

ABIGAIL T. STEPHAN

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EDUCATION

- 2022 **Ph.D., Learning Sciences**
Concentration: Human Development across the Lifespan
Dissertation Title: Examining Intergenerational Relationships in the Family
College of Education
Clemson University | Clemson, SC
- 2017 **B.A., Language and International Trade (Summa Cum Laude)**
Minor: Cultural Anthropology
College of Architecture, Arts, and Humanities
Clemson University | Clemson, SC

PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

- August 2023 – Present **Research Assistant Professor**
Department of Psychology | Institute for Engaged Aging
College of Behavioral, Social and Health Sciences
Clemson University | Seneca, SC
- May 2022 – August 2023 **Postdoctoral Fellow**
Institute for Engaged Aging | Department of Psychology
College of Behavioral, Social and Health Sciences
Clemson University | Seneca, SC
- May 2017 – May 2022 **Graduate Administrative & Research Assistant**
General Engineering Learning Community | General Engineering
College of Engineering, Computing, and Applied Science
Clemson University | Clemson, SC

PUBLICATIONS

*mentored graduate student co-author

**mentored undergraduate student co-author

PEER-REVIEWED JOURNAL ARTICLES

Phillips, C., *McVey, A., Tian, J., **Stephan, A.**, **Davis, W. B., Aflagah, E. L., & Ross, L. A. (2023). Feasibility of a pilot dyadic randomized controlled trial testing the effects of three behavioral interventions on older adults' cognitive, physical and everyday function. *Frontiers in Aging*, 4(1166338).
<https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/fragi.2023.1166338/full>

- Stephan, A. T.**, *Hochstetter, N. D., *Clark, V. E., & Jamil, F. M. (2023). From supportive to strained: A mixed methods exploration of emerging adults' characterizations of past and present grandparent-grandchild roles and relationships. *Emerging Adulthood, 11*(4), 933-946. <https://doi.org/10.1177/21676968231171738>
- Stephan, A.** (2023). How grandparents inform our lives: A mixed methods investigation of intergenerational influence on young adults. *Journal of Adult Development*. Advance Online Publication. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10804-023-09446-7>
- Stephan, A.** (2023). Grandparent caregiver wellbeing: A strengths-based approach utilizing the Positive Emotions, Engagement, Relationships, Meaning, and Accomplishment (PERMA) framework. *Journal of Family Issues, 44*(5), 1400-1418. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0192513X211058818>
- Jamil, F., Emerson, A., McKown, G., & **Stephan, A.** (2022). The struggle is real: An investigation of preschool teachers' perceptions of students' challenging behaviors through reflective writing. *Early Childhood Education Journal, 50*, 1395-1405. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10643-021-01267-1>.
- Freed, S., Sprague, B. N., **Stephan, A.**, Tian, J., Phillips, C. B., Doyle, C., & Ross, L. A. (2021). Feasibility and enjoyment of exercise video games in older adults for social connectedness. *Frontiers in Public Health: Aging and Public Health, 9*, 1-8. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fpubh.2021.751289>.
- Stephan, A.** (2021). Intergenerational learning in the family as an informal learning process: A review of the literature. *Journal of Intergenerational Relationships, 19*(4), 441-458. <https://doi.org/10.1080/15350770.2020.1817830>.

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLISHED CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

- Minor, J., Stephan, E. A., **Stephan, A.**, & Neptune, A. (2021). Implementing an engineering math curriculum sequence: Preliminary results and lessons learned. *American Society for Engineering Education Conference Proceedings* (14 pages). <https://peer.asee.org/37301> ×
- Stephan, A.**, Harcum, J., Whisler, L., & Stephan, E. A. (2021). Using the Learning and Study Skills Inventory (LASSI) to track students' growth and evaluate the effectiveness of a learning strategies course. *American Society for Engineering Education Conference Proceedings* (22 pages). <https://peer.asee.org/38004>
- Stephan, E. A., **Stephan, A.**, Martin, B., & Miller, M. K. (2021). Exploring Engineering: Peer sharing presentations in first-year engineering curriculum. *American Society for Engineering Education Conference Proceedings* (17 pages). <https://peer.asee.org/37141>

Whisler, L., Stephan, E. A., & **Stephan, A.** (2020). Continuing to promote metacognitive awareness in a first-year learning strategies course. *American Society for Engineering Education Conference Proceedings* (15 pages). <https://doi.org/10.18260/1-2--34331> ×

Stephan, A., Stephan, E. A., & Miller, M. K. (2020). Extended exam wrappers: A comparison of approaches in a learning strategies course. *American Society for Engineering Education Conference Proceedings* (13 pages). <https://doi.org/10.18260/1-2--34654>.

