

CURRICULUM VITAE

Erik Blaser, PhD

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Research interests

Visual attention in adult humans
Visual development and its neural underpinnings
Attention and memory in typically developing children and those diagnosed with Autism/ASD

Education

Ph.D., Psychology (Cognitive Science), University of California, Irvine, CA, 1999
M.A., Mathematical Behavioral Science, University of California, Irvine, CA, 1997
B.A., Psychology (Philosophy minor), Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ, 1992

Awards & Honors

2015 Chancellor's Distinguished Teaching Award
2000 Cold Spring Harbor course (Computational Neuroscience: Vision)
1995 President, Associated Graduate Students, University of California, Irvine
1992 Henry Rutgers Scholar, Rutgers University, NJ
1992 Marilyn Shaw Award for Outstanding Undergraduate Research, Rutgers University, NJ

Positions held

2016 - *present* Professor, Psychology Department, UMass, Boston, MA
2011 - *present* Graduate Program Director, Developmental and Brain Sciences PhD program.
2016 Visiting Professor, Center for Mind/Brain Sciences (CIMeC), Rovereto, Italy
2008 - 2016 Associate Professor, Psychology Department, UMass, Boston, MA
2002 - 2008 Assistant Professor, Psychology Department, UMass, Boston, MA
2000 - 2002 Post-doctoral Fellow, Laboratory for Vision Research, Rutgers University, NJ
1998 - 2000 NRSA Post-doctoral Fellow, Rutgers Center for Cog. Sci., Rutgers University
1996 - 1998 Teaching Assistant, University of California, Irvine
1993 - 1996 AFOSS ASSERT Research Assistant, University of California, Irvine
1992 - 1993 Teaching Assistant, University of California, Irvine
1991 - 1992 Research Assistant, Rutgers University, NJ.

Grants (PI or co-I on \$1.57M in external grants to UMass Boston)

Under Review:

NIH/NICHHD R21 research grant [*period, if funded: 9/1/2017-8/31/2019*]

Amount requested: \$419,400

“The development of the temporal organization of perception in ASD”

Role: Co-Investigator; PI: Zsuzsa Kaldy; Co-PI: David Melcher. Co-I: Alice Carter

Current:

NIH R15 research grant [9/2015-9/2018]

Award: \$456,700

“Cognitive effort and capacity in visual working memory development”

Role: Co-PI; Principal Investigator: Zsuzsa Kaldy (UMB).

Seed Grant from the Simons Foundation. [competitive renewal. 6/1/2015- 5/31/2016]

Award: \$178,903

“The early development of attentional mechanisms in ASD”

Role: Co-I; Principal Investigator: Zsuzsa Kaldy (UMB); Co-PI: Nancy Kanwisher (MIT); Co-I's: Alice Carter (UMB), Jason Fischer (MIT).

International Research Initiative Seed Grant, UMass Boston, March 2017

Previous:

Seed Grant from the Simons Foundation. [12/1/2013- 5/30/2015]

Award: \$119,400

“The early development of attentional mechanisms in ASD”

Role: Co-I; Principal Investigator: Zsuzsa Kaldy (UMB); Co-PI: Nancy Kanwisher (MIT); Co-I's: Alice Carter (UMB), Jason Fischer (MIT).

NIH R15 research grant [competitive renewal. 8/1/2010-7/31/2013]

Award: \$456,700

“Infants' visual working memory tested with salience-mapped objects”

Role: Principal Investigator; Co-PI: Zsuzsa Kaldy (UMB).

NIH R15 research grant. [8/1/2007-7/31/2010]

Award: \$230,990

“Infants' visual working memory tested with salience-mapped objects”

Role: Principal Investigator; Co-PI: Zsuzsa Kaldy (UMB).

UMass President's Science & Technology Initiatives Grant. [8/1/2008-7/31/2010]

Award: \$125,000 [with an additional \$50,000 equipment award from UMass Boston's Venture Development Center]

“Development of screening tools for early detection of anxiety disorders”

Role: Co-I; Principal Investigator: Zsuzsa Kaldy (UMB); Co-I: Alice Carter (UMB)

Internal:

Joseph P. Healey Endowment Grant, UMass Boston [2007]

Award: \$7500

Joseph P. Healey Endowment Grant, UMass Boston [2013]

Award: \$7500

Prior to appointment at UMass, Boston:

NIH 1R01EY/MH13758-01. [2002-2004]

