

Emily Fritzson

University of Connecticut PhD Candidate
Department of Human Development and Family Sciences
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Education

- Expected 2024 **Ph.D. Human Development & Family Sciences**
University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT
Specialization: Health, Well-being, & Prevention
Advisor: Keith Bellizzi
- 2023 **Graduate Certificate in Quantitative Research Methods**
University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT
- 2022 **Graduate Certificate in Health Psychology**
University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT
- 2019 – 2021 **M.A. Human Development & Family Sciences**
University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT
Thesis: *Perceived Positive and Negative Life Changes after Cancer and their Associations with Health-Related Quality of Life: A Longitudinal Study*
Advisor: Keith Bellizzi
GPA: 4.0
- 2013- 2017 **B.A. Psychology**
Skidmore College, Saratoga Springs, NY
Minors in American Studies & Spanish
Magna Cum Laude
Overall GPA: 3.85; Major GPA: 3.87
Dean's List Honors (Fall 2013- Spring 2017)
- 2016 *Tufts-Skidmore in Spain, Madrid, Spain*
4-month culturally immersive program with classes taught exclusively in Spanish

Research Experience

- 2019-present **Graduate Research Assistant**, Multilevel Resilience Trajectories in The Transition to Cancer Survivorship
University of Connecticut & Yale Medical Center
PIs: Dr. Keith Bellizzi & Dr. Crystal Park
- National Institute of Health Grant: 5UH3CA220642-04
 - Work collaboratively with a 10-person research team to examine the experiences of cancer survivors during the transition from active treatment to survivorship.

- Responsibilities include participant recruitment, managing undergraduate research assistants, and data collection, cleaning and analysis.
- Future endeavors for this project will include composing conference presentations and journal publications.

- 2017-2019 **Lab Manager**, Speech Language Acquisition & Multilingualism (SLAM) Lab,
Department of Communication Sciences & Disorders
University of Delaware
PI: Dr. Giovanna Morini
- Wrote and submitted IRB protocols.
 - Collected data using eye-tracking and other behavioral paradigms with infants and toddlers.
 - Coded infant eye-gaze and analyzed data using statistical software such as SPSS.
 - Oversaw an average of nine undergraduate and graduate research assistants per semester.
 - Assisted in the management and maintenance of the UD Language Research Participant Registry.
 - Travel to regional and national conferences to present study findings.
- 2017-2019 **Lab Manager**, Memory & Perception of Speech (MAPS) Lab,
Department of Communication Sciences & Disorders
University of Delaware
PI: Dr. F. Sayako Earle
- Assisted in the set-up, implementation and analysis of all research studies.
 - Collected data using various methods: electrophysiological measures from brain during sleep states using EEG, neuroimaging measures using fMRI and behavioral measures by administration of cognitive, reading and linguistic standardized tests.
 - Oversaw an average of 10 undergraduate and graduate research assistants.
 - Travel to regional and national conferences to present study findings.
- 2015 **Undergraduate Research Assistant**, Social Psychology Research advanced statistics course
Psychology Department, Skidmore College
Advisor: Dr. Holley Hodgins
- Designed, administered and analyzed a psychological study on the relationship between implicit intergroup bias and feelings of entitlement.
 - Developed and submitted an IRB application, ran participants and analyzed data using SPSS.
 - Wrote a comprehensive final research paper.