Stephan, A., Whisler, L., Stephan, E. A., & Neptune, A. I. (2020). Peer sharing presentations in a first-year engineering learning strategies course. *American Society for Engineering Education Conference Proceedings* (15 pages). <https://doi.org/10.18260/1-2--35047>

Stephan, A., Whisler, L., Stephan, E. A., & Trogden, B. (2019). Using exam wrappers in a self-directed first-year learning strategies course. *Proceedings of the American Society for Engineering Education Annual Conference and Exposition* (15 pages). <https://doi.org/10.18260/1-2--33503> ×

Whisler, L., **Stephan, A.**, & Stephan, E. A. (2019). Promoting metacognitive awareness in a first-year learning strategies course for cohorted general engineering students. *Proceedings of the American Society for Engineering Education Annual Conference and Exposition* (15 pages). <https://doi.org/10.18260/1-2--33210>

Stephan, E. A., Whisler, L., & **Stephan, A.** (2018). Work in progress: Strategic, translational retention initiatives to promote engineering success. *Proceedings of the American Society for Engineering Education Annual Conference and Exposition* (15 pages). <https://doi.org/10.18260/1-2--31305>

× Indicates paper received award or other recognition

PRACTITIONER-FOCUSED ARTICLES

Stephan, A. (2023). An unrecognized care: Grandparents' contributions within and outside of the family. *International Federation for Family Development (IFFD) Papers*, Article 129. <https://familyperspective.org/2023/03/28/129-grandparents-contributions-within-and-outside-of-the-family/>

MANUSCRIPTS UNDER REVIEW

Stephan, A. T., *McVey, A., **Steele, T., *Cooper, K., Phillips, C. B., & Ross, L. A. (Under review since February 2023). Older adults' perceptions of cognitive, physical, and exergame training: A mixed methods investigation of a four-armed randomized controlled pilot trial. Revise & resubmit.

Stephan, A. (Under review since August 2022). “Nobody else could tell those stories”: Exploring early adults’ recollections of grandparental intergenerational narratives. Revise & resubmit.

Jamil, F. M., **Stephan, A. T.**, & Bennett, A. E. (Under review since August 2022). Exploring longitudinal associations between teacher expectancy effects and literacy achievement. Conditional acceptance.

MANUSCRIPTS IN PREPARATION

Jamil, F., O’Hara, R., **Stephan, A.**, Bennett, A., & *Hochstetter, N. (In preparation). Representation matters: Understanding the role of an ethnically diverse teacher workforce in closing opportunity gaps. Planned submission in December 2023.

Jang, H., Mogle, J., **Stephan, A. T.**, Jeong, M., & Ross, L. A. (In preparation). Effects of grandparent caregiving on family relationships and psychological and cognitive health: The moderating role of co-residence with adult children. Planned submission in October 2023.

McKown, G., Hirsch, S., **Stephan, A.**, & Kelley, M. (In preparation). Pre-Service teachers’ perceptions of classroom simulation experiences. Planned submission in October 2023.

McKown, G., & **Stephan, A.** (In preparation). Well-being outcomes for youth and home caregivers: A comparative case study of families facing separation. Planned submission in November 2023.

Ross, L. A., Fine, C., **Stephan, A. T.**, Chai, H. W., McVey, A., & Phillips, C. B. (In preparation). The Everyday Function Intervention Trial (EFIT): A randomized clinical trial. Planned submission in October 2023.

Stephan, A. (In preparation). Modern grandparenting: Exploring non-adjacent intergenerational relationships in the family. Planned submission in December 2023.

