# Vita of Jocelyn L. Sy

# **Education & Training:**

2005-2011 Ph.D in Psychology doctorate program,

Cognitive, Perceptual, and Cognitive Neurosciences

University of California, Santa Barbara

Dissertation title: Top-down influences in selection and

distraction: Load Theory revisited. Advisor: Dr. Barry Giesbrecht

2003 B.S. Psychology with Honors,

University of California, Davis

Appointments:

2014-present Post-doctoral research associate

Advisor: Dr. Randolph Blake

Vanderbilt University

2011-present Post-doctoral research associate

Advisor: Dr. Frank Tong

Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN

2005 Junior Specialist II, Dr. Barry Giesbrecht, Department of

Psychology, University of California, Santa Barbara

2003-2005 Postgraduate Researcher I & II, Drs. G. Ron Mangun and

Tamara Swaab, Center for Mind and Brain, University of

California, Davis

## Awards:

2012-2013 NIH Institutional Research Training Grant, Vanderbilt Vision

Research Center, 5T32EY007135-18

2011 Graduate Division Dissertation Fellowship, University of

California. Santa Barbara

2008 Summer Institute in Cognitive Neuroscience, Lake Tahoe,

California, fellowship

2007 Summer Institute in Cognitive Neuroscience, University of

California, Santa Barbara fellowship

## Manuscripts in preparation

- Sy, J.L., Guerin, S.A., Stegman, A., Giesbrecht, B. (in review). Accurate expectancies diminish perceptual distraction during visual search. *Frontiers in Human Neuroscience*.
- Sy, J.L., Jehee, J., & Tong, F. (in prep). Attention to task-irrelevant features of an object is not mandatory, but resource-dependent.
- Sy, J.L., Ling, S., & Tong, F. (in prep). Decoding expectation of orientation in visual cortex.
- Pratte, M., Sy, J.L., Swisher, J.D., & Tong, F. (in prep). Orientation decoding in V1.

#### **Published Articles:**

- Giesbrecht, B., Sy, J.L., Elliott, J. (2007). Electrophysiological evidence for both perceptual and post-perceptual selection during the attentional blink. *Journal of Cognitive Neuroscience*, 19(12), 2005-2018.
- Giesbrecht, B., Sy, J.L., Lewis, M. (2009). Personal names do not always survive the attentional blink: Behavioral evidence for a flexible locus of selection. *Vision Research*, 49(10), 1378-1388.
- Sy, J.L., & Giesbrecht, B. (2009). Task-relevance modulates the influence of target similarity on the attentional blink. *Visual Cognition*, 17(3), 307-317.
- Peterson, M.P., Das, K., Sy, J.L., Li, S., Giesbrecht, B., Kourtzi, Z., & Eckstein, M.P. (2010). Ideal observer analysis for task normalization of pattern classifier performance applied to EEG and fMRI data. *Journal of the Optical Society of America A: Optics, image science, and vision*, 27(12), 2670-2683.
- Kyllingsbæk, S., Sy, J.L., & Giesbrecht, B. (2011). Understanding the allocation of attention when faced with varying perceptual load in partial report: A computational approach. *Neuropsychologia*, 46, 1487-1497.
- Cecotti, H., Sato-Reinhold, J., Sy, J.L., Elliott, J.C., Eckstein, M.P., Giesbrecht, B., (2011). Impact of target probability on single-trial EEG target detection in a difficult rapid serial visual presentation task. Engineering in Medicine and Biology Society, EMBC, 2011 Annual International Conference of the IEEE, 6381-6384,
- Eckstein, M.P., Das, K., Pham, B.T., Peterson, M.F., Abbey, C.K., Sy, J.L., & Giesbrecht, B. (2012). Neural decoding of collective wisdom with multibrain computing. *Neuroimage*, 59, 94-108.
- Giesbrecht, B., Sy, J.L., Guerin, S.A. (2012). Both memory and attention systems contribute to visual search for targets cued by implicity learned context. *Vision Research*, available online, doi: 10.1016/j.visres.2012.10.006.
- Sy, J.L., Elliott, J.C., & Giesbrecht, B. (2014). Post-perceptual processing during the attentional blink is modulated by inter-trial expectancies. *Frontiers in Human Neuroscience*, *7*(627), doi: 10.3389/fnhum.2013.00627.
- Giesbrecht, B., Sy, J. L., Bundesen, C., & Kyllingsbæk, S. (in press). A new

perspective on the perceptual selectivity of attention under load. *The Year in Cognitive Neuroscience*.

