

Nikole Babcock

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Education

2023- Current **PhD, Human Development & Family Sciences**, University of Connecticut

Major Advisor: Lisa Eaton, PhD

2025 **M.A., Human Development & Family Sciences**, University of Connecticut

Major Advisor: Lisa Eaton, PhD

Associate Advisors: Ryan Watson, PhD and Raymond Moody, PhD

MA Thesis: Sex positivity, resilience, social support, and PrEP and HIV stigmas:

Associations with lifetime and current PrEP use

2022 **B.A., Psychology**, California State University, Monterey Bay

Undergraduate Advisor: Shannon Snapp, PhD

Cumulative GPA: 3.88

2020 **AA-T, Psychology**, Cabrillo College

GPA: 3.803

Research Interests

LGBTQ+ youth and adult health disparities (i.e., HIV, mental and physical health), sexual communication, sexual authenticity, and sexual violence among emerging adults.

Publications

Peer-Reviewed Articles

Babcock, N., Zarate, J., Wang, S., Lisa, E.A., Watson, R.J. & Snapp, S.D. (2024). How LGBTQ+ young adults navigate personal risk in app-based hookups: The safety spectrum theory. *Archives of Sexual Behavior*. 53(6), 2347–2359.
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s10508-024-02864-y>

McCauley, P.S., Lessard, L., **Babcock, N.**, Sun, N., & Watson, R.J. (2024). Sexual minority youth reporting SOGIE-based harassment to adults at school: The roles of experienced Harassment, Outness, Safety, and Adult Support at School. *J. Youth Adolescence* 53, 669–684. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10964-023-01914-3>

Zarate, J. & **Babcock, N.** (2022)"I have been carrying this letter around with me like a talisman": A case story of narrative therapy with a transgender client. *Journal of Systemic Therapies*, 41(3). <https://doi.org/10.1521/jsyt.2022.41.3.20>

Babcock, N & Snapp, S.D. (2022) Hookups can be purposeful, positive, and safe for LGBTQ+

young adults. *Spark Magazine: LGBTQIA2+ Health Justice: Centering Flourishing, Resistance, and Care*. <https://medium.com/national-center-for-institutional-diversity/hookups-can-be-purposeful-positive-and-safe-for-lgbtq-young-adults-6347a62a68d5>

Babcock, N. (2022) Undergraduates and sexual wellness: How do undergrads advocate for their sexual well-being? *Culture, Society, and Praxis*, 14(1).
<https://digitalcommons.csumb.edu/csp/vol14/iss1/4/>

Under Review

Caba, A.E., McCauley, P., **Babcock, N.**, Eaton, L.A., & Watson, R.J. (under review at AIDS Care). "There's no winning. There's no losing": Black and Latine Sexual Minority Men's Perceptions about Representation in PrEP Marketing.

Eaton, L.A., Watson, R.J., Lawrence, S.E., Paceley, M., Moody, R., & **Babcock, N.** (Revise and resubmit at). Examining Experiences of Sexual Violence at the Intersection of Gender, Sexual Orientation, Race, and Ethnicity Using National US Data Among Sexual and Gender Diverse Youth.

Manuscripts in Preparation

Babcock, N., Watson, R.J., Chandler, C. & Eaton L. A. (To be submitted to *Ethnicity & Health*). Sleep health, substance use, and psychosocial factors: Associations with wellbeing in Black sexual and gender diverse populations.

Babcock, N., McCauley, P., Sun, N., Eaton, L.A., & Watson, R.J. (To be submitted to *Aids and Behavior*). "This is a gay breakfast your little blue pills and then a diet Coke or iced coffee": How routines and alcohol and substance use influence PrEP adherence.

McCauley, P., **Babcock, N.**, Sun, N., Caba, A., Eaton, L.A., & Watson, R.J. (To be submitted to *Journal of Behavioral Medicine*). Black and Latinx/e sexual minoritized men's experiences accessing HIV prevention services across medical settings.

Research Positions

Fall 2023- Current **Research Assistantship**, InCHIP, UConn

Principal Investigator: Lisa Eaton, PhD.

Spark Study: participant recruitment, consenting, and additional collaborative tasks.

Relevant skills: Recruitment, academic writing, and shipping biomedical packages.

Fall 2023- Current **Research Assistant**, SHINE Lab, UConn

Co-Principal Investigators: Ryan J. Watson, PhD & Lisa Eaton, PhD .

Collaborate on projects related to sexual and gender diverse youth and emerging adult populations.

Relevant skills: Academic writing and qualitative coding.

Spring 2021- Fall 2022 **Undergraduate Research Assistant**, SYPP Lab, CSUMB

Principal Investigator: Shannon Snapp, PhD.

Participated in six research projects with themes such as bias, sexuality, curriculum, and disproportionate discipline focused on marginalized youth and young adult populations (e.g. BIPOC, LGBTQ+).