Stephan, A., & Jang, H. (In preparation). Perceptions of the grandparent experience by caregiver status in the United States. Planned submission in November 2023.

Stephan, A., & McKown, G. (In preparation). Intergenerational contact: Connection among extended family networks during the COVID-19 Pandemic. Planned submission in October 2023.

Stephan, A. T., *McVey, A., *Wolf, A. V., Sprague, B. N., Phillips, C. B., & Ross, L. A. (In preparation). Differential associations of depressive symptoms on cognitive status by living situation in healthy older adults. Planned submission in September 2023.

Tian, J., **Stephan, A. T.**, O'Brien, E. L., Phillips, C. B., Ross, L. A., & Gamaldo, A. A. (In preparation). Characteristics of older adults' leisure activities: A daily diary investigation. Planned submission in October 2023.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

*mentored graduate student co-author

**mentored undergraduate student co-author

NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Stephan, A., & McKown, G. (July, 2023). *Making the Most of Their Changing World: Embracing Intergenerational Community Relationships for Military-Connected Children*. Roundtable Presentation at Generations United's 2023 Global Intergenerational Conference, Washington, D.C.

Stephan, A. (November, 2022). *Benefits and Challenges: Investigating the Light and Shadow of the Modern Grandparent Experience*. Poster presented at the 2022 National Council on Family Relations Annual Conference, Minneapolis, MN.

Tian, J., **Stephan, A.**, & Ross, L. (November, 2022). *Characteristics of Older Adults' Leisure Activities: A Daily Diary Investigation*. Paper presented in Determinants and Consequences of Leisure Activity Engagement and Constraints in Older Adult Populations Symposium at the Gerontological Society of America 2022 Annual Scientific Meeting, Indianapolis, IN.

Phillips, C. B., **Stephan, A.**, *McVey, A., Tian, J., Freed, S., & Ross, L. A. (April, 2022). *Preliminary Effects of Three Behavioral Interventions on Functional Outcomes in Older Adults: Results from the Cognitive and Physical Exercise Study (CAPES)*. Presented at the 2022 Cognitive Aging Conference, Atlanta, GA.

Stephan, A., Baker, A., *Cofield, W., & **Richardson, P. (April, 2022). *Authentic Learning and Play through Intergenerational Connections in Makerspaces*. Presented at the 2022 Conference on the Value of Play, Clemson, SC.

Stephan, A., Tian, J., & Ross, L. A. (November, 2021). *Multitasking in Older Adults' Daily Activities: A Preliminary Investigation*. Poster presented at Gerontological Society of America 2021 Annual Scientific Meeting. [online conference format].

Stephan, A. (November, 2021). *The Grandparent-Grandchild Relationship: A Potential Key to Unlocking Greater Well-Being for Emerging Adults*. Poster presented at the Society for the Study of Emerging Adulthood's 10th Annual Conference on Emerging Adulthood. [online conference format].

- Jamil, F., O'Hara, M., **Stephan, A.**, Bennett, A., & McKown, G. (October, 2021). *Representation Matters: Understanding the Role of an Ethnically Diverse Teacher Workforce in Closing Opportunity Gaps*. Presented at the Scholarly Consortium of Innovative Psychology in Education 2021 Meeting. [online conference format].
- Stephan, E. A., Miller, M. K., & **Stephan, A.** (July, 2021). *Strategic, Translational Retention Initiative to Promote Engineering Success of Underprepared Students*. Abstract accepted to the American Society for Engineering Education Annual Conference. [online conference format].
- Stephan, A.** (June, 2021). *Taking Lessons from Grandparents Along for the Journey: How Grandparents Influence the Transition into Adulthood*. Poster presented at Generations United's 2021 Virtual Intergenerational Conference. [online conference format].
- McKown, G., & **Stephan, A.** (April, 2021). *A Discussion on Enhancing Teachers' Understanding of Students' Diverse Family Systems*. Symposium session moderated at American Educational Research Association 2021 Annual Meeting. [online conference format].
- Stephan, A.** (April, 2021). *Intergenerational Play within the Workplace: A Powerful Mechanism for Informal Learning*. Presented at the 2021 Conference on the Value of Play. [online conference format].
- Stephan, A.** (March, 2021). *Finding Oneself in the Modern World: The Influence of Intergenerational Relationships on Youth Identity Development*. Poster presented at Society for Research on Adolescence Meeting. [online conference format].
- Stephan, A.** (November, 2020). *The Role of Technology in Intergenerational Learning Experiences*. Poster presented at the Learning Sciences Graduate Student Conference, Madison, WI. [online conference format].
- Stephan, A.**, Baker, A., & Bennett, A. (April, 2020). *The Influence of Preschool Educators' Beliefs About Play-Based Learning on Instructional Delivery*. Proposal accepted to the PLAY Conference: 2020 Conference on the Value of Play, Clemson, SC. [online conference format].
- Stephan, A.** (March, 2020). *Finding Oneself in the Modern World: The Influence of Intergenerational Relationships on Youth Identity Development*. Poster accepted to Society for Research on Adolescence Biennial Meeting, San Diego, CA. [conference cancelled].^x

