

**CURRICULUM VITA  
TONI L. BISCONTI**

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**EDUCATION**

August, 2001	Ph.D., Developmental Psychology, University of Notre Dame
August, 1997	M.A., Developmental Psychology, University of Notre Dame
June, 1995	B. S., Psychology, summa cum laude, Youngstown State University, Ohio
1988-1991	Lowellville High School, Lowellville, Ohio

**PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS**

2001-2006	University of New Hampshire Department of Psychology Assistant Professor
2006-present	University of Akron Department of Psychology Assistant Professor

**PUBLICATIONS**

Fauteux, H. D., & Bisconti T. L. (revise and resubmit). Hate Crime Perceptions and Influencing Factors. Manuscript submitted for publication at the *Journal of Social Psychology*.

Fauteux, H. D., & Bisconti, T. L. (in press). Interventions to reduce sexual minority stigma in sororities. *Journal of Sex Research*.

Monpetit, M. A., Bergeman, C. S., & Bisconti, T. L. (in press). The self-concept and conjugal loss: Evidence for structural change. *Death Studies*.

Rossi, N. E., Bisconti, T. L., & Bergeman, C. S. (2007). The role of dispositional resilience in regaining life satisfaction after the loss of a spouse. *Death Studies*, 31 (10), 55-78.

Scott, S. B., Bergeman, C. S., Verney, A., Longenbaker, S., Markey, M. A., & Bisconti, T. L. (2007). Social support in widowhood: A mixed methods study. *Journal of Mixed Methods Research*, 1 (3), 242-266.

Bisconti, T. L., & Bergeman, C. S. (2007). Understanding the adjustment to widowhood: Using dynamical systems to assess and predict trajectories of well-being. In A. D. Ong, & M. Dulman (Eds.), *Oxford handbook of methods in positive psychology* (pp. 395-408). New York: Oxford University Press.

- Montpetit, M. A., Bergeman, C. S., Bisconti, T., & Rausch, J. (2006). Adaptive change in self-concept and well-being during conjugal loss in later life. *International Journal of Aging and Human Development*, 63 (3), 217-239.
- Ong, A. D., Bergeman, C. S., Bisconti, T. L., & Wallace, K. A. (2006). The contours of resilience and the complexity of emotions in later life. *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*, 91 (4), 730-749.
- Bisconti, T. L., Bergeman, C. S., & Boker, S. M. (2006). Social support as a predictor of variability: An examination of the adjustment trajectories of recent widows. *Psychology and Aging*, 21 (3), 590-599.
- Boker, S. M., & Bisconti, T. L. (2006). Dynamical systems modeling of data from aging research. In C. S. Bergeman & S. M. Boker (Eds), *Quantitative methodology in aging research* (pp. 185-229). Hillsdale, NJ: Lawrence Erlbaum Associates.
- Ong, A. D., Bergeman, C. S., & Bisconti, T. L. (2005). Unique effects of daily perceived control on anxiety symptomatology during conjugal bereavement. *Personality and Individual Differences*, 38 (5), 1057-1067.
- Bisconti, T. L., Bergeman, C. S., & Boker, S. M. (2004). Emotional well-being in recently bereaved widows: A dynamical systems approach. *Journal of Gerontology: Psychological Sciences*, 59, 158-167.
- Ong, A. D., Bergeman, C. S., & Bisconti, T. L. (2004). The role of daily positive affect during conjugal bereavement. *Journal of Gerontology: Psychological Sciences*, 59, 168-176.
- Borkowski, J. G., Bisconti, T. L., Weed, K., Willard, C., Keogh, D., A., & Whitman, T. L. (2002). The adolescent as parent: Influences on children's intellectual, academic, and socioemotional development. In J. G. Borkowski, S. Ramey, & M. Bristol-Power (Eds.), *Parenting and the child's world: Influences on intellectual, academic and social-emotional development* (pp. 161-184). Mahwah, NJ: Erlbaum.
- Wallace, K. A., Bisconti, T. L., & Bergeman, C. S. (2001). The mediational effect of hardiness on social support and optimal outcomes in later life. *Basic and Applied Social Psychology*, 23(4), 267-279.
- Bisconti, T. L., & Bergeman, C. S. (1999). Perceived social control as mediator of the relationships among social support, psychological well-being, and perceived health. *The Gerontologist*, 39 (1), 94-103.

## **MANUSCRIPTS IN PROGRESS**

Bisconti, T. L., Bergeman, C. S., & Boker, S. M. (in preparation). Emotion regulation parameters as predictors of long-term adjustment in recent widows: The first 5 years post-loss. Manuscript to be submitted for publication at *Psychology and Aging* by end of summer (currently working on data analyses of our 5-year longitudinal study).