Relevant skills: Qualitative coding, transcription, conducted interviews, assisted in the creation of IRB protocols, academic writing, and professional dissemination.

Summer 2021 **Undergraduate Research Assistant**, CSUMB

Principal Investigator: David Reichard, PhD.

Created academic essays for a digital historical archive.

Relevant skills: Archival research, qualitative coding, academic writing, and public dissemination.

Software and Computer Programs: NVivo 20, SPSS, Dedoose, Google Drive Programs, and Microsoft Office Programs.

Committee Appointments

Fall 2024- Current **Graduate Student Co-Chair of the Evaluation Subcommittee**, UConn President's Council on Combating Sexual Violence and Harassment

Clinical Experience

05/05/22- 06/21/22 *Clinical Internship*, Haven of Hope, Aptos, CA

Short-term clinical internship in a specialized intensive residential treatment and care facility. Facility serves non-violent foster youth ages 14-17.

- Crisis intervention.
- Facilitate mental, physical, and emotional health check-ins for clients.
- Mentorship of adolescent foster care youth.

Funding and Scholarships

2025 Scientific Study of Sexuality Sciences Graduate Research Grant

- **\$1,500** (*Under Review*)

2023 NSF Graduate Research Fellowship Program (GRFP)

- **\$147,000** (*Not Awarded*)

2022 Graduate Studies and Research, CSUMB

- **\$1,000** (*Awarded November 2022*)

2022 Ford Foundation Pre-Doctoral Fellowship

- **\$81,000** (*Not Awarded, Honorable Mention*)

2022 NSF Graduate Research Fellowship Program (GRFP)

- **\$147,000** (*Not Awarded*)

2022 CSU Sally Casanova Pre-Doctoral Scholarship

- **\$3,000** (*Awarded July 2022*)

Spring 21- Fall 2022 Undergraduate Research Opportunities Center (UROC) Scholar

- **\$9,000** (*Awarded Department of Education grant SP 21- FA 22*)

Presentations

Oral Presentations

Babcock, N. (November 2022). *How LGBTQ+ young adults navigate personal risk in app based hookups: The safety spectrum theory*. Invited talk at the Annual Research, Scholarship, & Creative Activities Celebration (RSCA). California State University, Monterey Bay, Seaside, CA.

Babcock, N. (August 2022) *A systemic endemic: The harmful impacts of anti-LGBTQ+ legislation in education systems*. Selected for an oral presentation session at the Summer Showcase, California State University, Monterey Bay, Seaside, CA.

Babcock, N. (August 2021) *Monterey County LGBTQ+ historical archive*. Summer Showcase, California State University, Monterey Bay, Seaside, CA.

Posters

Babcock, N., McCauley, P, Eaton, L, & Watson, R.J. (April 2024). *The associations between intragroup experiences of LGBTQ+-specific racial microaggressions and substance abuse among sexual and gender diverse youth of color*. Poster blitz presentation at Society for Research on Adolescence (SRA), Chicago, IL.

McCauley, P.S., Lessard, L.M., **Babcock, N.**, Sun, N., Eaton, L.A., & Watson, R.J. (April 2024). Sexual and gender diverse youth reporting SOGIE-based harassment to adults at school: School safety and adult support at school as moderators. Poster presentation at Society for Research on Adolescence (SRA), Chicago, IL.

Babcock, N., Wang, S., Zarate, J., Snapp, S., & Watson, R.J. (April 2022). *A theory of safety spectrum: How LGBTQ+ young adults navigate personal risk in app-based hookups*. Spring Showcase, California State University, Monterey Bay, Monterey, CA.

Babcock, N., Wang, S., Zarate, J., Snapp, S., & Watson, R.J. (March 2022). *A theory of safety spectrum: How LGBTQ+ young adults navigate personal risk in app-based hookups*. Special poster presentation at Society for Research on Adolescence (SRA) Biennial Meeting, New Orleans, LA.

Workshops

Oct. 2022 “Demystifying Undergraduate Research: Psychology and Grad School”, CSUMB
Description: Created and facilitated workshop geared at psychology undergraduate students that covered topics such as undergraduate research, scholarships, graduate institutions and programs, securing letters of recommendation, and UROC opportunities.

Sep. 2022 “Demystifying Research Within an HSI”, CSUMB

Description: Created a presentation that discussed undergraduate research and imposter syndrome within a Hispanic Serving Institution (HSI), and how to overcome those feelings of inadequacy.

Aug. 2022 “Demystifying Research and Scholarship”, CSUMB

Description: Facilitated both in-person and online workshops for 200+ newly matriculated freshman and transfer students from various disciplines that introduced basics of research, discussed undergraduate research opportunities, personal and academic benefits, and introduced fellowship and scholarship opportunities.