Role: Co-PI; PI: Papathomas, T.
 Rutgers University
 NRSA Institutional Postdoctoral Fellowship [1998-2000]
 University of California, Irvine
 AFOSR ASSERT Training Grant [1993-1996]
 University of California, Irvine

Publications [**denotes UMB student co-author*]

- Fischer*, J., Robertson*, C., Smith*, H., Carter, A. S., Blaser, E., Kaldy, Z., & Kanwisher, N. (in prep.). Unimpaired orientation to faces in toddlers with Autism Spectrum Disorder.
- Smith*, H., Groth*, A., Carter, A. S., Blaser, E., & Kaldy, Z. (in prep.). Top-down attentional control in toddlers with and without Autism Spectrum Disorder.
- Kibbe, M., Kaldy, Z., & Blaser, E. (submitted). Visual salience relations are not transitive in 6-month-olds. *Infancy*.
- Ramamurthy*, M., & Blaser, E. (2017). New rules for visual selection: Isolating procedural attention. *Journal of Vision*, *17*(2), 18. <https://doi.org/10.1167/17.2.18>.
- Király, I., Takács*, S., Kaldy, Z., & Blaser, E. (2017). Preschoolers have better long-term memory for rhyming text than adults. *Developmental Science*. doi: 10.1111/desc.12398.
- Kaldy Z., Guillory*, S., & Blaser, E. (2016). Delayed Match Retrieval: A novel anticipation-based Visual Working Memory paradigm. *Developmental Science*, *19*, 892-900.
- Blaser, E., Eglinton*, L., Carter, A. S., & Kaldy, Z. (2014). Pupillometry reveals a mechanism for the Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) advantage in visual tasks. *Scientific Reports*, *4*, 4301; doi:10.1038/srep04301.
- Kaldy, Z., Giserman*, I., Carter, A. S., & Blaser, E. (2013). The mechanisms underlying the ASD advantage in visual search. *Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders*, *43*
- Kaldy, Z., & Blaser, E. (2013). Red to green or fast to slow?: Visual Working Memory for 'Just Salient Differences'. *Child Development*, *84*, 1855-62.
- Kaldy, Z., Kraper*, C., Carter, A., & Blaser, E. (2011). Toddlers with Autism Spectrum Disorder are more successful at visual search than typically developing toddlers. *Developmental Science*, *14*, 980-8.
- Vishwanath, D., & Blaser, E. (2010). Retinal blur and the perception of egocentric distance. *Journal of Vision*, *10*, 26.
- Blaser, E., & Kaldy, Z. (2010). Infants get five stars on iconic memory tests: A partial report test of 6-month-old infants' iconic memory capacity. *Psychological Science*, *21*, 1643-5.
- Kaldy, Z., & Blaser, E. (2009). How to compare apples and oranges: Infants' object identification tested with equally salient shape, luminance and color changes. *Infancy*, *14*, 222-43.
- Blaser, E. & Shepard*, T. (2009). Maximal motion aftereffects in spite of diverted attention: Illuminating the shadow economy of dark attention. *Vision Research* *49*, 1174–1181.
- Blaser, E. & Sperling, G. (2008) When is motion motion? *Perception*, *37*, 624-627.
- Kaldy, Z., Blaser, E., & Leslie, A., (2006). A new method for calibrating perceptual salience across dimensions in infants: the case of color vs. luminance. *Developmental Science*, *9*,

482–489.