Bisconti, T. L., Bergeman, C. S., & Boker (in preparation). Stability of social support immediately following conjugal loss as a predictor of long-term well-being. Manuscript to be submitted for publication at *Journal of Gerontology: Psychological Sciences* by end of summer (currently working on data analyses of our 5-year longitudinal study).

Fauteux, H. D., & Bisconti, T. L. (in preparation). A structural equation mode of generalized prejudice. Manuscript to be submitted for publication at *Journal of Cross-Cultural Psychology* by early fall (currently running additional analyses).

## **GRANTS**

Investigators: Toni L. Bisconti & Sharyn Potter, Co-PIs

Title: The Ecology of Direct Care Workers: Risk and Protective Factors

Funding Source: UNH President's Excellence Awards Competition, 2005-2006

Amount: \$80,000

Investigators: Toni L. Bisconti, faculty mentor, & Alyssa Fenton, Honor's student

Title: Understanding Coping Processes in Older Adult Widows: The Role of Social Support and Spirituality

Source: UNH Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program (UROP) Undergraduate Research Award, 2005

Amount: \$553.50

Investigators: Toni L. Bisconti

Title: The Psychological Predictors of Direct Caregiving Burden

Source: UNH Carsey Institute, 2004

Amount: \$2,000

Investigators: Toni L. Bisconti (on behalf of the UNH Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, & Transgender President's Commission) and Sue Rankin (Consultant).

Title: Assessing GLBT Climate at UNH

Source: UNH Kidder Fund (Grant foundation for GLBT-related work), 2003

Amount: \$9,200

Investigators: Cindy S. Bergeman, PI; Toni L. Bisconti, Co-Investigator; Steven Boker, Consultant

Title: Conjugal Loss in Later Life: A Dynamical Systems Approach

Funding Source: National Institute on Aging (#1 RO3 AG18570-01), 9/1/2000 – 8/31/2001

Amount: \$73,275 (with indirect costs)

Investigator: Toni L. Bisconti

Title: Emotion Regulation in Recent Older Adult Widow(er)s: A Dynamical Systems Approach

Funding Source: William Kirby Endowment for Research, 4/1/2000 – 3/31/2001

Amount: \$2,500

Investigator: Toni L. Bisconti

Title: Emotion Regulation in Recent Older Adult Widow(er)s: A Dynamical Systems Approach

Funding Source: American Psychological Association Division 20 – Retirement Research Foundation Student Awards Program of 1999

Amount: \$1,250

Investigators: Cindy S. Bergeman, PI; Toni L. Bisconti, Graduate Student

Title: Pilot Funds for Faculty-Student Teams in the Social Sciences, “Family Study of Optimal Aging”

Funding Source: Institute for Scholarship in the Liberal Arts, University of Notre Dame, 1999

Amount: \$13,500

Investigator: Toni L. Bisconti

Title: Research in Coping Strategies Among Recent Widow(er)s

Funding Source: William Kirby Endowment for Research, 4/1/1999 – 3/31/2000

Amount: \$1,000

## **PRESENTATIONS**

Konkel, K., & Bisconti, T. L., (2010, January). *The effects of alcohol on negative stereotypes in a bar population*. Poster presented at the Society for Personality and Social Psychology Annual Conference. Las Vegas, NV.

Bisconti, T. L., Bergeman, C. S., & Boker (2009, November). *The longitudinal relationship between control and well-being*. Poster presented at the Gerontological Society of America Annual Conference. Atlanta, GA.

Fauteux, H. D., & Bisconti, T. L. (2008, February). *Factors related to Individuals: Perceptions of hate crimes based on race and sexual orientation*. Poster presented at the Society for Personality and Social Psychology Annual Meeting. Albuquerque, NM.

Braun, M. E., Scott, S. B., Bergeman, C. S., Montpetit, M. A., & Bisconti, T. L. (November, 2007). *Stress, social support, and coping effects on recent widows' mental health*. Poster accepted for presentation at the Gerontological Society of America Annual Conference. San Francisco, CA.

Scott, S. B., Bergeman, C. S., & Bisconti, T. L. (May, 2006). *A qualitative and longitudinal exploration of social support*. Paper presented at the Second International Congress of Qualitative Inquiry. Urbana-Champaign, IL.

Fauteux, H., & Bisconti, T. L. (March, 2006). *Hate crime perceptions based on race and sexual orientation*. Poster presented at the American Psychology-Law Society Annual Conference. St. Petersburg, FL.

Scott, S. B., Bergeman, C. S., & Bisconti, T. L. (November, 2005). *Social support in the transition to widowhood: Longitudinal and qualitative findings*. Poster presented at the Gerontological Society of America Annual Conference. New Orleans, LA.

Monpetit, M. A., Bergeman, C. S., & Bisconti, T. L. (November, 2004). *Self-concept in bereavement: Evidence for structural change*. Poster presented at the Gerontological Society of American Annual Conference. Washington: DC.