May 2022 “Imposter Syndrome, Mental Health, and Graduate School”, CSUMB Description: Created and facilitated fish-bowl style workshop discussing mental health practices, combating imposter syndrome, and setting intentions/ goals for upcoming graduate school application cycle.

Apr. 2022 “Demystifying Publishing as an Undergraduate”, CSUMB

Description: Co-created and facilitated workshop for *Undergraduate Research Week* discussing publishing, track-changes, academic journal submissions, and how to work through conflict within a lab setting.

Feb. 2022 “Imposter Syndrome and Mental Health”, CSUMB

Description: Co-created and facilitated workshop discussing how mental health and imposter syndrome intersect.

Oct. 2021 “LGBTQ+ in Academia”, CSUMB

Description: Facilitated a student led discussion exploring LGBTQ+ student experiences within academia.

Sep. 2021 “Demystifying Research Within a HSI”, CSUMB

Description: Created a presentation that discussed undergraduate research and imposter syndrome within a Hispanic Serving Institution (HSI), and how to overcome those feelings of inadequacy.

July 2021 “Connected in Pride 2.0”, Monterey County Community Event Description:

Presented a preview of Monterey County’s LGBTQ Archival Project and communicated research findings to Connected in Pride 2.0 participants.

Apr. 2021 “Ethics in Research and Practice”, CSUMB

Description: Facilitated a workshop focused on ethics within the discipline of psychology during Undergraduate Research Week (URW).

Teaching and Mentorship

Spring 2025 *Teaching Practicum*, UConn: HDFS 3277 Human Sexuality

- Faculty supervisor: Lisa Eaton, PhD

Spring 2024 *Guest Lecturer*, UConn: HDFS 2200 Adulthood and Aging

Fall 2023 *Guest Lecturer*, UConn: HDFS 1060 Close Relationships Across Lifespan

Spring 2023 *Writing Fellow*, UROC, CSUMB

- Created and facilitated writing groups.
- Assisted students in graduate school and research preparation.
- Provided feedback and provided support in the development of personal statements, CVs, professional written communication, and dissemination.
- Guided and supported peer feedback.

Fall 2022 *Private Tutor*, College Statistics and Writing Tutor, San Jose, CA

- Created lesson plans and test preparation.
- Reviewed essays and research papers with college students.
- Taught basic statistics and writing fundamentals.

Spring 2021 *Peer Mentor*, Otter Collective, CSUMB

- Guided and supported a diverse group of mentees while they navigate their first semester at CSUMB.

Leadership and Service

Fall 2022 Volunteer, *Amplify Podcast*, CSUMB & Cabrillo College

Created and developed original podcast episode that discussed non-traditional college student experience with research, academics, and finding a sense of community.

2021- Current *Ambassador*, UROC, CSUMB

Student ambassadorship that includes student outreach, peer mentorship, peer-led community events, and new/ transfer student orientations. Create, present, and facilitate workshops and presentations.

2022 *Volunteer*, Jacob's Heart, Watsonville, CA

Created and designed cards and shopping bags, "Art from the Heart", for families at Jacob's Heart.

2021 *Volunteer*, College Statistics Tutor, San Jose, CA

Teach basic statistics fundamentals. Create lesson plans and test preparation.

Honors and Awards

Fall 2022 Travel Awardee, The Love Consortium, Durham, North Carolina

Spring 2022 Sally Casanova Pre-Doctoral Scholar

Fall 2020- Fall 2022 Dean's List

Fall 2020- Fall 2022 UROC Scholar, CSUMB

Spring 2020 High Honors, Cabrillo College

Membership

2025- Current **Society for the Scientific Study of Sexuality (SSSS)**

2022- Current **Society for Research in Child Development (SRCD)**

2022- Current **Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Expression (SOGIE) Caucus**

2022- Current **Society for Research on Adolescence (SRA)**

2021- Current **Psi Chi: International Psychology Honor Society**

2021- Current **Tau Sigma National Honor Society**

Certifications

- CITI Certified: Social and Behavioral Human Subjects Research
- CITI Certified: GCP – Social and Behavioral Research Best Practices for Clinical Research
- Trained Mentor: Mentor Collective
- QPR Suicide Prevention Training
- CPR and First Aid (adult, child, and infant)
- Relias Training (behavioral health)

References

Lisa Eaton (860) 486 6024 lisa.eaton@uconn.edu

Associate Professor with Tenure

Department of Human Development and Family Sciences

University of Connecticut

Ryan J. Watson (860) 486-1659 ryan.j.watson@uconn.edu

Associate Professor

Department of Human Development and Family Sciences

University of Connecticut

Shannon Snapp (831) 582- 3429 ssnapp@csumb.edu

Associate Professor

Department of Psychology

California State University, Monterey Bay

Renee Penalver (831) 582-4373 rpenalver@csumb.edu

Assistant Professor

Department of Psychology

California State University, Monterey Bay