#### **Recent Conference Presentations:**

- Sy, J., Ristic, J., & Giesbrecht, B. (2009). Top-down modulation of reflexive social orienting. Poster presented at the Annual meeting of the Vision Science Society.
- Sy, J., & Giesbrecht, B. (2010). fMRI evidence for top-down influences on perceptual distraction. Poster presented at the Annual meeting of the Vision Science Society.
- Sy, J., & Giesbrecht, B. (2010). Intraparietal sulcus involvement in top-down modulations of visual cortex and behavioral distraction. Poster presented at the Annual meeting for the Society for Neuroscience.
- Cecotti, H., Sato-Reinhold, J., Sy, J.L., Eckstein, M.P., & Giesbrecht., B. (2011). Using single-trial EEG to detect targets with unknown stimulus onsets. Poster presented at the annual meeting for the Society for Neuroscience.
- Sy, J.L., Jehee, J., & Tong, F. (2013). Attention to task-irrelevant features of an object is not mandatory, but rather resource-dependent. Poster presented at the annual meeting for the Society for Neuroscience.
- Sy, J.L., & Tong, F. (2014). Evidence of a feature-based attentional template in early visual areas during the absence of visual stimulation. Poster to be presented at the annual meeting for the Vision Science Society.

#### **Invited Talks:**

- Sy, J., & Giesbrecht, B. (2009). fMRI evidence for expectation-based modulations of perceptual distraction. Talk presented at the annual meeting for the Society for Neuroscience.
- Sy, J.L., Guerin, S.A., Stegman, A.C., & Giesbrecht, B. (2011). fMRI and ERP evidence that predictive load cues modulate the susceptibility to perceptual distraction. Talk presented at the annual meeting for the Society for Neuroscience.
- Sy, J.L., Jehee, J., Tong, F. (January, 2013). Object-based vs. Feature-based Selection: Perceptual load and irrelevant features. Invited speaker for a PhD workshop on "Perceptual Load and Attention" at the Department of Psychology, at the University of Copenhagen, Copenhagen, Denmark.
- Sy, J.L., Jehee, J., Tong, F. (2013). Object-based attention is not mandatory: Perceptual load reduces the attentional boost of task irrelevant features in the human visual cortex. Talk to be presented at the Vision Science Society Annual meeting.

# **Related Professional Experience:**

Department of Psychology, University of California, Davis

2001-2002 Undergraduate Research Assistant, Dr. Stanley Sue, National Research Center for Asian American Mental Health, University of California, Davis

# **Teaching Experience:**

#### **Courses**

2009 Summer Teaching Assistant, Lab in Advanced

Research

2009 (Winter), 2010 (Spring)

Teaching Assistant, Laboratory in Attention

2008 (Winter) Teaching Assistant, *Auditory Perception*2007, 2008, 2009 Teaching Assistant, *Laboratory in Perception* 

2007 (Winter, Fall) Teaching Assistant, Visual Perception

2006 (Fall), 2008 (Fall), 2009 (Winter)

Teaching Assistant, Introduction to Statistics

2006 (Winter) Teaching Assistant, Contemporary Issues in

Biopsychology: Attention and the Brain

2006 (Winter) Teaching Assistant, *Graduate Seminar: Human* 

Electrophysiology

2005 (Fall), 2006 (Spring), 2010 (Fall)

Teaching Assistant, Introduction to Psychology

# **Society Memberships:**

2009-present Society for Neuroscience 2005-present Vision Sciences Society

2002-present Psi Chi National Honors Society