

CURRICULUM VITAE

PERSONAL INFORMATION

NAME: Jessica Johnson Denton, MS, CGC

TITLE: Assistant Professor

DEPARTMENT: Clinical and Diagnostic Sciences

WORK ADDRESS: University of Alabama at Birmingham
SHPB 448, 1720 2nd Ave South
Birmingham, AL 35294
Phone: (205) 934-6940
Fax: (205) 975-3365
Email: jljohnso@uab.edu

EDUCATION

UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA AT BIRMINGHAM Fall 2016-present
Doctor of Philosophy in Nutrition Sciences (in progress)
Expected Graduation, Summer 2020

UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA AT BIRMINGHAM, Birmingham, Alabama 2011-2013
Master of Science in Genetic Counseling
Project Title: "How to develop an educational tool on hereditary breast cancer for minority communities"

RHODES COLLEGE, Memphis, Tennessee 2006-2010
Bachelor of Science in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, *cum laude*

CERTIFICATION

Certified Genetic Counselor, American Board of Genetic Counseling August 2013, December 2018

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA AT BIRMINGHAM
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR January 2015-present
ASSITANT PROGRAM DIRECTOR May 2018-present

- Assist in operations of the UAB Genetic Counseling Master's Program
 - Teach and coordinate multiple courses for first and second year genetic counseling students
 - Provide educational content in scientific and psychosocial aspects of genetic counseling
 - Evaluate student learning through creation and assessment of assignments, role plays, simulations and exams
 - Identify and collaborate with faculty members and healthcare providers at UAB and other institutions to provide educational content for genetic counseling students
 - Participate in regular curriculum review and development

- Review and develop program coursework to maintain standards of the genetic counseling profession
 - Design and analyze student surveys to enhance and evolve curriculum
 - Consistently assess program structure and offerings to ensure ability to train the next leaders in the field of genetic counseling
- Assist students with graduate project development, implementation, and documentation
 - Help develop student project ideas by engaging students, clinical and research faculty across UAB campus and offsite locations
 - Serve on graduate project committees to monitor student progress
- Coordinate clinical rotations for genetic counseling students at UAB and offsite locations
 - Investigate potential training sites
 - Coordinate affiliation agreements and student onboarding
 - Provide offsite supervisors with guidance and resources for student training
 - Design and conduct supervisor trainings
 - Regularly communicate with supervisors and students to track student progress and address any concerns
- Share responsibilities for GC program recruitment and admissions processes
 - Attend recruitment events
 - Review program website and other promotional materials and edit as needed
 - Meet with prospective students to discuss the field of genetic counseling and the UAB program
 - Review prospective student applications and advise on student selection
 - Work with staff and faculty to coordinate and participate in on-site interviews
 - Communicate with non-matriculating students about strategies to improve applications
- Act as a liaison between the Genetic Counseling Program and the UAB clinical counselors
 - Attend Department of Genetics Clinical Service Team meetings, faculty meetings, and genetic counselor meetings
 - Communicate relevant information between the program and the clinic
- Direct UAB genetic counseling alumni engagement efforts
 - Regularly communicate with GC program alumni through multiple platforms
 - Created and maintain alumni social media presence
 - Provide content for annual program newsletter
 - Email and/or call alumni regularly to communicate program news and to highlight alumni accomplishments
 - Created and maintain an alumni/Y2 student mentor program
- Contribute to Clinical and Diagnostic Sciences Department, School of Health Professions and University activities
 - Serve on various committees
 - Volunteer poster judge
 - CDS 625: Analysis and Publications
 - Physician Assistant Program graduate projects
 - Clinical and Laboratory Sciences graduate projects
 - Office of Service Learning and Undergraduate Research projects
 - Planned and executed department-wide alumni event in Fall 2017

GENETIC COUNSELOR

August 2015-present

- Provide genetics education, risk assessment, coordination of genetic testing, communication of test results, and counseling services for patients in the UAB Cancer Genetics Clinics