Teaching Experience

- Fall 2023 **Instructor of Record**, Human Development & Family Sciences: Adulthood and Aging
University of Connecticut (online, synchronous)
- Spring 2023 **Instructor of Record**, Human Development & Family Sciences: Adulthood and Aging
University of Connecticut (in-person)

- Fall 2022 **Teaching Assistant**, Human Development & Family Sciences: Adulthood and Aging
University of Connecticut
Instructor: Dr. Kate Dibble
- 2019-2021 **Teaching Assistant**, Close Relationships Across the Lifespan in Human Development
& Family Sciences
University of Connecticut
Attend all course meetings and assist Dr. Kari Adamsons (Fall 2019; Spring 2021), Dr.
Jodie Oshana (Spring 2020), and Dr. Shannon Weaver (Fall 2020) answer student
questions and grade assignments and exams.
- Fall 2020 **Guest Lecturer**, Close Relationships Across the Lifespan in Human Development &
Family Sciences
University of Connecticut
November 16, 2020
- 2018-2019 **Training Sessions**, Communication Sciences and Disorders Program
University of Delaware Language Research Registry
Led quarterly workshops for faculty, graduate students, and undergraduates across
Training Sessions five labs on how to use REDCap-based registry.
- 2015-2017 **Peer Tutor**
Skidmore College
Organized one-on-one tutoring sessions with students who needed assistance in
Research Methods I and/or Social Psychology Research courses.
- Spring 2016 **Teaching Assistant**
Colegio Santa Isabel, Madrid, Spain
Prepared activities to help students develop English language skills, such as grammar
and vocabulary. Acted as a cultural resource to both English language teachers and
students.

Professional Experience

- 2021-2022 **Graduate Administrative Assistant**, Department of Human Development & Family
Sciences
University of Connecticut
Supervisor: Dr. Eva Lefkowitz
- Responsibilities include running all department social media, creating website content,
alumni outreach, departmental communications, maintaining internal resources, etc.

Grants & Monetary Awards

- 2023 University of Connecticut Graduate School Pre-doctoral Summer Fellowship, \$2,800.
- 2022 University of Connecticut Graduate School Pre-doctoral Summer Fellowship, \$2,800.

- 2022 University of Connecticut Human Development and Family Sciences Collaboration Grant, \$4,000.
- 2021 University of Connecticut Graduate School Conference Participation Award, \$1,000.
- 2021 University of Connecticut Human Development and Family Sciences Graduate Professional Development Monetary Award, \$500.
- 2021 University of Connecticut Summer Fellowship for Advanced Graduate Students, \$1,125.
- 2020 University of Connecticut Human Development and Family Sciences Fellowship Fund Monetary Award, \$250.
- 2020 University of Connecticut Mattoon-Kline Endowed Scholarship Fund Monetary Award, \$500.
- 2020 University of Connecticut Institute for Collaboration on Health, Intervention, and Policy (InCHIP) Seed Grant, Impact of COVID-19 Pandemic on the Management of Mental Health Conditions among UConn Students, \$2,000. (*Co-I*).

Publications

- Fritzson, E.**, Zhang, N., Wolchik, S. A., Sandler, I. N., Tein, J. Y., & Bellizzi, K. M. (accepted). Developmental pathways of the family bereavement program to promote growth 15 years after parental death. *Journal of Family Psychology*.
- Salafia, C., Bellizzi, K.M., Ligus, K., **Fritzson, E.** & Park, C.L. (2023). Perceived negative consequences of cancer and psychological distress: The moderating role of social support. *Journal of Cancer Survivorship*. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11764-023-01444-8>
- Bellizzi, K. M., Ligus, K., **Fritzson, E.**, Salafia, C., Sanft, T., & Park, C. L. (2023). Disruption in cancer care during early survivorship due to the COVID-19 pandemic and patient satisfaction with telemedicine. *Supportive Care in Cancer*, 31(5), 291, <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00520-023-07767-7>
- Park, C. L., **Fritzson, E.**, Gnall, K., Salafia, C., Ligus, K., Sinnott, S. M., & Bellizzi, K. M. (2021). Resilience across the transition to cancer survivorship. *Research in Human Development*, 18:3, 197-211, <https://doi.org/10.1080/15427609.2021.1960771>
- Ligus, K., **Fritzson, E.**, Hennessy, E., Abachuk, R., & Bellizzi, K. M. (2021). Disruptions in the medical management and care of university students with pre-existing mental health conditions during the COVID-19 pandemic. *Translational Behavioral Medicine*, 11(3), 802-807, <https://doi.org/10.1093/tbm/ibab020>

Manuscripts submitted for publication.

