Gamification of Cognitive Training: Older Adults' Perceptions of and Attitudes toward Digital Game-Based Interventions," was reviewed by committee and selected for the Best Paper Award of the 2nd International Conference on Human Aspects of IT for the Aged Population at the HCI International Conference.

Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Award (NRSA) Institutional Research Training Grant, Grant #5T32AG000175-27

August 2015 - Present

National Institute on Aging (National Institutes of Health)

- ◆ The objective of the Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Award Institutional Research Training Grant program is to develop and/or enhance research training opportunities for health professional students and for graduate students in the physical or quantitative sciences interested in careers in biomedical, behavioral and clinical research that are relevant to the NIH mission.
- ◆ Award: Full tuition plus stipend

President's Fellowship, Georgia Institute of Technology August 2015 - Present

- ◆ President's Fellowships are offered annually to a select number of highly qualified U.S. citizens or permanent residents who intend to pursue doctoral degrees. Fellowship recipients bring exemplary levels of scholarship and innovation to the academic departments who host their study and research.
- ◆ Award: \$5,500/year

Howard D. Baker Award, Third Place, Florida State University April 2013

- ◆ These awards are presented annually to the undergraduates whose research project submissions are judged to be the most meritorious by the FSU Psychology Undergraduate Studies Committee.
- ◆ Award: \$100

Mark A. Berkley Endowment for Research, Florida State University March 2013

- ◆ This research endowment was created to honor the contributions of Dr. Mark A. Berkley to the Department of Psychology at FSU by providing funding to undergraduates involved in research projects.
- ◆ Award: \$500

President's List Spring 2013

Florida State University Freshman Scholarship August 2009 – May 2013

- ◆ This scholarship is for freshmen in college, having had intellectual merit in high school as well as high test scores on the SAT or ACT.
- ◆ Award: \$9,600/year

PUBLICATIONS

Blocker, K. A. & Rogers, W. A. (2018). *Older Adults' Approaches to Managing their Antihypertensive Medication: Strategies and Related Characteristics*. Manuscript in preparation.

Rogers, W. A., **Blocker, K. A.**, & Dupuy, L. (2018). Current and Emerging Technologies for Supporting Successful Aging. In A.H. Gutchess & A.K. Thomas (Eds.), *Handbook of Cognitive Aging: A Life Course Perspective*. Manuscript in preparation.

Bixter, M. T., **Blocker, K. A.**, Mitzner, T. L., Prakash, A., & Rogers, W. A. (2018). *Understanding the use and non-use of social communication technologies by older adults: a qualitative test and extension of the UTAUT model*. Manuscript in preparation.

Blocker, K. A., Insel, K. C., Lee, J., Nie, Q., Ajuwon, A., & Rogers, W. A. (2018). User Insights for Design of an Antihypertensive Medication Management Application. In *Proceedings of the 2018 Human Factors and Ergonomics Society Annual Meeting*. Manuscript submitted for publication.

Bixter, M. T., **Blocker, K. A.**, & Rogers, W. A. (2018). Enhancing Social Engagement of Older Adults through Technology. In A. C. McLaughlin & R. Pak (Eds.), *Aging, Health, and Technology*. Elsevier.

Master's Thesis

Blocker, K. (2017). *Assessing influences on the medication management strategies of older adults with hypertension*. (Master's thesis, Georgia Institute of Technology).

Blocker, K. A., Insel, K. C., Koerner, K. M., & Rogers, W. A. (2017). Understanding the Medication Adherence Strategies of Older Adults with Hypertension. In *Proceedings of the 2017 Human Factors and Ergonomics Society Annual Meeting*.

Harris, M. T., **Blocker, K. A.**, & Rogers, W. A. (2017). Understanding Older Adults' Intentions to Use Healthcare Technologies: A Qualitative Approach. In *Proceedings of the 2017 Human Factors and Ergonomics Society Annual Meeting*.

Souders, D. J., Boot, W. R., **Blocker, K. A.**, Vitale, T., Roque, N. A., & Charness, N. (2017). Evidence for Narrow Transfer after Short-Term Cognitive Training in Older Adults. *Frontiers in Aging Neuroscience*, 9, 41.

Boot, W. R., Souders, D., Charness, N., **Blocker, K. A.**, Roque, N., & Vitale, T. (2016, July). The gamification of cognitive training: Older adults' perceptions of and attitudes toward digital game-based interventions. In *International Conference on Human Aspects of IT for the Aged Population* (pp. 290-300). Springer, Cham.

Blocker, K. A., Wright, T. J., & Boot, W. R. (2014). Gaming preferences of aging generations. *Journal of Gerontechnology*, 12(3), 174-184.

Undergraduate Honors Thesis

Blocker, K.A. (2013). *Gaming preferences of aging generations* (Honors thesis). Florida State University, Tallahassee, Florida.

PRESENTATIONS

Blocker, K. A. & Rogers, W. A. (2018, May). *A Qualitative Approach to Understanding Older Adults' Antihypertensive Medication Management*. Poster to be presented at the 2018 Cognitive Aging Conference, Atlanta, GA.

