**Marcia L. Shirilla**

**Curriculum Vitae, August 2017**

**Education**

**University of Delaware**, College of Education and Human Development

Ph.D. Student in Education, Learning Sciences, GPA: 4.0/4.0, Degree completion expected May 2020

Master of Arts in Education, May 2017, GPA: 4.0/4.0

Advisor: Roberta M. Golinkoff

**The Pennsylvania State University**, College of Health and Human Development

Master of Science in Leisure Studies, May 2003, GPA: 3.71/4.0

Master’s Thesis:*Empowerment and Its Relationship to the Job Satisfaction of Sport Club Officers in a University Setting*

**Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University**, College of Natural Resources

Bachelor of Science in Forest Products Marketing and Management, May 2000, GPA: 3.68/4.00

**Honors and Awards**

University of Delaware Woman of Promise, March 2017

University of Delaware Steele Symposium, 2nd place research poster, April 2017

National Swimming Pool Foundation Board Fellowship Award, 2017

**Research**

**Language for Reading**, funded by the Institute of Education Sciences, in collaboration with Temple University and Vanderbilt University, 2015-current

* Developing playful learning experiences (PLEs) combined with book reading to teach vocabulary in a preschool classroom. PLEs included large group games, small group games, music and movement, sociodramatic play, and digital games.
* Designing three-year study to implement with classroom teachers in Nashville and Philadelphia, including selecting themes, books, and vocabulary words plus the protocols necessary to implement project across multiple classrooms in two locations.
* Collaborating with design team teachers at Acelero Head Start program in Philadelphia, PA.
* Partnering with app development company to create a digital game that teaches vocabulary.

**Science of Learning**, funded by the National Science Foundation, in collaboration with Temple University, Rutgers University, Boston University, and University of California-Berkeley, 2016-current

* Developing conceptual and practical framework for understanding guided learning and how to best assess its effectiveness.
* Conducting a playful learning and book reading intervention study to assess how guided play and embodied experiences interact to support preschoolers’ acquisition of vocabulary.

**International Cross-Cultural Study of Play**, funded by the LEGO Foundation, 2016-current

* Investigating both children’s and adults’ perceptions of play and learning in a cross-cultural context.
* Designing the research methods, budget proposals, and study rationale for quantitative and qualitative data collection, in collaboration with researchers from Denmark, Hong Kong, Argentina, England, and the United States.
* Appointed as project manager to oversee research in five countries, including coordinating meetings, initiating working groups, managing the budget, and reporting on progress.

**LEGO’s for Learning in Higher Education**, 2016-current

* Conducted a study utilizing LEGO’s as a play-based activity to enhance learning and improve the group function skills of students in an undergraduate education course.
* Implemented the activities, developed a survey, and evaluating the results.

**Jefferson Writing Research Project**, supervised by Dr. Sharon Walpole, 2016-current

* Entered and coded over 1000 Kindergarten through 5th grade writing samples for spelling, grammar, and writing quality.
* Developed writing quality rubric for K-5th grade opinion-writing samples.

**Teaching Experience and Guest Lectures**

**Teaching Assistant**, University of Delaware, Fall 2016

EDUC 205 Human Development, K-12

*Developed assessments, prepared Sakai website, graded papers and exams,   
 guest lectured as needed.*

**Adjunct Instructor**, North Carolina Central University, 2010-2011

RECR 2120 Recreation Leadership

*Speaking Intensive Course*

Fall 2010, Spring 2011, Summer 2011, and Fall 2011

RECR 2500 Special Topics in Physical Education, Recreation, and Sport: Activity Leadership

*Developed new course to teach students practical leadership/facilitation skills*

Fall 2011

**Co-Instructor**, North Carolina Central University and Durham Parks and Recreation, 2009-2011

RECR 4150 Recreation and Leisure Services Programming

*Co-taught lab classes and advised students partnering with our City recreation facility to learn about and conduct programming for local children.*

Spring 2009, Spring 2010, Spring 2011

**Intern Advisement:** Supervised undergraduate practicum and internship experiences with the City of Durham Parks and Recreation Department and the Jennersville YMCA (Pennsylvania).

**Curriculum Development:** Developed and implemented a new undergraduate course for the Recreation Administration Program: RECR 2500 - Special Topics in Physical Education, Sport, and Recreation: Activity Leadership.