Fritzson, E., Bellizzi, K. M., Zhang, N., & Park, C.L. (revise & resubmit). Effects of trait resilience and emotion regulation on perceptions of positive and negative life changes in cancer survivors: A longitudinal study.

Fritzson, E., Salafia, C., Bellizzi, K. M., & Park, C.L. (under review). Cascading pathways from physical symptom burden to distress in adults with cancer.

Bellizzi, K. M., Park, C.L, Jee, J. W., Harel, O., Sanft, T., **Fritzson, E.,** Salafia, C., Ligus, K., Gnall, K., & Magin, Z. (under review). Physical health and function trajectories in adults with cancer: Psychosocial predictors of class membership.

Presentations

Fritzson, E., Salafia, C., Bellizzi, K., & Park, C. L. (2024, March). *Testing a model of fear of cancer recurrence (FCR): a prospective assessment of physical symptoms, emotion regulation, FCR & PTSS.* Poster to be presented at the Society for Behavioral Medicine Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, PA.

Bellizzi, K.M., Ligus, K., **Fritzson, E.,** Salafia, C., Sanft, T., & Park, C. L. (2023, November). *Social support buffers the effect of social deprivation on comorbidity burden in adults with cancer.* Poster presented at the International Society of Geriatric Oncology, Valencia, Spain.

Ricketts, A., **Fritzson, E.,** Zhang, Y., Zhang, N., & Ginsburg, G. (2023, May). *Parental warmth buffers the effects of shyness and unsociability on peer relationship in children whose parent had an anxiety disorder: A six-year longitudinal study.* Poster presented at the Association for Psychological Science (APS) Annual Convention, Washington, DC.

Park, C. L., Gnall, K., Magin, Z., **Fritzson, E.,** Salafia, C., Ligus, K., & Bellizzi, K. (2023, April). *Psychosocial resources and health behaviors moderate impact of distress on survivors' quality of life during cancer treatment.* Poster presented at the Society for Behavioral Medicine Annual Meeting, Phoenix, AZ.

Fritzson, E., Bellizzi, K., & Park, C. L. (2023, April). *A prospective examination of perceived negative and positive life changes on well-being among newly diagnosed adults with cancer.* Poster presented at the Society for Behavioral Medicine Annual Meeting, Phoenix, AZ.

Salafia, C., Ligus, K., **Fritzson, E.,** Bellizzi, K., & Park, C. L. (2023, April). *Perceived illness consequences and psychological distress in cancer survivors: The moderating role of social support.* Paper presentation given at the Society for Behavioral Medicine Annual Meeting, Phoenix, AZ.

Bellizzi, K., Salafia, C., Ligus, K., **Fritzson, E.,** & Park, C. L. (2023, March). *Symptom burden, anxiety, and depression in older cancer survivors: The protective role of social support.* Invited symposium at the American Psychosocial Oncology Society Annual Conference, Portland, OR.

Ligus, K., **Fritzson, E.,** Salafia, C., Park, C. L. & Bellizzi, K. (2022, November). *Older cancer survivors' post-traumatic growth during the COVID-19 pandemic.* Poster presented at The Gerontological Society of America (GSA) Annual Scientific Meeting, Indianapolis, IN.