McGlynn, S. A., Koon, L. M., **Blocker, K. A.**, Shishegar, N., Rogers, W. A. *Investigating the Potential of Digital Home Assistants to Promote Physical Activity and Social Engagement for Older Adults*. Poster to be presented at the Cognitive Aging Conference (CAC), Atlanta, GA, May, 2018.

- Blocker, K. A.** & Rogers, W. A. (2018, March). *Qualitatively Assessing Influences on the Medication Management Strategies of Older Adults with Hypertension*. Poster to be presented at the HFES 2018 International Symposium on Human Factors and Ergonomics in Health Care, Boston, MA.
- Blocker, K. A.**, Insel, K. C., Koerner, K. M., & Rogers, W. A. (2017, November). *Older Adults and Antihypertensive Medication Adherence*. Poster presented at the Collaborations in Health, Aging, Research and Technology (CHART) Symposium.
- Blocker, K. A.** & Rogers, W. A. (2017, October). *Understanding the Medication Adherence Strategies of Older Adults with Hypertension*. Presented at the 2017 Human Factors and Ergonomics Society Annual Meeting, Austin, TX.
- Blocker, K. A.**, Insel, K. C., Koerner, K. M., & Rogers, W. A. (2016, November). *Understanding the Medication Adherence Strategies of Older Adults with Hypertension*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Gerontological Society of America, New Orleans, LA.
- Bixter, M. T., Prakash, A., **Blocker, K. A.**, Mitzner, T. L., & Rogers, W. A. (2016, November). *A Qualitative Analysis of the Adoption and Use of Social Communication Technologies by Older Adults*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Gerontological Society of America, New Orleans, LA.
- Boot, W. R., Souders, D. J., Charness, N., **Blocker, K. A.**, Roque, N., & Vitale, T. (2016, July). *The gamification of cognitive training: Older adults' perceptions of and attitudes toward digital game-based interventions*. Presented at the HCI International Conference, Toronto, Canada.
- Bixter, M. T., Prakash, A., **Blocker, K. A.**, Mitzner, T. L., & Rogers, W. A. (2016, April). *Designing social networking applications for older adults: Insights from current users and non-users*. Poster presented at the Cognitive Aging Conference, Atlanta, GA.
- Souders, D. J., Boot, W. R., **Blocker, K. A.**, Roque, N., Vitale, T., & Charness, N. (2016, April). *The gamification of cognitive training: Are brain games effective?* Presented at the Cognitive Aging Conference, Atlanta, GA.
- Blocker, K. A.**, Wright, T. J., & Boot, W. R. (2014, April). *Gaming preferences of aging generations*. Presented at the Cognitive Aging Conference, Atlanta, GA.
- Blocker, K. A.** & Boot, W. R. (2013, April). *Gaming preferences of aging generations*. Presented at Florida State University's Department of Psychology Undergraduate Research Day, Tallahassee, FL.

TECHNICAL REPORTS

- Blocker, K.A.**, Mitzner, T.L., & Rogers, W. A. (2017). *Medication Education, Decision Support, Reminding, and Monitoring (MEDSReM) System Development: Review of Existing Reminder Apps*. (HFA-TR-1703). Champaign, IL: Human Factors and Aging Laboratory, College of Applied Health Sciences, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign.

COLLOQUIA, BROWN BAGS, & WORKSHOPS

Blocker, K. A. (2017, October). *Assessing Influences on the Medication Management Strategies of Older Adults with Hypertension*. Presentation to University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Department of Educational Psychology teaching faculty. Cognitive Science of Teaching and Learning Brownbag Series, Champaign, IL.

Blocker, K. A. (2016, November). *Assessing Influences on the Medication Management Strategies of Older Adults with Hypertension*. Presentation to Georgia Institute of Technology School of Psychology teaching faculty. Cognitive Aging Brownbag Series, Atlanta, GA.

Blocker, K. A. (2016, March). *Understanding the Medication Adherence Strategies of Older Adults with Hypertension*. Presentation to Georgia Institute of Technology School of Psychology teaching faculty. Cognitive Aging Brownbag Series, Atlanta, GA.

CONSULTATION WORK

Human Factors Consultant

- ◆ Consultant for human factors issues in research, design and testing of antihypertensive medication management smartphone application entitled Medication Education, Decision Support, Reminding and Monitoring (MEDSRem) system
- ◆ This research supported by the National Institutes of Health (National Institute on Aging) R21NR016285

MEMBERSHIPS

Member, Gerontological Society of America, Student Member

Member, Human Factors and Ergonomic Society, Student Member

Technical Groups: Aging, Augmented Cognition, Education, Environmental Design, Health Care, and Virtual Environments

Member, Phi Beta Kappa, *Alpha of Florida*

Member, Psi Chi International Psychology Honor Society, *Alpha of Florida*

Member, Alpha Kappa Delta International Sociology Honor Society, *Alpha of Florida*

Member, Golden Key International Honor Society

COMPUTER SKILLS

- ◆ Extensive knowledge in SPSS, MaxQDA, Microsoft Office Suite, as well as in Adobe Creative Cloud Applications