- Stephan, E. A., **Stephan, A.**, Whisler, L., Miller, M. K., & Neptune, A. I. (March, 2020). *Engineering Learning Strategies Course Supports Student Retention*. Workshop presented at the American Society for Engineering Education Southeast Annual Conference, Auburn, AL.
- Whisler, L., & **Stephan, A.** (February, 2020). *Impact of Entangled Learning on First-Year Undergraduate Engineering Student Readiness for Self-Directed Learning*. International Society of Self-Directed Learning Symposium, Cocoa Beach, FL.
- Stephan, A.** (October, 2019). *Transferring Learning in the Family and Community to the Classroom: A Review of Intergenerational Learning Experiences for Marginalized Youth*. Poster presented at The Scholarly Consortium for Innovative Psychology in Education Biennial Conference, Savannah, GA. [×]
- Stephan, A.**, Bolding, C., & McKown, G. (2019). *Familial Influence on Engineering Student Sense of Belonging and Engineering Identity*. International Conference on Social and Education Sciences 2019, Monument, CO.
- Stephan, A.** (May, 2019). *Exploring Contemporary Intergenerational Learning for Marginalized Populations: A Review of the Literature*. Abstract accepted to HASTAC, Vancouver, Canada.
- Stephan, A.**, & Bennett, A. (April, 2019). *Play across Generations: A Literature Review of Intergenerational Learning Experiences*. Paper presented at PLAY Conference, Clemson, SC.
- Baker, A., Bennett, A., & **Stephan, A.** (March, 2019). *Examining Kindergarten Readiness Skills Using a Play-Based, Nature-Focused Preschool Curriculum*. Paper presented at PLAY Conference, Clemson, SC.
- Whisler, L., **Stephan, A.**, Stephan, E. A. (November, 2018). *Learning Support for Underserved Engineering Students: Creating an Entangled Learning Community of Scholars*. Paper presented at the Association of American Colleges and Universities Transforming STEM Higher Education Conference, Atlanta, GA.

[×] Indicates paper received award or other recognition

LOCAL AND REGIONAL CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- **Steele, T., **Roebuck, S., **Saito, A., **Bonetto, J., Stephan, A., Ross, L., & Phillips, C.** (April, 2023). *A Mobile Application to Track Brain Function: Older Adults' Perceptions of App Acceptability*. Poster presented at the 6th Annual Clemson University Student Research Forum, Clemson, SC.