- Engage in frequent communication with genetic counselors, physicians and other health care providers to ensure optimal patient care

INTERM ASSISTANT PROGRAM DIRECTOR

June 2016-July 2017 and February-May 2018

- Named Interim Assistant Program Director to assist the Program Director with the UAB Genetic Counseling Program
 - Served on all program committees and advisory board
 - Attended faculty and department meetings in program director's absence
 - Increased involvement in the student recruitment and admissions process
 - Provided advising for students on graduate projects, rotation completion, and job searching
 - Coordinated a Category 1 CEU supervision training event for Southeastern genetic counselors

EMORY UNIVERSITY, JSCREEN PROGRAM GENETIC COUNSELOR

August 2013-December 2014

- Served as primary genetic counselor for JScreen, a novel public health initiative that allows individuals to request and complete genetic carrier screening from home
- Helped develop and employ telemedicine resources to conduct genetic counseling appointments through phone or video conferencing in order to serve patients across the country
- Created educational and promotional materials for patients, physicians, community organizations, and the general public
- Worked with a diverse team of healthcare providers, industry partners, marketing consultants, and web designers to implement strategies for continued program quality and visibility
- Obtained genetic counseling licensure in all states currently offering licensure

UAB MEDICAL GENOMICS LAB GENETIC COUNSELING INTERN

September 2012-August 2013

- Executed tasks to enhance laboratory workflow
 - Maintained a turn-around-time database
 - Converted patient charts to electronic medical records
 - Performed administrative checks to ensure optimal laboratory standards

TEACHING

INSTRUCTOR AND/OR COURSE DIRECTOR

UAB MASTER'S of GENETIC COUNSELING PROGRAM

- GC 510: Introduction to Genetic Counseling
 - Co-director, instructor-Fall 2015
- GC 506: Theory and Practice of Genetic Counseling
 - Co-director, instructor-Spring 2016, 2017
- GC 725/GBS 726: Advanced Medical Genetics
 - Director-Fall 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020
- GC 504: Prenatal Genetics, Embryology and Teratology
 - Director, instructor-Spring 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020 (co-director/instructor)
- GC 600: Advanced Clinical Skills in Genetic Counseling
 - Director, instructor-Fall 2014 (adjunct), 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020

- GC 602: Advanced Topics in Genetic Counseling
 - Director, instructor-Spring 2015, 2016, 2017, 2020 (co-director/instructor)
- GC 560: Genetic Counseling Journal Club
 - Director-Spring 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020
- GC 650: Clinical Laboratory Rotation
 - Director, Summer 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018 (co-director), 2019
- CDS 501-503: Professional Skills for Health Professionals I-III
 - Co-director for Genetic Counseling students-Fall 2016-present

INVITED TALKS/LECTURES

Southeastern Regional Genetics Group (SERGG) Annual Conference, upcoming Summer 2020

- Tele-education for Genetic Counseling Students, Panel Discussion and Presentation

Genetic and Genomics Sciences 410: Genetic Basis of Human Disease, Spring 2018, 2019, 2020

- Risk Assessment in Genetics and Genetic Counseling
- Social and Ethical Issues in the Genomic Age

Nursing 437: Principles of Genetics, Spring 2019

- What Nurses Need to Know about Genetic Counseling

UAB Center for Community OutReach Development (CORD) Summer Science Institute, Summers 2018, 2019

- Genetic Counseling as a Career

Biomedical Sciences 150: Introduction to Biomedical Sciences, Spring 2016, Spring 2018, Spring 2019

- The Genetic Counseling Profession

UAB Center for Community Outreach Development BioTeach Program, Summer 2017

- Teaching Genetic Counseling in Secondary Education

UAB Center for Community Outreach Development BioTeach Program, Summer 2016

- Incorporating Genetics and Genetic Counseling into Secondary Education

Nursing 437: Principles of Genetics, Spring 2016

- Oncology Genetics and Genetic Counseling

Blue Cross Blue Shield of Alabama Lunch and Learn, Fall 2015

- Indications for Genetic Referrals and a Review of Genetic Counseling Services

Physical Therapy Pathology, Summer 2015

- The Future of Genetics/Genomics and the Role of Genetic Counselors

Minority Health & Health Disparities Research Center Summer Enrichment Program, Summer 2015