**Presentations and Publications**

Scott, M. E., Hopkins, E. J., Collins, M. F., Toub, T. S., Lawson, J., Dore, R. A., Shirilla, M., Schatz, J., Dickinson, D., Golinkoff, R. M., & Hirsh-Pasek, K. (2018, April). Playing the way to vocabulary: Comparing playful learning experiences in preschool. In E.J. Hopkins & R.A. Dore (chairs), *A place for play in early education.* Symposium submitted for presentation at the Annual Meeting of the American Educational Research Association: New York, NY.

Dore, R. A., Shirilla, M., Saunders, T., Foster, L., Hopkins, E. J., Toub, T. S., Collins, M. F., Schatz, J., Scott, M. E., Dickinson, D., Hirsh-Pasek, K., & Golinkoff, R. M. (2018, April). Education in the App Store: Learning vocabulary from digital games during early in childhood. In E.J. Hopkins & R.A. Dore (chairs), A place for play in early education. Symposium submitted for presentation at the Annual Meeting of the American Educational Research Association: New York, NY.

Schatz, J., Lawson, J., Hopkins, E. J., Collins, M. F., Dore, R. A., Shirilla, M., Hirsh-Pasek, K., Dickinson, D. K., & Golinkoff, R. M. (2018, April). Tuning into vocabulary: Learning new words through music. In J. Lawson (chair), Sing, play, listen: Exploring the role of music and sounds in vocabulary learning. Symposium submitted for presentation at the Annual Meeting of the American Educational Research Association: New York, NY.

Walpole, S., Strong, J., Pasquarella, A., Coker, D., & Shirilla, M. (2017, November). T*he relationship of fluency and comprehension to persuasive writing quality*. Talk accepted for presentation at the Literacy Research Association Conference: Tampa, FL.

Hirsh-Pasek, K., Hopkins, E. J., Scott, M. E., Schatz, J., Toub, T. S., Dickinson, D., Collins, M., Lawson, J., Golinkoff, R. M., Dore, R. A., & Shirilla, M. (2017, October). The joy of vocabulary learning: A preschool reading and play intervention. In E. Albro (chair), *Words in the world: Novel approaches to improving preschoolers’ vocabulary development.* Symposium accepted at the Biennial Meeting of the Cognitive Development Society: Portland, OR.

Shirilla, M., Dore, R. A., Hopkins, E., Toub, T.S., Collins, M. F., Schatz, J., Scott, M., Lawson, J., Hadley, E.B., Dickinson, D., Hirsh-Pasek, K., and Golinkoff, R.M. (2017, October). *Self-Regulation and General Vocabulary Knowledge in a Guided Play Intervention.* Poster accepted for presentation at the Biennial Meeting of the Cognitive Development Society: Portland, OR.

Dore, R. A., Shirilla, M., Saunders, T., Foster, L., Hopkins, E., Toub, T.S., Collins, M. F., Schatz, J., Scott, M., Lawson, J., Hadley, E.B., Golinkoff, R.M., Hirsh-Pasek, K., and Dickinson, D. (2017, October). *Time to go on a space adventure! Using digital games to support early vocabulary learning.* Poster accepted for presentation at the Biennial Meeting of the Cognitive Development Society: Portland, OR.

Hopkins, E. J., Scott, M. E., Schatz, J., Toub, T. S., Collins, M. F., Lawson, J., Dore, R. A., Shirilla, M., Dickinson, D. K., Golinkoff, R. M., & Hirsh-Pasek, K. (2017, October). *Long-term benefits of boosting vocabulary through reading and play*. Poster accepted for presentation at the Biennial Meeting of the Cognitive Development Society: Portland, OR.

Golinkoff, R.M., Barbieri, C., Zimmermann, L. & Shirilla, M. (2017, August). *The right kind of wrong: Learning from errors through guided play.* Talk presented at the 2017 American Psychological Association (APA) Annual Convention: Washington, D.C.

Barbieri, C., Shirilla, M., Zimmermann, L. & Golinkoff, R.M. (2017, June). *Exploring effective features of guided play: Explanations and embodiment*. Talk given at the Mini-conference on Playful Learning: Philadelphia, PA.

Shirilla, M. Dore, R, Golinkoff, R.M. (2017). *LEGOS for learning: A pilot project on playful learning experiences in higher education.* College of Education & Human Development 32nd Annual Steele Symposium, April 2017, Newark, DE.