- Fritzson, E.**, Bellizzi, K., & Park, C. L. (2022, April). *Predictors of positive and negative life changes among adults newly diagnosed with cancer*. Poster presented at the Society for Behavioral Medicine Annual Meeting, Baltimore, MD.
- Bellizzi, K., Ligus, K., **Fritzson, E.**, Salafia, C., Sanft, T., & Park, C. (2022, April). *Disruption in Cancer Care due to the COVID-19 Pandemic: Patient Satisfaction with the Transition to Telemedicine*. Poster presented at the Society for Behavioral Medicine Annual Meeting, Baltimore, MD.
- Ligus, K., **Fritzson, E.**, Salafia, C., Dibble, K., Sanft, T., Park, C., & Bellizzi, K. (2022, March). *Predictors of sleep disturbance among newly diagnosed cancer survivors*. Poster presented at the American Psychosocial Oncology Society Annual Conference, virtual.
- Zhang, N., Wolchik, S., Sandler, I., Tein, J., Bellizzi, K., & **Fritzson, E.** (2021, November). *Posttraumatic growth in bereaved youth after a parenting-focused program: 15 years follow-up of a randomized controlled trial*. Poster presented at the International Society for Traumatic Stress Studies Annual Meeting, virtual.
- Fritzson, E.**, Ligus, K., Salafia, C., Levin, J., Anselmo, H., Hu, Q., Nowak, M., & Bellizzi, K. (2021, October). *The impact of COVID-19 news on psychological distress in college students with pre-existing mental health conditions*. Poster presented at the American Public Health Association Annual Conference, virtual.
- Acabchuk, R. L., Hennessy, E. A., Bellur, S., **Fritzson E.**, Ligus, K., Snyder, L, Cornman, D. H., Walawalkar, I. A., Pescatello, L. S., Champion, G., Johnson, B. T., & Meunier, S. (2021, June). *Investigating anti-racist attitudes and behavior with the Compassionate-Accountability Model*. Poster presented at the Society for Prevention Research Annual Meeting, virtual.
- Salafia, C., **Fritzson E.**, Ligus, K., & Bellizzi, K. (2021, May). *News sources, perceived trustworthiness, and perceived accuracy among college students with pre-existing mental health conditions during the COVID-19 pandemic*. Poster presented at the UConn Center for mHealth and Social Media 5th Annual Conference, virtual.
- Ligus, K., **Fritzson, E.**, & Bellizzi, K. (2021, April). *Impact of COVID-19 pandemic on the management of mental health conditions among college students*. Poster presented at the Annual Society for Behavioral Medicine Annual Conference, virtual.
- Fritzson, E.**, Bellizzi, K., Park, C. L. & Pagoto, S. (2021, March). *Adolescent and Young Adult (AYA) cancer survivors' preferences for a digital health intervention*. Poster presented at the American Psychosocial Oncology Society Annual Conference, virtual.
- Fritzson, E.**, Ligus, K., Gnall, K., Sinnott, S. M., Salafia, C., Park, C. L., Sanft, T., & Bellizzi, K. (2021, March). *Demographic differences in COVID-related stress among cancer survivors*. Poster presented at the American Psychosocial Oncology Society Annual Conference, virtual.
- Fritzson, E.**, Ligus, K., Gnall, K., Dibble, K., Sinnott, S. M., Bellizzi, K., Harel, O., Sanft, T., Mehta, R., Behlman, L., & Park, C. L. (2020, April). *Differences in psychological wellbeing based on cancer type during cancer diagnosis*. Poster accepted for presentation at the Society for

Behavioral Medicine Annual Conference, San Francisco, CA, (Conference canceled due to COVID-19)

Ligus, K., **Fritzson, E.**, Gnall, K., Dibble, K., Sinnott, S. M., Park, C. L., Harel, O., Sanft, T., Mehta, R., Behlman, L., & Bellizzi, K. (2020, March). *Demographic differences in cancer patients on psychopathology outcomes*. Poster accepted for presentation at the American Psychosocial Oncology Society Annual Conference, Portland, OR. (Conference canceled due to COVID-19)

Fritzson, E., Puttre, H., Morini, G., Golinkoff, R. M., Morlet, T., & Houston, D. (2019, March). *Measuring word recognition: Can the Preferential Looking Paradigm reliably test individual differences?* Poster presented at the Society for Research in Child Development Biennial Meeting, Baltimore, MD, March 2019.