- Blaser, E., Papathomas, T.V., & Vidnyanszky, Z. (2005). Binding of motion and colour is local and automatic. *European Journal of Neuroscience*, *21*, 2040-2044.
- Sohn, W., Papathomas, T., Blaser, E., & Vidnyanszky, Z. (2004). Object-based cross-attribute attentional modulation from color to motion. *Vision Research*, *44*, 1437-1443.
- Papathomas T.V., Vidnyanszky Z., Blaser E. (2004). Transparent motion: a powerful tool to study segmentation, integration, adaptation, and attentional selection. Jenkin, M. and Harris, L. (eds.) *On Seeing Spatial Form*, Oxford University Press, 2004.
- Vidnyanszky, Z., Blaser, E., & Papathomas, T. (2002). Motion integration during motion aftereffects. *Trends in Cognitive Sciences*, *6*, 157-161.
- Blaser, E. & Domini, F. (2002). The conjunction of feature and depth information. *Vision Research*, *42*, 273-279.
- Sperling, G., Reeves A., Blaser, E., Lu, Z-L, & Weichselgartner, E. (2001). Two computational models of attention. *Visual attention and cortical circuits*, MIT Press.
- Blaser, E., Pylyshyn, Z.W., & Holcombe, A. (2000). Tracking an object through feature-space. *Nature*, *408*, 196-199.
- see also: Braun, J. (2000). Intimate attention. [Commentary on Blaser, Pylyshyn, & Holcombe (2000)]. *Nature*, *408*, 154-155.
- Domini, F., Blaser, E., & Cicerone, C. (2000). Color-specific depth mechanisms revealed by a color-contingent depth aftereffect. *Vision Research*, *40*, 359-364.
- Blaser, E., Sperling, G., & Lu, Z-L. (1999). Measuring the amplification of attention. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, *96*, 11681-11686.
- see also: Snowden, R. In clear and vivid form? [Commentary on Blaser, Sperling, & Lu (1999)]. *Trends in Cognitive Sciences*, *4*, 40.
- Kowler, E. & Blaser, E. (1995). The accuracy and precision of saccades to small and large targets. *Vision Research*, *35*, 1741-1754.
- Kowler, E., Anderson, E., Doshier, B., & Blaser, E. (1995). The role of attention in the programming of saccades. *Vision Research*, *35*, 1897-1916.

Presentations [*denotes UMB student co-author]

- Smith*, H., Kaldy, Z., & Blaser, E. (under review). Recently rewarded task-irrelevant stimuli do not distract 2-year-olds during visual search. Poster to be presented at the Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society, July 27-29, 2017, London, UK.
- Kaldy, Z., Dhungana*, S., & Blaser, E. (2017). A not-so-narrow spotlight: Infants can encode information about objects into VSTM that were not fixated. Poster to be presented at the Annual Meeting of the Vision Sciences Society, May 19-24, 2017, St. Pete Beach, FL.
- Cheng*, C. Kaldy, Z., Dhungana*, S., & Blaser, E. (2017). Using object history to predict future behavior: Are young infants essentialists? Poster to be presented at the Biennial Meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, April 6-8, 2017, Austin, TX.
- Guillory*, S. B., Blaser, E., Ivester*, R., & Kaldy, Z. (2016). Expectations can influence cognitive resource allocation in a visual short-term memory task: evidence from behavioral and pupillometric measures. Poster presented at the Annual Meeting of the Association for Psychological Science, May 26-29, 2016, Chicago, IL.

- Ramamurthy*, M., & Blaser, E. (2016). Ocular dominance plasticity tested with non-contrast based (kaleidoscopic) monocular deprivation. Vision Science Society Conference. May, 2016, St. Pete Beach, FL.
- Cheng*, C. Kaldy, Z., & Blaser, E. (2016). Development of Visual Working Memory in 13- to 16-month olds in an anticipatory looking task. Poster presented at the International Conference on Infant Studies, May 24-26, 2016, New Orleans, LA.
- Cheng*, C. Kaldy, Z., & Blaser, E. (2016). Accounting for cognitive effort in a visual working memory task in 13- and 15-month old infants. Poster presented at the Annual Meeting of the Vision Sciences Society, May 13-18, 2016, St. Pete Beach, FL.
- Smith*, H., Carter, A.S., Kaldy, Z., & Blaser, E. (2015). The Cost of Attentional Engagement: Target Switching during Visual Search in 2-Year-Old Toddlers with ASD. Poster presented at the Simons Center Annual Poster Session, MIT, Oct 23, 2015, Cambridge, MA.
- Smith*, H., Carter, A.S., Kaldy, Z., & Blaser, E. (2015). The Cost of Attentional Engagement: Target Switching during Visual Search in 2-Year-Old Toddlers with ASD. International Meeting for Autism Research, May 13-16, 2015, Salt Lake City, UT.
- O'Grady*, S, Guillory*, S. B., Blaser, E., & Kaldy, Z. (2015). 21-Month-Old Toddlers Pass an Anticipatory Version of the Invisible Displacement Task. Biennial Meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, March 19-21, 2015, Philadelphia, PA.
- Smith*, H., Fischer, J., Kanwisher, N., Carter, A. S., Blaser, E., & Kaldy, Z. (2015). An Eye-Tracking Study of Attentional Disengagement and Social Orienting in 2-Year-Old Toddlers. Biennial Meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, March 19-21, 2015, Philadelphia, PA.
- Smith*, H., Kaldy, Z., & Blaser, E. (2015). Can 2-Year-Old Toddlers Switch Targets During Visual Search? Biennial Meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, March 19-21, 2015, Philadelphia, PA.
- Ramamurthy*, M & Blaser, E. (2014). New rules for visual attention selection. Vision Sciences Society Conference. *Journal of Vision*, 14, 1028.
- Smith*, H., Carter, A., Blaser, E., & Kaldy, Z. (2014). The cost of attentional engagement: Target switching during visual search in 2-year-old toddlers with ASD. Poster presented at the Simons Center Annual Poster Session, MIT, Nov 21, 2014, Cambridge, MA.
- Guillory*, S. B., Blaser, E., & Kaldy, Z. (2014). Task-evoked pupillary response predicts performance in a visual working memory task in 7-10-months-olds. Poster presented at the International Conference on Infant Studies, July 3-5, 2014, Berlin, Germany.
- Kaldy, Z., Guillory*, S. B., Carter, A. S., Martinez Pedraza*, F., Groth*, A., & Blaser, E. (2014). Increased attentional focus in 2-year-old toddlers with ASD. Poster presented at the International Conference on Infant Studies, July 3-5, 2014, Berlin, Germany.
- Groth*, A., Guillory*, S. B., Blaser, E., & Kaldy, Z. (2014). IQ measure correlates with performance on a visual search paradigm in toddlers. Poster presented at the Annual Meeting of the Vision Sciences Society, May 16-21, 2014, St. Pete Beach, FL.
- Smith*, H., Guillory*, S. B., Blaser, E., & Kaldy, Z. (2014). Resistance to distraction in visual search in 2-year-old toddlers with and without Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). Poster presented at the Annual Meeting of the Vision Sciences Society, May 16-21,