- Ong, A. D., Bergeman, C. S., & Bisconti, T. L. (July, 2004). *An intra-individual, process approach to the relationship between perceived control and anxiety during conjugal bereavement: Is acting in control as "good" as being in control.* Paper presented at the American Psychological Association Annual Conference. Honolulu, HI.
- Ong, A. D., Bergeman, C. S., & Bisconti, T. L. (April, 2004). *The role of daily positive emotion during conjugal bereavement.* Paper presented at the Midwestern Psychological Association Annual Conference. Chicago, IL.
- Ong, A. D., Bergeman, C. S., Wallace, K. A., & Bisconti, T. L. (April, 2004). *The role of daily positive affect in the resilience process.* Paper presented at the Society for Research in Adult Development Annual Conference. San Diego, CA.
- Montpetit, M. A., Bergeman, C. S., & Bisconti, T. L. (November, 2003). *The self as a resilience resource during the bereavement process.* Poster presented at the Gerontological Society of America Annual Conference. San Diego, CA.
- Rossi, N. E., & Bisconti, T. L. (November, 2003). *The mediational effect of hardiness on perceived stress and life satisfaction following conjugal loss.* Poster presented at the Gerontological Society of American Annual Conference. San Diego, CA.
- Bisconti, T. L., Bergeman, C. S., & Boker, S. M. (August, 2003). *Social support predicting intraindividual variability in the adjustment to widowhood.* Poster presented at the American Psychological Association Annual Conference. Toronto, ON.
- Bisconti, T. L., Bergeman, C. S., & Boker, S. M. (August, 2002). *Conjugal loss in later life: A dynamical systems approach.* Poster presented at the American Psychological Association Annual Conference. Chicago, IL.
- Boker, S. M., & Bisconti, T. L. (June, 2001). *Dynamical systems models for self-regulatory psychological processes.* Paper presented at the Psychometric Society Annual Meeting. Valley Forge, PA.
- Bergeman, C. S., Bisconti, T. L., & Wallace, K. A. (November, 2000). *Emotion regulation in later life.* Poster presented at the Gerontological Society of America Annual Conference. Washington, DC.
- Bisconti, T. L., & Bergeman, C. S. (November, 2000). *Adjustment to widowhood: A dynamical systems approach to emotion regulation.* Poster presented at the Gerontological Society of America Annual Conference. Washington, DC.
- Wallace, K. A., Bisconti, T. L., & Bergeman, C. S. (November, 1999). *Spirituality in a sample of African-American elders: A life story approach.* Poster presented at the Gerontological Society of America Annual Conference. San Francisco, CA.
- Bisconti, T. L., Wallace, K. A., & Bergeman, C. S. (November, 1999). *The longitudinal mediation effect of psychological well-being on the control – physical health relationship.* Poster presented at the Gerontological Society of America Annual Conference. San Francisco, CA.

Bisconti, T. L., Borkowski, J. G., & Dukewich, T. L. (April, 1999). *Children of adolescent mothers: The role of social support on cognitive, behavioral, and abuse potential outcomes*. Poster presented at the Society for Research on Child Development. Albuquerque, NM.

Bisconti, T. L., Wallace, K. A., & Bergeman, C. S. (November, 1998). *Personality as a mediator of the social support – well-being relationship in older adulthood*. Paper presented at the Gerontological Society of America Annual Conference. Philadelphia, PA.

Wallace, K. A., Bisconti, T. L., & Bergeman, C. S. (April, 1998) *Hardiness as a mediator of the social support – well-being relationship*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Midwestern Psychological Association. Chicago, IL.

Bisconti, T. L., & Bergeman, C. S. (March, 1998). *Perceived social control as a mediator of the social support – successful aging relationship*. Poster presented at the Conference on Human Development. Mobile, AL.

Bisconti, T. L., Borkowski, J. G., & Whitman, T. L. (February, 1998). *Positive and negative effects of social support on adolescent mothers and their children*. Poster presented at The Society for Research on Adolescence Conference. San Diego, CA.

Bisconti, T. L., & Borkowski, J. G. (March, 1997). *Social support as a protective mechanism from mild mental retardation in children of adolescent mothers*. Poster presented at the Annual Gatlinburg Conference. Riverside, CA.