- **Pollock, M., **Hertzfeld, A., **Davis, W. B., Phillips, C., Ross, L., & Stephan, A.** (April, 2023). *Associations between Motor and Cognitive Functions in Older Adults*. Poster presented at the 18th Annual Focus on Creative Inquiry (FoCI) Poster Forum, Clemson, SC.
- Stephan, A., O'Hara, R., McKown, G., & Jamil, F.** (March, 2022). *Examining Teacher Student Ethnoracial Congruence at the District-Level: A Key to Unlocking Equitable Education*. Paper presented at Clemson University Connected Learning in Education and Research (CLEaR) Lab Research Forum, Clemson, SC. [×]
- Stephan, A., & McKown, G.** (February, 2021). *The Comparison of Two Family Units Facing Separation: A Preliminary Investigation*. Presented at the Clemson University Connected Learning in Education and Research (CLEaR) Lab Virtual Poster Session Event. [online conference format].
- Stephan, A.** (March, 2020). *Intergenerational Relationships and Youth Identity Development: A Review of the Literature*. Accepted to Graduate Research and Discovery Symposium, Clemson, SC. [conference cancelled].
- Whisler, L., **Stephan, A.**, & Stephan, E. A. (March, 2020). *Boost Your Students' Success with a Learning and Professional Development Strategies Course*. Workshop presented at the American Society for Engineering Education Southeast Section Conference, Auburn, AL.
- Stephan, E. A., **Stephan, A.**, Whisler, L., Miller, M. K., & Neptune, A. I. (March, 2020). *Engineering Learning Strategies Course Supports Student Retention*. Paper presented at the American Society for Engineering Education Southeast Section Conference, Auburn, AL.
- Stephan, A.** (April, 2019). *Using Exam Wrappers in a Self-Directed First-Year Learning Strategies Course*. Poster presented at the Clemson University Graduate Research and Discovery Symposium, Clemson, SC.
- Stephan, A., & McKown, G.** (March, 2019). *Intergenerational Learning Opportunities Among Military-Connected Families: A Review of the Literature*. Paper presented at South Carolina Educators for the Practical Use of Research Annual Conference, Columbia, SC.
- Stephan, A.** (April, 2018). *Bolstering Academic Success through the General Engineering Learning Community*. Poster presented at the Clemson University College of Education Research Symposium, Clemson, SC. [×]
- Stephan, A.** (March, 2018). *The Impact of Community Learning on Academic Achievement for First-Year Engineering Students*. Poster presented at the South Carolina Educators for the Practical Use of Research (SCEPUR) Annual Conference, Columbia, SC.

× Indicates paper received award or other recognition

INVITED TALKS AND KEYNOTES

Promoting Engaged Aging through Social Connection. Invited Breakout Session Speaker. Southern Regional Conference for Learning in Retirement (SRCLIR). Clemson, SC, July 2023.

The Tracking Real-world Activities in Life Study (TRAILS). Invited Speaker. Leadership Oconee – Health and Human Services Day. Oconee Memorial Hospital, Seneca, SC, July 2023.

Leveraging Grandparents' Labor: A Consideration of Contributions Within and Outside of the Family. Invited Panelist. The International Federation for Family Development Briefing at the 61st Session of the Commission for Social Development. United Nations Headquarters, New York, NY, February 2023.

Episode 98: What Makes Grandfathers Unique? Invited Speaker. The Cool Grandpa Podcast. Recorded Podcast, September 2022.

Episode 78: What Does it Mean to Be a Grandparent? Invited Speaker. Adventures with Grammy. Recorded Podcast, July 2022.

Intergenerational Play. Invited Speaker. Play Class with Heather Von Bank, University of Minnesota-Mankato. Live Guest Chat, June 2022.

Grandparent-Grandchild Relationships and the Power of Intergenerational Learning. Invited Speaker. The Long Distance Grandparent. Live Guest Expert Chat, September 2021.

Thinking Outside the Box: Alternative Assessment Methods. Invited Speaker. American Society for Engineering Education. Live Webinar, October 2020.

GRANTS

GRANT MANAGEMENT EXPERIENCE

An Ecologically-valid Monitoring of Everyday Function App (04/2021-03/2023). Awarded by Prisma Health Upstate, \$19,998. PI: Lesley A. Ross. Role: Project Manager.

Early Detection of Adults At-Risk for Cognitive and Functional Decline (05/2022-04/2023). Awarded by Prisma Health Upstate, \$19,977. PI: Christine B. Phillips. Role: Project Manager.

Early Detection of Cognitive Decline: Examining Motor and IADL Functions in the Context of Neighborhood Disadvantage (07/2022-06/2024). Awarded by Carolina Center on Alzheimer's Disease and Minority Research (CCADMR), \$29,257. PI: Christine B. Phillips. Role: Project Manager.