2014, St. Pete Beach, FL.

- Kaldy, Z., Blaser, E., Guillory*, S. B., Carter, A. S., Martinez Pedraza*, F., & Groth*, A. (2013). Increased task-specific attentional focus in 2-year-old toddlers with ASD. Poster presented at the Workshop 'Learning to Attend, Attending to Learn': Neurological, Behavioral and Computational Perspectives. Nov 6-7, 2013, San Diego, CA.
- Kaldy, Z., Blaser, E., & Guillory*, S. (2013). Putting memory to work: A novel anticipation-based visual working memory task for infants. Paper presented at the Biennial Meeting of the European Society for Cognitive Psych. Aug 29-Sept 1, 2013, Budapest, Hungary.
- Guillory*, S., Blaser, E., Eglington*, L., & Kaldy, Z. (2013). Task-evoked pupillary responses in iconic memory. Poster presented at the Annual Meeting of the Vision Sciences Society, May 10-15, 2013, Naples, FL.
- Kaldy, Z., Blaser, E., & Guillory*, S. (2013). Infants can play the Memory Game: A novel anticipation-based object/location task. Paper presented as part of the Symposium "Knowing 'What' is 'Where': New Findings on Object Individuation and Identification in Infancy" Biennial Meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, April 18-21, 2013, Seattle, WA.
- Kiraly, I., Takacs, S., Kaldy, Z., & Blaser, E. (2013). Long-term recall of rhyming text: Preschoolers are better than adults. Poster presented at the 2013 CEU Conference on Cognitive Development, Central European Univ., Jan 10-12, 2013, Budapest, Hungary.
- Kaldy, Z., Blaser, E., & Biondi*, M. (2012). Can infants play the "Memory" game? Poster presented at the International Conference on Infant Studies, June 6-10, 2012, Minneapolis, MN.
- Blaser, E., Eglington*, L., & Kaldy, Z. (2012). Toddlers with ASD are better at visual search without trying harder: a pupillometric study. Poster presented at the Annual Meeting of the Vision Sciences Society, May 11-16, 2012, Naples, FL.
- Kaldy, Z., & Blaser, E. (2012). Red to green or fast to slow: Infants' use of equally salient static (color) versus dynamic (rotation speed) features in object identification. Poster presented at the 2012 Budapest CEU Conference on Cognitive Development, Jan 12-14, 2012, Budapest, Hungary.
- Blaser, E., & Kaldy, Z. (2011). Fast development of iconic memory: Infants' capacity matches adults. Poster presented at the European Conference on Visual Perception, Aug 28-Sept 1, 2011, Toulouse, France.
- Kaldy, Z., Blaser, E., & Biondi*, M. (2011). Iconic memory capacity in 6-month-old infants and adults. Paper presented as part of the Symposium: New and Robust Approaches to the Study of Object Cognition: Integrating Methods Across Age Groups. Biennial Meeting of the Society of Research in Child Development, March 30-Apr 2, 2011, Montreal, Canada.
- Kaldy, Z., & Blaser, E. (2011). The first buffer of visual information: Iconic memory in infants. Paper presented as part of the Symposium: Memory Development in Infancy. Budapest CEU Conference on Cognitive Development, Jan 14-16, Budapest, Hungary.
- Kraper*, C., Kaldy, Z., Blaser, E., & Carter, A. S. (2010). 2.5-year-old toddlers with Autism Spectrum Disorder are more successful at visual search than typically developing toddlers. Poster presented at the International Meeting for Autism Research, May 20-22,