- Overview of Genetic Counseling

UAB Genetic Counseling Program, GC 602: Advanced Topics in Genetic Counseling, Spring 2014

- Carrier Screening: Then and Now

Georgia Association of Genetic Counselors Annual Education Conference, Spring 2014

- JScreen: An Update and Analysis of Current Operations

Emory OB/GYN Grand Rounds, Spring 2014

- Expanded Carrier Screening and the JScreen Program

Emory Genetic Counseling Program, Genetic Counseling Theory and Practice III, Spring 2014

- Telegenetics

Emory Department of Genetics Case Conference, Summer 2014

- JScreen Cases-Expect the Unexpected

CERTIFICATIONS and TRAININGS

Safe Zone Training, Spring 2020

- Attended LGBTQ awareness training which included education about identities, terminology, concepts of gender and sexuality, and ways to create a welcoming and inclusive environment

UAB Leadership Edge, Fall 2019

- Attended 5 half-day workshops on leadership and management skills including topics in developing oneself as a leader, developing team members and effectively contributing to the overall organization

UAB Center for Teaching and Learning Platinum Certificate, Spring 2019

- Attended >10 workshops and completed assignments in order to learn about and engage in advanced teaching strategies
- Completed teaching observations of faculty and was observed and evaluated by faculty members
- Presented on the topic of service learning in genetic counseling to an audience of diverse faculty

UAB Center for Teaching and Learning Teaching Certificate (Level 1), Spring 2018

- Attended >10 workshops and completed activities to enhance teaching skills
- Workshops included topics of teaching effectiveness, teaching innovation, teaching with technology, and global awareness

UAB Office of Interprofessional Simulation, Simulation Facilitator Training Certificate, Fall 2017

- Completed training in Simulation 101 course on the topics of simulation theory, designing simulations and effective simulation debriefing

STUDENT SUPERVISION AND MENTORSHIP

UAB GENETIC COUNSELING PROGRAM CANCER CLINICAL ROTATION

SECONDARY SUPERVISOR

- Supervise second year genetic counseling students in Cancer Genetics Clinic

Jenny Morgan	Fall 2017
Erin McCown	Spring 2018
Amanda Luedecke	Spring 2018
Dora Moore	Fall 2018
Jessica Davidson	Fall 2018
Catherine Skefos	Spring 2019
Alexis Coates	Fall 2019
Brenna Bentley	Fall 2019

UAB GENETIC COUNSELING PROGRAM SPECIALTY/ADULT CLINICAL ROTATION
SECONDARY SUPERVISOR

- Supervise second year genetic counseling students in Genetic Counseling Clinic

Dana Shippman

Fall 2015

EMORY GENETIC COUNSELING PROGRAM, JSCREEN PROGRAM CLINICAL ROTATION
PRIMARY SUPERVISOR

- Developed JScreen as a new rotation site for the Emory University Genetic Counseling Program by creating learning objectives, activities, assignments and materials to meet student and program needs

Kelly Teed

Fall 2013

Kacie Riley

Fall 2013

Rachel Webster

Fall 2013

Aishwarya Devarajan

Spring 2014

Rebecca Napoliello

Spring 2014

Maria Keever

Fall 2014

Christine Tallo

Fall 2014

GRADUATE PROJECT COMMITTEE PARTICIPATION

Brenna Bentley, UAB Genetic Counseling Program (chair)

2018-present

- Working Title: "Self-Efficacy's Influence on a Genetic Counselor's Likelihood to Contact a Lab with Variant Interpretation Discrepancies"

Katie Church, UAB Genetic Counseling Program (chair)

2018-present

- Working Title: "Retrospective Chart Review of Pediatric Cancer Predisposition Patients Referred through a Unique Model"