Morini, G., **Fritzson, E.**, & Blair, M. (2019, March). *Sing it to me! Evaluating whether songs facilitate word learning in young children*. Poster presented at the Society for Research in Child Development Biennial Meeting, Baltimore, MD.

Fritzson, E. & Earle, S. F. (2019, March). *Language abilities may mediate relationship between habitual sleep, sleepiness and academic performance*. Poster presented at the American Psychosomatic Society Annual Meeting, Vancouver, BC, Canada.

Blair, M., Agapito, A. M., **Fritzson, E.**, & Morini, G. (2019, February). *The Sound of Music: Do Children Learn Words Better Through Song?* Poster presented at the University of Delaware's College of Health Sciences Research Day, Newark, DE.

Morini, G. & **Fritzson, E.** (2018, November). *Word learning through song & whether it can facilitate vocabulary development*. Poster presented at the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association Convention, Boston, MA.

Morini, G., Puttre, H., **Fritzson, E.**, Golinkoff, R. M., Morlet, T., & Houston, D. (2018, June). *An examination of classic infant speech perception tasks and their practical applications beyond the lab*. Poster presented at the International Conference on Infant Studies, Philadelphia, PA.

Fritzson, E. & Earle, S. F. (2018, March). *Quality of perceptual categories predict speeded, but not non-speeded, cognitive ability*. Poster presented at the Cognitive Neuroscience Society Annual Meeting, Boston, MA.

Professional Experience

- Fall 2016 **Student Intern**, Prospect Center, Queensbury, NY
- Assisted with daily activities in a classroom of ten developmentally disabled children ages 9-12.
 - Worked to promote independence, emotion management and healthy socialization.
 - Discussed IEPs of each child with the teacher, teacher aides, occupational and speech therapists and school psychologist.
- 2016-2017 **Pre-College Program Resident Assistant**, Skidmore College, Saratoga Springs, NY

- Lived in the Pre-College residence hall with the minority students to serve as a mentor and resource about collegiate life.
- Enforced summer program rules and curfews while also planning and facilitating activities designed to promote community, wellness and preparation for college.
- Attended staff meetings regularly and oversaw administrative paperwork.

Service Activities

UCONN HDFS Faculty Search Committee Student Member, Fall 2022

- Served as the student representative on the search committee for an Assistant Professor (tenure-track) in the area of Social Aspects of Health Disparities in Minoritized Communities.

Treasurer

UCONN Council on Family Relations (UCCFR)
University of Connecticut – Storrs, CT
August 2020 – May 2022

Invited Reviewer: BMC Women's Health

Volunteer Reviewer: American Public Health Association, Society for Behavioral Medicine

College Representative to 2018 UD Day at Legislative Hall, Dover, DE, March, 2018

- Talked to legislators about ongoing research in the College of Health Sciences.
- Performed eye-tracking demonstration using Tobii X-120 tracker.
- Presented information about ongoing research initiatives in the Speech Language Acquisition & Multilingualism lab.

Professional Memberships

- Society for Behavioral Medicine (SBM)
- American Psychosocial Oncology Society (APOS)
- American Public Health Association (APHA)
- UConn Council on Family Relations (UCCFR)
- Phi Beta Kappa Honor Society
- Psi Chi Psychology Honor Society

Relevant Skills

Microsoft Office Suite, Google Drive, JMP, R, SPSS, Mplus, NVivo, REDCap, Apple iLife Suite, Blackboard Learn, ActiLife, ShotCut, Audacity, Canva, Adobe Spark, Open Broadcaster Software (OBS), Language Environment Analysis (LENA) System, SuperCoder (child eye-gaze coding software), Behavioral Infant and Toddler Testing System (BITTSy)

Experience with experimental data collection methods such as Tobii Eye-Tracking, Shimadzu LightNIRS system, BrainVision EEG and fMRI

Languages

English: Native
Spanish: Proficient