2010, Philadelphia, PA.

- Blaser, E., Kaldy, Z., Lo*, H., & Biondi*, M. (2010). A salience-mapping method for testing infants' speed vs. luminance visual working memory. Poster presented at the Annual Meeting of the Vision Sciences Society, May 7-13, 2010, Naples, FL.
- Kaldy, Z., Blaser, E., & Biondi*, M. (2010). Measuring iconic memory capacity in 6-month-old infants using partial report. Poster presented at the Biennial Meeting of the International Conference on Infant Studies, March 11-14, 2010, Baltimore, MD.
- Kaldy, Z., Blaser, E., Kraper*, C., Higgins*, E., & Carter, A. (2009). Visual search without instructions: An eye-tracking study with toddlers. Poster presented at the Biennial Meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Apr 2-4, 2009, Denver, CO.
- Kraper*, C., Kaldy, Z., Higgins*, E., Blaser, E., & Carter, A. (2009). Do toddlers experience the McGurk Illusion? An eye-tracking study. Poster presented at the Biennial Meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Apr 2-4, 2009, Denver, CO.
- Kaldy, Z., Blaser, E., & Crug*, A. (2008). What is the "same amount of change" for infants? Paper presented at the International Conference on Infant Studies, March 27-29, Vancouver, Canada.
- Blaser, E. & Shepard*, T. (2007). *Illuminating the shadow economy of Dark Attention*. European Conference of Visual Perception, Arezzo, Italy.
- Kaldy, Z. & Blaser, E. (2007). *Infants' visual working memory for shape, luminance and color tested with equally salient objects*. European Conference of Visual Perception, Arezzo, Italy.
- Kaldy, Z. & Blaser, E. (2007). *Infants' visual working memory for shape, luminance and color tested with equally salient objects*. Annual Meeting of the Vision Sciences Society, Sarasota, FL
- Kaldy, Z. & Blaser, E. & Vazquez*, M. D. (2007). *Infants' visual working memory for shape and luminance tested with equally salient objects*. Annual Meeting of the Eastern Psychological Association, Philadelphia, PA7
- Blaser, E. (2006). *The hidden scale of natural forms: A new cue to depth?* The Annual Meeting of the Vision Sciences Society, Sarasota, FL
- Kaldy, Z. & Blaser, E. (2006). *Comparing apples and oranges: the problem of interdimensional salience in infancy research*. The Biennial Meeting of the International Conference on Infancy Studies, Kyoto, Japan. [presented by Z. Kaldy]
- Kaldy, Z., Blaser, E. (2006). *Comparing apples and oranges: the problem of interdimensional salience in infancy research*. New England Mini-Conference on Infancy Studies, Amherst, MA. [presented by Z. Kaldy]
- Niederhoefer*, V. & Blaser, E. (2006). *The functional units of visual working memory: Objects or Locations?* The Annual Meeting of the Vision Sciences Society, Sarasota, FL
- Kaldy, Z., Blaser, E., & Kibbe*, M. (2006). *Detection vs. Salience of color and motion-defined stimuli in 6-month-old infants*. The Annual Meeting of the Vision Sciences Society, Sarasota, FL
- Kaldy, Z., Blaser, E., Kibbe*, M., & Pomplun, M. (2005). *What drives visual salience in young infants?* The Annual Meeting of the Vision Sciences Society, Sarasota, FL
- Blaser, E., Kaldy, Z., Eddy*, K., & Pomplun, M. (2005). *Determining salience for complex*