Alexis Coates, UAB Genetic Counseling Program (chair)

2018-present

- Working Title: "The Impact of Genetic Counseling on Patient Uptake and Satisfaction of Preimplantation Genetic Testing"

Summer Duffy, UAB Genetic Counseling Program (chair)

2018-present

- Working Title: "Improving Access to Potential Genetic Counseling Students through High School Counselors"

Emily Guilbert, UAB Genetic Counseling Program (chair)

2018-present

- Working Title: "An Assessment of Patient Understanding for Negative Population Cancer Screening Results Delivered via App"

Brighton Goodhue, UAB Genetic Counseling Program (chair)

2017-2019

- "Evaluation of an Expanded Carrier Screening Online Education Module in Clinical Practice"

Dora Moore, UAB Genetic Counseling Program (chair)

2017-2019

- "Psychosocial Characterization of an Undiagnosed Disease Population"

Catherine Skefos, UAB Genetic Counseling Program (chair)

2017-2019

- “Effect of a Genetics Learning Module on Psychiatrist Knowledge and Comfort of Psychiatric Genetics”

Erin McCown, UAB Genetic Counseling Program (chair) 2016-2018

- “Assessing Effectiveness of a Recently Created Online Resource to Prepare Patients, Parents, and Caregivers for Pediatric Cancer Genetic Counseling Appointments”

Hannah Eckl, UAB Genetic Counseling Program (chair) 2015-2017

- “Evaluation of Service Learning: A Genetic Counseling Course Experience”

Kirstin Austin, UAB Genetic Counseling Program (chair) 2014-2016

- “Creating an Educational Module to Inform Pediatricians on Rett Syndrome”

Kathryn Drazba, UAB Genetic Counseling Program (chair) 2014-2016

- “Implementing Genetic Risk Education for Patients with Diabetes”

Ashley Runyon, UAB Genetic Counseling Program (member) 2015

- “Implementing Service Learning In Genetic Counseling Training”

Rachel Donnell, Emory University Genetic Counseling Program (member) 2013-2015

- “Participants in a Web-based Carrier-screening Program Demonstrated Retention of Genetics Knowledge Following Online Video Education”

Robin Davis, UAB Genetic Counseling Program (member) 2013-2014

- “Evaluation of an Educational and Risk Assessment Tool on Hereditary Breast Cancer for Minority Communities”

PROFESSIONAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIPS

NATIONAL SOCIETY OF GENETIC COUNSELORS

ACTIVE MEMBER

Fall 2012-present

CANCER SIG MEMBER

Fall 2016-present

CEU SUB-COMMITTEE MEMBER

Spring 2018-present

- Review submitted materials for educational content in order to approve for continuing education credit

ASSOCIATION OF GENETIC COUNSELING PROGRAM DIRECTORS

ACTIVE MEMBER

Spring 2015-present

MATCH WAIVER TASKFORCE

Spring 2019-present

- Working to establish a waiver program for genetic counseling applicants to offset the cost of the NMS Match

SUPERVISION TRAINING WORKING GROUP

Spring-Fall 2019

- Helped develop a supervision training module for clinical supervisors to be viewed online for continuing education

GEORGIA ASSOCIATION OF GENETIC COUNSELORS

VICE PRESIDENT

August 2013-June 2016

- Elected to serve as Vice President of the GAGC membership for the June 2014-2016 term
- Duties include preparation and execution of the Annual Education Conference, encouraging membership involvement through research and outreach activities and advocating for state licensure

UNIVERSITY COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

UAB GENETIC COUNSELING PROGRAM

CURRICULUM COMMITTEE

August 2012-present

- Support continuing evaluation of program curriculum to ensure UAB students graduate as successful and competitive professionals in the field of genetic counseling
- Assist in evaluating genetic counseling program curriculum by assessing external and internal data in preparation for accreditation by the American Board of Genetic Counseling