Shirilla, M., Bugallo, L., Cheng, D., Cremin, T., Golinkoff, R., Mukherjee, S., Popp, J., Scheuer, N. (2016). *Is it play? Is it learning? A cross-cultural study of children’s and adults’ perceptions.* Cross-University Collaborative Mentoring Conference, June 2016, Newark, DE.

Shirilla, M., Brezack, N., Dore, R., Hassinger-Das, B., Amick, K., Rubilotta, A., Sanders, A., Blackney, E., Golinkoff, R.M., Hirsh-Pasek, K. (2016). *Catch the word ball! A playful learning experience to promote vocabulary learning.* College of Education & Human Development 31st Annual Steele Symposium, April 2016, Newark, DE.

Shirilla, M. & Ford, D. (2016). *Why work out? A case study of graduate students’ perceptions of physical activity.* 6th AnnualUniversity of Delaware Graduate Student Research Forum, April 2016, Newark, DE.

Toub, T.S., Dore R., Hassinger-Das, B., Schatz, J., Scott, M., Shirilla, M. (2016). *Playing with words: Designing a toolkit of games, music, and sociodramatic play to promote preschoolers’ vocabulary development.* The Association for the Study of Play and the American Association for the Child’s Right to Play 42nd Annual International Conference, March 2016, New Brunswick, NJ.

Shirilla, M.L., Dorwart, C., Stiefvater, R. (2016). *Academic collaborations with practitioners to enhance student learning. A win-win-win for everyone!* Presentation at the Academy of Leisure Sciences Teaching Institute, February 2016, Greenville, NC.

**Professional Experience**

Associate Executive Director, YMCA of the Brandywine Valley – Jennersville YMCA, 2013-2014

Recreation and Aquatics Supervisor, City of Durham Parks and Recreation Department, 2009-2012

Recreation Assistant Supervisor, City of Durham Parks and Recreation Department, 2007-2009

Recreation Specialist, City of Durham Parks and Recreation Department, 2006-2007

Ropes Course Facilitator, Town of Cary Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Resources, 2006-2012

Program Director, YMCA of the Brandywine Valley – Kennett Area YMCA, 2004-2006

Assistant Director of Recreation, Penn State Altoona, 2002-2003

**Service**

**Academic Service**

University of Delaware

School of Education Colloquium Planning Committee, 2017-2018

Graduate Student Government, Senator, 2015-2017

Education and HDFS Graduate Student Association, President, 2016-2017

Faculty Senate Coordinating Committee on Education, Grad Student Rep, 2016-2018

Graduate Student Government, Elections Committee Member, 2017

Graduate Student Government, Events Committee Member, 2015-2016

Education and HDFS Graduate Student Association, Officer, 2015-2016

The Academy of Leisure Sciences, Communications Committee Member, 2016-current

Graduate Student Research Forum, Volunteer, 2016, 2017

HDFS Graduate School Visitation Day Student Panel, 2016, 2017

HDFS Graduate School Open House Student Panel, November 2016

North Carolina Central University Faculty Search Committee, 2010

**Community Service**

Avon Grove Intermediate School Classroom Volunteer, 2016-current

White Clay Soccer Club Travel Team Coach, 2016-current

Penn London Elementary School PTA Executive Board Officer, 2015-2016

West Grove-Avondale Rotary Club

Member, 2013-current

Treasurer, 2014-2015

Kennett Square Senior Games Volunteer, 2014

**Professional Memberships**

Association for Psychological Science, 2017-current

Cognitive Development Society, 2017-current

National Recreation and Parks Association, 2015-current

The Academy of Leisure Sciences, 2015-current

**References**

Roberta M. Golinkoff, Ph.D.

Unidel H. Rodney Sharp Chair

Professor of Education

Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences

Department of Linguistic and Cognitive Science

University of Delaware

302-831-1634

roberta@udel.edu

Sharon Walpole, Ph.D.

Professor of Education

University of Delaware

302-831-2560

swalpole@udel.edu

Dr. Robert Stiefvater, Ph.D.

Professor

Recreation Administration Program Coordinator

North Carolina Central University

(919) 530-7429

[stiefvater@nccu.edu](mailto:stiefvater@nccu.edu)