AWARDED TRAVEL GRANTS

November 2021	Graduate Travel Grant for the Gerontological Society of America Annual Meeting [\$750]
April 2021	Graduate Travel Grant for the American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting [\$250]
June 2020	Graduate Travel Grant for the International Conference of the Learning Sciences [\$750]
October 2019	Graduate Travel Grant for The Scholarly Consortium for Innovative Psychology in Education Conference [\$472]
June 2019	Graduate Travel Grant for American Society for Engineering Education Conference [\$750]
May 2019	Graduate Travel Grant for HASTAC Conference [\$1000]

HONORS & AWARDS

October 2020	Association of American Colleges and Universities K. Patricia Cross Future Leaders Award Nominee
June 2020	First Year Programs 2020 Best of First-Year Programs Division Paper Award for the American Society of Engineering Education Annual Conference
April 2020	College of Engineering Student Assistant of the Year [\$250]
March 2020	Society for Research on Adolescence Special Poster Session Participant in Adolescence in the Context of Domestic and Global Diversity
October 2019	Scholarly Consortium for Innovative Psychology in Education Graduate Student Poster Award 2019 [\$100]
June 2019	First-Year Programs 2019 Best Student Presentation Award for the American Society of Engineering Education Annual Conference [\$250]

April 2018 Graduate Research and Discovery Symposium 2018, 1st Place for College of Education [\$250]

RESEARCH TEAM MEMBERSHIP

Fall 2020 – Present Study of Healthy Aging and Applied Research Programs (SHAARP) Lab
Pennsylvania State University & Clemson University

Fall 2017 – Present Contexts of Learning and Development (CLAD) Lab
Clemson University

TEACHING & COURSE DESIGN EXPERIENCE

Instructor of Record/Sole Instructor

Child Growth and Development (S22)
Learning Coach Creative Inquiry (F19)
University Success Skills (F18, F19)

Course Designer

Engineering Success Skills (F20, F21)

Teaching Assistant

Child Growth and Development (S20)

Coordinator of Experiential Learning Course

Healthy Aging Creative Inquiry (F22, S23, Su23, F24)

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

SERVICE TO THE UNIVERSITY

COMMITTEE MEMBER

Fall 2021 Clemson University Department of Education and Human Development Job Search Committee for Advanced Assistant / Associate Professor
Graduate Student Member

Fall 2020 – Spring 2021 Clemson University Quality Enhancement Planning (QEP) Team
Exploratory Group Member

Fall 2019 – Spring 2021 Clemson Learning Sciences Student Organization
Founder, President

Fall 2018 – Spring 2020 Clemson University College of Education Graduate Student
Advisory Board
Advisory Board Member

Spring 2018 Bring Your Daughter to Clemson: Gender Identity in STEM Fields
Session Facilitator

SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION

AD-HOC REVIEWER: JOURNALS

Applied Developmental Science
Educational Research and Evaluation
Family Relations
GrandFamilies: The Contemporary Journal of Research, Practice and Policy
Journal of Intergenerational Relationships

AD-HOC REVIEWER: CONFERENCES

American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting
American Society for Engineering Education Conference
Gerontological Society of America Annual Scientific Meeting
International Conference of the Learning Sciences
Learning Sciences Graduate Student Conference
National Council on Family Relations Conference

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

American Educational Research Association (AERA) | Division C/E
American Society for Engineering Education (ASEE)
Gerontological Society of America (GSA)
National Council on Family Relations (NCFR)
Society for Research on Adolescence (SRA)
Generations United's Shared Site Learning Network

CERTIFICATIONS & SPECIALIZED TRAINING

2022-2023 National Council on Family Relations Mentoring Academy
June 2022 Panel Study of Income Dynamics (PSID) Data User Workshop | ICPSR
March 2022 Certified Family Life Educator (CFLE) | National Council on Family Relations
June 2020 International Certificate in Intergenerational Learning, Fifth Edition

CONSULTING

August 2022 – Present Quality Evaluation Designs