

CURRICULUM VITAE

Amanda Finn

1st Year Ph.D. Student in Nutrition Sciences

School of Health Professions

The University of Alabama at Birmingham

EDUCATION

University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB)

2021-present

School of Health Professions

In progress: Ph.D. in Nutrition Sciences

California State University, Long Beach (CSULB)

2019-2021

College of Health and Human Services

Bachelor of Science, Kinesiology: Exercise Science

College of the Canyons

2017-2019

Associate in Arts for Transfer: Kinesiology

PUBLICATIONS

1. Alvarado, F., Valenzuela, K., **Finn, A.**, Avila, E., Crussemeyer, J., & Nakajima, M. The Biomechanical Effects of Percussion Therapy Treatment on Jump Performance. *International Journal of Exercise Science*. Accepted May 2022.

PRESENTATIONS

SPIDOR Summer Research Presentations

Finn, A., Hernandez, R., Pyatak, E. The Relationship Between Location and Blood Glucose Levels in Type 1 Diabetes During COVID-19. Virtual PowerPoint presentation through the University of Southern California Summer Program in Diabetes and Obesity Research (SPIDOR). August 2021.

CSULB Student Research Competition

Finn, A., & Schick, E. Lose Weight, but Make it ‘Grammable: An Observational Analysis of Weight Loss Hashtags Using the Instagram Graph API. Virtual PowerPoint presentation. March 2021.

BUILD Summer Symposium

Finn, A., & Schick, E. Zero Calories, Zero Problems? An Analysis of Sucralose and Its Effect on GLP-1 Release in Healthy Humans. Poster presented at a virtual research symposium through the Building Infrastructure Leading to Diversity (BUILD) program. July 2020.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCES

Summer Program in Diabetes and Obesity Research June 2021-August 2021

NIH/NIDDK funded summer program

University of Southern California Keck School of Medicine

Mentor: Beth Pyatak, Ph.D.

Duties:

- Developed a presentation that explored the relationship between location (home or not at home) and blood glucose levels in people with type 1 diabetes.
- Attended lectures through the Keck School of Medicine about diabetes, obesity, COVID-19, biostatistics, and professional development.

Building Infrastructure Leading to Diversity June 2020-June 2021

NIH funded research fellowship

California State University, Long Beach

Mentor: Evan E. Schick, Ph.D.

Duties:

- Created a Python script that searched the Instagram Graph Application Programming Interface for hashtags related to weight loss to analyze caption content. Captions were analyzed via QDA Miner Lite software.
- Proposed a study focused on examining acute hormone responses (primarily glucose-dependent insulintropic polypeptide and insulin) to sucralose before and after a 10-day low carbohydrate diet. Approved by the CSULB Institutional Review Board. COVID-19 restrictions prevented the study from occurring.

- Collaborated with mentor on a poster reviewing the effect of sucralose ingestion on glucagon-like peptide-1 efflux.
- Attended weekly BUILD seminar sessions and participated in small group discussions about racial inequity in education and healthcare, scientific integrity, and general graduate school preparation. Received peer nomination to deliver a commencement speech for the 2021 BUILD graduation ceremony.

RESEARCH ACTIVITIES

Metabolism Core Laboratory

August 2021-present

Doctoral student under Barbara Gower, Ph.D., within the Department of Nutrition Sciences at UAB.

- Reviewing literature related to beta cell function and hepatic insulin clearance. Preparing for master's project proposal on those topics.
- Utilizing R programming to test insulin sensitivity predictors in the Insulin Resistance Atherosclerosis Study (IRAS) with postdoctoral fellow Lauren A. Fowler, Ph.D.

Lifestyle Redesign for Chronic Conditions Laboratory

June 2021- August 2021

Student research assistant under Beth Pyatak, Ph.D. within the University of Southern California Chan Division of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy.

Project: Function and Emotion in Everyday Life with Type 1 Diabetes (FEEL-T1D).
Award Number: 1R01DK121298-01

- Analyzed and organized G.P.S. coordinate data from participants. Worked with Quantum Geospatial Information System software for data visualization.
- Assisted with participant compliance checks during the 2-week intervention.

Movement Science Laboratory

Fall 2019-June 2020

Undergraduate research assistant (CSULB) under Kevin Valenzuela, Ph.D., and Fany Alvarado, M.S.

Project: The Effects of Percussive Therapy (Theragun™) On Range of Motion and Athletic Performance.

- Recorded range of motion data, prepared motion capture markers for use on participants, and developed the timing protocol used for each data collection.
- Corrected anatomical marker trajectories using Qualisys Track Manager software.
- Provided manuscript feedback (see publication Alvarado et al.,).

Physiology of Exercise and Sports Laboratory

Fall 2019-March 2020

Undergraduate research assistant (CSULB) under Kurt Escobar, Ph.D., and Alec Wallace, M.S.

Project: The Impact of Six Weeks of Intermittent Fasting, With and Without Aerobic Exercise, on Serum BDNF and Cognitive Performance in Young Adult Males.

- Interpreted real-time data from the Cosmed Quark CPET metabolic cart to ensure the participants met the VO₂ max test criteria.
- Executed efficient transitions between participants including equipment sanitation and explaining the VO₂ max protocol.

HONORS AND AWARDS

Honors

B.S. Degree Honor- Magna Cum Laude	May 2021
Canyon's Elite Student-Athlete Recognition	November 2018

Scholarship Awards

Summer Program in Diabetes and Obesity Research	June 2021
Blazer Graduate Research Fellowship	March 2021
NIH BUILD Research Fellow	June 2020
Kinesiology Associated Student Government Scholarship	April 2018

EXTRACURRICULAR EXPERIENCES

National Science & Technology Medals Foundation inSTEM Mentor	Beginning Fall 2022
ABRCMS ePoster Spring Symposium Judge	April 2022
UAB Undergraduate Research Expo Oral Presentation Judge	December 2021
UAB GBSO Scientist Serving Society Volunteer	Fall 2021 to present

MEDIA APPEARANCE

Flores, J.P. (Host). (2020, September). Community College to Four-Year: Amanda Finn (No. 3) [Audio podcast episode]. In *From where does it STEM?* Spotify.

PROFESSIONAL SKILLS

Proficient in Python, R, SPSS and SAS

Fluent in Spanish

REFERENCES

1. Barbara Gower, Ph.D.

Professor and Vice-Chair for Research in the Department of Nutrition Sciences

Director of the Metabolism Core and the Human Physiology Core, UAB

Email: bgower@uab.edu

Tel: (205) 934-4087

Reference for research experience at UAB.

2. Evan E. Schick, Ph.D., CSCS

Associate Professor, Exercise Physiology

Department of Kinesiology, CSULB

Email: Evan.schick@csulb.edu

Tel: 562-985-4590

Reference for professional experience as a BUILD research fellow.

3. Paula Chandler-Laney, Ph.D.

Associate Professor in the Department of Nutrition Sciences

Director of the Nutrition Sciences Ph.D. program, UAB

Email: pchandle@uab.edu

Tel: (205) 934-0809

Reference as Director of Ph.D. program.

4. Keisha Chin Goosby, Ph.D.

Former Associate Director, BUILD

Clinical Faculty Advisor, Claremont Graduate University

Email: keisha.goosby2@cgu.edu

Reference as Training Director in the CSULB BUILD program.

5. Kevin Valenzuela, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor, Biomechanics

Department of Kinesiology, CSULB

Email: Kevin.Valenzuela@csulb.edu

Tel: 714-612-7845

Reference for research activity in the Movement Science Lab.