GRADUATE PROJECT AND CLINICAL EXPERIENCE COMMITTEE

June 2016-present

- Assess the development, implementation and evaluation of clinical training and graduate projects
- Oversee and evaluate outcome measures of student learning

STUDENT SERVICES COMMITTEE

June 2016-present

- Review admissions standards, process and student selection
- Evaluate program's performance by distributing and analyzing alumni and employer surveys

UAB GENETIC COUNSELING PROGRAM ADVISORY BOARD

June 2016-present

- Guide the development, implementation, evaluation and long range planning of the UAB Genetic Counseling Program

UAB DEPARTMENT of CLINICAL AND DIAGNOSTIC SCIENCES

CDS VISIBILITY WORK GROUP

October 2017-present

- Increase awareness of students and faculty of the CDS Department programs at a school, university and community levels

PROFESSIONAL NETWORKING MIXER COMMITTEE

May 2015-present

- Design and implement professional event that brings together students, alumni, and program stakeholders to recognize achievements and foster continuing collaborations between the department and community

GENETIC COUNSELING PROGRAM DIRECTOR SEARCH COMMITTEE

May 2015-Spring 2017

- Screened and interviewed candidates for the position of program director for UAB's genetic counseling master's program
- Investigated professional recruitment firms to enhance search efforts

UAB SCHOOL of HEALTH PROFESSIONS

DIVERSITY, EQUITY and INCLUSION COMMITTEE

Spring 2018-present

- Work with faculty, staff and student representatives from the School of Health Profession to address and improve issues related to diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI)
- Current projects include implementation of faculty and student gatherings to discuss DEI culture and problems, efforts to increase student awareness of various groups on campus through an activities fair, creating a repository of DEI materials for faculty to incorporate into curriculum

HOMECOMING PLANNING COMMITTEE

Fall 2017, 2018

- Collaborated with SHP Dean's Office and Faculty and Staff from multiple departments to plan UAB Homecoming Week events

- Volunteered to assist with various events during UAB Homecoming Week

HONORS

HONOR SOCIETY OF PHI KAPPA PHI

March 2018

- Inducted into the University of Alabama at Birmingham Chapter based on performing in top 10% of graduate students

GOLDEN KEY INTERNATIONAL HONOUR SOCIETY

January 2018

- Invited to join the University of Alabama at Birmingham Chapter based on academic performance in doctoral coursework

OUTSTANDING GENETIC COUNSELING STUDENT AWARD RECIPIENT

May 2013

- Chosen by program directors, faculty and clinical supervisors as outstanding student for the 2013 masters in genetic counseling graduating class of the University of Alabama at Birmingham

UAB GRADUATE STUDENT RESEARCH DAY WINNER

February 2013

- Presented findings from graduate work at the UAB Graduate Student Research Day competition and awarded first runner up in the Biomedical Sciences and Engineering session

PUBLICATIONS and POSTERS

Hsu, M., **Denton, J.J.**, Hart, T.R., Hanson-Kahn, A.K., Helgeson, M., Peacock, S., Spaulding, J. 2019.

“Laboratory Rotations for Genetic Counseling Graduate Students: Preparing the Next Generation for Careers in and with Genetic Testing Laboratories”

Poster Presentation-American College and Medical Genetics and Genomics Conference

March 2020

Grinzaid, K.A., Page, P.Z., **Denton, J.J.**, Ginsberg, J. 2015. Creation of a National, At-home Model for Ashkenazi Jewish Carrier Screening. *Journal of Genetic Counseling* Vol. 24(3), pp381-387.

“Evaluation of Service Learning: A Genetic Counseling Course Experience”

Poster Presentation-National Society of Genetic Counselors Annual Conference

September 2017

“An Analysis of Online Education Methods for an At-home Genetic Carrier Screening Service”

Poster Presentation-National Society of Genetic Counselors Annual Conference

September 2014

“JScreen, an Online Approach to Jewish Carrier Screening: Data from the First 3 Months”

Poster Presentation- American College of Medical Genetics and Genomic Conference

March 2014