- objects*. The Annual Meeting of the Vision Sciences Society, Sarasota, FL
- Kaldy, Z. & Blaser, E. (2005). *Visual salience relations reflect perceptual development in 5- and 6-month-old infants*. The Biennial Meeting of the Society for Research in Child Dev., Atlanta, GA
- Kaldy, Z. & Blaser, E. (2005). *What was there? The development of attention in infancy*. New England Conference on Infant Studies, Eunice Kennedy Shriver Center [presented by Z. Kaldy]
- Kaldy, Z., & Blaser, E. (2004). *Iso-salient color and luminance information in visual working memory*. European Conference on Visual Perception, Budapest, Hungary
- Kaldy, Z., Blaser, E., & Leslie, A. (2004). *Iso-salient color and luminance information in object identification*. International Conference on Infancy Studies, Chicago, IL
- Blaser, E., Domini, F., & Raymond*, L. (2004). *Perceptual learning increases the tilt aftereffect*. The Annual Meeting of the Vision Sciences Society, Sarasota, FL
- Blaser, E., Pappas, T., & Vidnyanszky, Z. (2003). *Polarity-contingent motion aftereffects at the stage of local motion processing*. The Annual Meeting of the Vision Sciences Society, Sarasota, FL
- Sohn, W., Pappas, T., Blaser, E., & Vidnyanszky, Z. (2003). *Object-based cross-attribute attentional effects in bivectorial motion*. The Annual Meeting of the Vision Sciences Society, Sarasota, FL
- Blaser, E., Vidnyanszky, Z., & Pappas, T. (2002). *Relative motion, not polarity, breaks 'surface tension'*. The Annual Meeting of the Vision Sciences Society, Sarasota, FL
- Sohn, W., Blaser, E., Vidnyanszky, Z., & Pappas, T. (2002). *Surface based mechanisms of attentional facilitation and inhibition in motion perception*. The Annual Meeting of the Vision Sciences Society, Sarasota, FL
- Vidnyanszky, Z., Blaser, E., & Pappas, T. (2001). *An explanation for unidirectional motion aftereffects following adaptation to bivectorial transparent motion*. The Annual Meeting of the Vision Sciences Society, Sarasota, FL
- Sohn, W., Vidnyanszky, Z., Blaser, E., & Pappas, T. (2001). *Attention to one component of bivectorial transparent motion strongly inhibits the processing of the unattended component*. The Annual Meeting of the Vision Sciences Society, Sarasota, FL
- Domini, F. & Blaser, E. (2000). *Surface-based depth perception*. The Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology (ARVO), Annual Meeting, Ft. Lauderdale, FL.
- Blaser, E., Pylyshyn, Z.W., & Holcombe, A. (2000). *With two objects at one location, attention is "object-based"*. The Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology (ARVO), Annual Meeting, Ft. Lauderdale, FL.
- Blaser, E., Pylyshyn, Z.W. (1999). *Feature extraction occurs independently*. European Conference of Visual Perception (ECPV), Trieste, Italy.
- Blaser, E., Pylyshyn, Z.W., & Domini, F. (1999). *Measuring attention during 3D multielement tracking*. The Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology (ARVO), Annual Meeting, Ft. Lauderdale, FL.
- Blaser, E. & Sperling, G. (1998). *Using an equivalent chromaticity paradigm to measure attention to color*. The Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology (ARVO), Annual Meeting, Ft. Lauderdale, FL.

Blaser, E., Sperling, G., & Lu, Z-L. (1997). *Measuring the spatial resolution of visual attention*. The Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology (ARVO), Annual Meeting, Ft. Lauderdale, FL.

Blaser, E. & Sperling, G. (1996). *When is motion motion? Annual Interdisciplinary Conference*, Jackson Hole, WY.

Invited talks

Kaldy, Z. & Blaser, E. (2016). The truth is in the eye of the beholder: A novel infant working memory task based on predictive choice. Tulane University. [presented by Z. Kaldy]

Kaldy, Z. & Blaser, E. (2013). Capacity vs. cognitive effort in a novel infant working memory task. Central European University. [presented by Z. Kaldy]

Kaldy, Z. & Blaser, E. (2012). Apples and oranges: How to solve the problem of visual salience in infant studies. University of Massachusetts Amherst [presented by Z. Kaldy]

Kaldy, Z. & Blaser, E. (2009). Apples and oranges: How to solve the problem of visual salience in infant studies. Central European University, Budapest, Hungary [presented by Z. Kaldy]

Kaldy, Z. & Blaser, E. (2009). Apples and oranges: The problem of visual salience in infant studies. Colby College, Waterville, ME [presented by Z. Kaldy]