## **AWARDS**

Title: 2006 Outstanding Faculty Award

Source: President's Commission on Women's Issues

Title: 2005 Outstanding Faculty Award

Source: UNH Sororities and Fraternities System

Title: 2004 Kidder Fund Faculty Award (for promotion of tolerance and education towards GLBT issues)

Source: UNH Kidder Fund

Amount: \$100 Honorarium

Title: 2004 Outstanding Faculty Award

Source: UNH Sororities and Fraternities System

Title: Research Training in Aging Research

Source: National Institute of Aging and APA, Division 20, Summer, 2003

Amount: All expenses, including transportation t, room & board, and food

Title: Freshman Year Composition Teaching Fellowship

Source: University of Notre Dame, 2000-2001

Amount: \$12,000

Title: Outstanding Graduate Student

Source: Developmental Program, Department of Psychology, University of Notre Dame, 2000-2001

Title: Phillip Moore Dissertation Award  
Source: University of Notre Dame, 1999-2000  
Amount: \$12,000

Title: Kaneb Graduate Student Teaching Award  
Source: University of Notre Dame, 1999-2000

Title: Excellence in Teaching Award  
Source: Developmental Program, Department of Psychology, University of Notre Dame, 1999-2000

## **RESEARCH**

### **University of Akron**

Present Adjustment to Widowhood Project

### **University of New Hampshire**

2005-Present Formal Caregiving: Consequences for Caregivers and Recipients

2002-Present Coping with Hate Crime Victimization

2001-Present Adjustment to Widowhood Project

2003-2004 Homophobia Intervention in Sororities

2002-2004 Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender Climate Study

### **University of Notre Dame**

1998-Present Dissertation: Emotion regulation in recent widows: A dynamical systems approach.  
Dr. Cindy S. Bergeman & Dr. Steven M. Boker

1998-2000 Life stories: Interviews of Elderly African-Americans.  
Dr. Cindy S. Bergeman & Dr. Kimberly A. Wallace (University of Montana)

1996-2000 Longitudinal Family Study of Optimal Aging  
Dr. Cindy S. Bergeman & Dr. Kimberly A. Wallace (University of Montana)

1995-1998 Adolescent Parenting Project: Child Assessments and Social Support  
Dr. John G. Borkowski & Dr. Thomas L. Whitman

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

### **University of Akron**

Graduate Level Social Core  
Senior Seminar: Psychology of Hate  
Experimental Psychology  
Developmental Psychology

### **University of New Hampshire Undergraduate Courses**

Adult Development and Aging  
Senior Seminar: Psychology of Hate

Social Development across the Lifespan  
Research Methods

**University of New Hampshire Graduate Courses**

Theories of Development

**University of Notre Dame Undergraduate Courses**

Research Methods  
Introductory Psychology  
Developmental Psychology  
First-Year Writing Seminar

**Indiana University of South Bend Undergraduate Courses**

Introductory Psychology  
Lifespan Development

**COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP**

**University of Akron**

Present                      Psychology Department Colloquium Committee  
                                    Psychology Department Statistics and Computer Committee  
                                    Fellow, Institute for Life-Span Development

**University of New Hampshire**

2003-present	UPDOC (Committee for undergraduate education in psychology) Department of Psychology
2003-present	Faculty advisor to Kappa Delta
2004-2005	Provost's Taskforce on Diversity
2003-2005	Co-Chair of the President's Commission on Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender Issues, President's Office
2003-2005	Faculty sponsor to the Alliance (gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and allies student group)
2002-2005	Faculty advisor to undergraduate Psychology Club
2002-2003	Cognitive Neuroscience Search Committee Department of Psychology
2002-2003	GRAPDOC (Committee for graduate education in psychology) Department of Psychology, University of New Hampshire
2002-2003	Vice-Chair of the President's Commission on Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender Issues, President's Office
2001-2002	UPDOC (Committee for undergraduate education in psychology) Department of Psychology

2001-2002 President's Commission on Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender Issues, President's Office

**University of Notre Dame**

1997-1998 Graduate student representation to the Graduate Curriculum Committee, Department of Psychology, University of Notre Dame

1996-1997 Graduate student representation to the University of Notre Dame Honesty and Grievance Committee

**COMMUNITY SERVICE**

2007-present Ladies Guild of the Lowellville Mt. Carmel Society  
Volunteer at various local events

2006-present Our lady of Holy Rosary Church  
Bereavement Support Group

2002 Hospice Board of Ethics  
Seacoast Hospice, Exeter, NH

**PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

2009 Reviewer: *Journal of Family Issues*

2008 Reviewer: *Sex Roles*

2007 Reviewer: *International Journal of Aging & Human Development*

2006 Reviewer: *Research on Aging*

2004-present Reviewer: *Psychology and Aging*

2001-present Reviewer: *Journal of Gerontology: Psychological Sciences*

2004 Reviewer: McGraw Hill's current edition of *Adult Development and Aging* by Hoyer & Roodin

2003 Reviewer: APA book proposal by Robert Hansson and Margaret Stroebe entitled *Bereavement in later life: Issues of attachment, coping, and transition*

1999 Reviewer: *The Gerontologist*

**PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

American Psychological Association, (Divisions 2, 7, 20)

American Psychological Society

The Gerontological Society of America