Kaldy, Z. & Blaser, E. (2007). Infants get five stars on iconic memory tests. Harvard University, Cambridge, MA [presented by Z. Kaldy]

Blaser, E. (March, 2007). *Illuminating the shadow economy of Dark Attention*. International Workshop on Visual Attention, Buenos Aires, Argentina

Blaser, E. (March, 2006). *Scale from Structure: a new cue to depth?* Boston University [open lecture]

Blaser, E. (December, 2005). *Scale from Structure: a new cue to depth*. Harvard University

Kaldy, Z. & Blaser, E. (2005). *Comparing apples and oranges: the question of inter-dimensional salience in infancy*. Yale University [presented by Z. Kaldy]

Kaldy, Z. & Blaser, E. (2004). *The development of visual working memory and attention*. Eunice Kennedy Shriver Center [presented by Z. Kaldy]

Kaldy, Z. & Blaser, E. (2004). *The development of visual working memory in human infants*. Boston University. [presented by Z. Kaldy]

Blaser, E. (2003). *Think locally, act globally: color, motion, and attention*. Harvard University

Blaser, E. (2003). *Performance without attention*. International Workshop on Visual Attention, San Gimignano, Italy. [could not attend]

Blaser, E. (2001). *'Surface-based' attention*. UMass, Boston

Blaser, E. (2001). *Attention to visual surfaces*. New York University

Blaser, E. (2001). *The construction of visual surfaces*. University of Pennsylvania

Blaser, E. (2000). *Tracking objects through feature-space*. Brown University

Blaser, E. (1998). *Measuring the amplification of attention*. Rutgers University

Teaching experience

Courses taught, UMass, Boston

Introduction to Cognitive Science (Psych L271)

Advanced Topics in Vision (Psych 455)

Perception (Psych 255)

Research Apprenticeship (Psych 286/486)

Directed Study (Psych 488/489)

Honors Research (Psych 499)

Teaching and Mentorship

Undergraduate

Approximately 2000 students taught in undergraduate classes.

40 students mentored in Research Apprenticeships and Directed Studies.

7 students mentored for one year as Psychology Honors Thesis students.

Graduate

Currently mentoring three PhD students; Developmental and Brain Sciences PhD:

Mahalakshmi Ramamurthy, Chen Cheng, and Julie Freschl.

Served on the Masters and PhD committees of several students in the Psychology and Computer Science departments, as well as serving as an external member to a PhD student in Dr. Fulvio Domini's lab at Brown University.

Notable undergraduate mentee achievements

Former Research Assistants and Honors Students

- Henock Legesse (BS, 2004) – Sr. Test Systems Engineer/Optical/Laser at NASA.
- Dr. Ashley Blanchard (BS, 2007) – PhD (Psychology) from Rutgers University
- Timothy Shepard (BS, 2009) – Northeastern University, PhD student (Neuroscience)
- Luke Eglington, (BS, 2014) – Dartmouth University, PhD student (Neuroscience)

Former students whom I advised

- Dr. Melissa Kibbe (BS, 2005) – Assistant Professor at Boston University, MA
- Marisa Biondi (BS, 2012) – Texas A&M University, PhD student (Psychology)
- Shaun O'Grady (BS, 2014) – NSF Graduate Research Fellowship (while at UMass Boston); UC Berkeley, PhD Student (Psychology).

University of Trento, Center for Mind/Brain Sciences (CIMEC), Rovereto, Italy:

"The early development of visual attention and memory", Graduate Seminar, 2016 Summer (co-taught with Zsuzsa Kaldy).

Technical Skills

MATLAB, C, Psychophysics toolbox, Tobii Studio, Eye tracking & pupillometry.

Service

Departmental

As chair

- Faculty search (Dr. Park hired) [2008]

- Faculty search (Dr. Ciaramitaro hired) [2008]
- Faculty search (Dr. Shukla hired) [2010]
- 4th-year review for Mohinish Shukla [2015]
- Laboratory [2008/09; 2011/12; 2012/13-*present*]

As member

- Curriculum committee [2002/03]
- Personnel committee [2003-2011]
- Reviewer for Barnett & Samuels awards [2005/06]
- Faculty Search (Dr. Zup hired) [2006]
- 4th-year review for Dr. John Perez [2008]
- Laboratory committee [2010/11]
- AQUAD review [2013]
- Executive committee [2010-*present*]

Major departmental contributions:

- * Facilitating the transaction to the Integrated Sciences Complex (ISC).¹
- * Developed the automated Database of Research Assistants (DORA) to pair students with mentors (Research Apprenticeships, Directed Studies, or Honors Research).²
- * Spearheaded a strengthening of the statistics and research requirements for the major.³

University

Have served:

- Academic Senate [2002/03]
- Talks in Cognitive Science (as co-Organizer) [2002-2009]
- WPE (Writing Proficiency Exam) grading [2002-2007; 2011]
- Institutional Review Board (IRB) [2003-2006]
- Undergraduate Research Grant committee [2004-2009]

¹ Lab committee required a significant time commitment over this period, as we had many issues with respect to the ISC, retrofitting of existing space, needs of incoming new hires, as well as the needs of the nascent DBS PhD program. We had numerous meetings with the planners for the new building, as well as internal meetings to review specs of current space and departmental needs moving forward. I reconciled competing space demands, mapped existing and planned space usage, and developed a system (that includes a web-based form) for the hoteling of spaces in the ISC. Lab committee has maintained an active ‘punchlist’ that documents issues related to the ISC move; we solicit, monitor, and mediate any problems that come up with these spaces; there have been several major issues and dozens of minor ones.

² This included designing and implementing a web-based interface (where faculty can enter criteria - GPA, prerequisites, credit counts - that are then compared against Peoplesoft); building a website for participating students that outlines what research opportunities are available (i.e. Research Apprenticeships, Honors, and Directed Studies); and building a website for faculty with instructions and a template outreach letter to send to DORA student matches.

³ Prof. Jean Rhodes and I did a review of peer programs to document their requirements with respect to Statistics and Research Methods courses, and I also reviewed recommendations on this topic from the American Psychological Association, and reviewed the Education literature for analyses of Psychology programs and their requirements and outcomes. Guiding the discussion among faculty, we voted to pilot a new course - *Advanced Research Methods* - that is part of a ‘choose-one’ requirement with *Statistics*.

- Directed the undergraduate Cognitive Science Minor [2003-2013]
- Faculty advisor to the Neuroscience (née Cognitive Science) club [2005-2008]
- Presenter at UMB Open House for visiting High School Students [2006-2008]
- Presenter at UMB Welcome Week [2006/07]
- Presenter at the tenure workshop of the Faculty Development Office [2012]
- Development of the Developmental & Brain Sciences (DBS) PhD program [2003-2011]
- Graduate Program Director for the DBS PhD program [2011-*present*]

Major University contributions:

- * Designed, implemented, and directed the Cognitive Science Minor.⁴
- * Designed and implemented (alongside colleagues and Founding Director Prof. Celia Moore) the PhD program in Developmental and Brain Sciences.⁵

Professional

- External reviewer COGSCI conference submissions [2005/06]
- External reviewer (ad hoc) for grant proposals to the Vidi programme (Innovational Research Incentive Scheme; granting agency administered by the Netherlands) [2006]
- External reviewer (ad hoc) for NSF grant applications [2007; 2009]
- External reviewer for ECVP conference submissions [2007]
- Member of the Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology [1993-2000]
- Member of the Vision Sciences Society [2000-*present*]
- Member of the Society for Research in Child Development [2002-*present*]
- Member of the International Congress of Infant Studies [2002-*present*]
- Ad hoc reviewer for *Nature*, *Trends in Cognitive Sciences*, *Vision Research*, *Journal of Vision*, *Attention, Perception & Psychophysics*, *Experimental Brain Research*, *Cortex*, *Quarterly Journal of Experimental Psychology*, *Cognition*, etc. [2002-*present*]

⁴ This was a multi-year effort to gain approval (it was piloted initially as a Program of Study). Designing the interdisciplinary minor required me to assemble a roster of relevant courses from across the colleges, determine a curriculum that would ensure the proper training for students from various majors, and preparing a specialized core course *Introduction to Cognitive Science* that would tie it all together.

⁵ Development for the PhD program began in 2003 under the leadership of Prof. Celia Moore. I participated in these early years, but took a leadership role, as Director, in 2011. Working from draft requirements, I facilitated the consensus-based decisions to specify & finalize rules governing all aspects of the program: transfer credits, admissions, course evaluations, newsletters, recruiting methods, course offerings and sequencing, academic honesty, etc. The role has been a major time commitment, as it includes both big-picture organization and day-to-day management.