

# THOMAS AKIVA

Assistant Professor of Applied Developmental Psychology  
Psychology in Education, Learning Sciences and Policy  
Center for Urban Education Fellow

University of Pittsburgh School of Education  
5938 Posvar Hall, Pittsburgh, PA 15260

Office: (412) 648-7320 • Mobile: (734) 678-4569 • tomakiva@pitt.edu • tiny.cc/tomakiva

## EDUCATION

PhD in Education and Psychology, University of Michigan, August 2012  
Dissertation: *The psychology of youth participation in organized activities*  
Chair: Jacquelynne S. Eccles, PhD

MS in Psychology, University of Michigan, May 2009

MA in Educational Studies, University of Michigan, July 2003

Secondary Teaching Certification in Michigan – English and Sociology, May 2003

BA in English, Alma College, May 1995

## EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

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|----------------|--|
| 2012 – present | Assistant Professor. Applied Developmental Psychology program, Department of Psychology in Education. Secondary appointment in Learning Sciences and Policy. University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA. |
| 2009 – 2012    | Senior Manager. Weikart Center for Youth Program Quality, Ypsilanti, MI.   |
| 2007 – 2009    | Consultant. Weikart Center for Youth Program Quality, Ypsilanti, MI.   |
| 2004 – 2007    | Senior Youth Development Specialist. Weikart Center for Youth Program Quality, Ypsilanti, MI.  |
| 2003 – 2004    | Internship Coordinator. University Preparatory Academy Middle School, Detroit, MI.   |
| 1998 – 2002    | Director, Institute for IDEAS (summer arts and sciences program for teens). HighScope Educational Research Foundation, Ypsilanti, MI   |

## HONORS AND AWARDS

Scholar Award from the Out-of-School Time Special Interest Group of the American Educational Research Association, April 2016

Center for Urban Education Faculty Fellow, University of Pittsburgh, October 2014

Stanley E. and Ruth B. Dimond Outstanding Dissertation Award, University of Michigan, April 2013

ProQuest Distinguished Dissertation Award Honorable Mention, February 2013

Outstanding Graduate Student Instructor, University of Michigan, April 2012

Emerging Scholar in Out-of-School Time Research from the Out-of-School Time Special Interest Group of the American Educational Research Association, April 2011

University of Michigan Sweetland Grad Writing Group Leader, 2011-2012  
University of Michigan School of Education Spencer Fellowship, 2007-2012  
Award for Outstanding Teaching with Technology, MCOATT, Summer 2003  
Alma College Presidential Scholarship, 1991-1995

## PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Allegheny Partners for Out-of-School Time, American Camp Association,  
American Educational Research Association, Society for Research in Child Development,  
Society for Research on Adolescence, Pittsburgh Kids + Creativity Network

## ADVISORY

Allegheny Partners for Out-of-School Time (Executive Committee), 2014-present  
American Camp Association (ACA Research Advisory Committee), 2016-present  
American Camp Association (Committee for the Advancement of Research and Evaluation), 2016-present  
Heinz Endowments Transformative Arts Board (Consultant for youth involvement and evaluation), 2015-2016  
Pittsburgh Media Empowerment Student Summit (MESS, Advisory Committee), 2014-present  
Collegiate YMCA of Greater Pittsburgh (Board of Management), 2014  
Pittsburgh Hive (Advisory Committee) 2013-2014  
American Camp Association (Task Force on Noncognitive Skills), 2013

## EDITORIAL BOARD

Journal of Applied Developmental Psychology  
Information Age book series: Current Issues in Out-of-School Time (Editorial Review Board)

## PEER REVIEWER

American Educational Research Association (conference)  
American Journal of Community Psychology  
Child Development  
Developmental Psychology  
Evaluation and Program Planning  
International Journal for Research on Extended Education  
Journal of Applied Developmental Psychology  
Journal of Adolescent Research  
Journal of Research on Adolescence

Journal of Research in Childhood Education  
Journal of Youth Development  
National Science Foundation (grant panels)  
Robert Bowne Foundation (Edmund A. Stanley Jr. Research grants)  
Society for Research on Adolescence (conference)  
Youth & Society

## GRANTS

*Remake Making: Understanding Adoption and Adaptation of Facilitated Making in Libraries*, National Science Foundation: Advancing Informal STEM Learning, PI, 2017-2019, \$299,495.

*Out-of-School Learning in Urban and Disrupted Suburban Areas*, The Grable Foundation, The Heinz Endowments, PI, 2017-2018, \$35,000 (\$17,500 Grable, \$17,500 Heinz Endowments).

*Evaluation of the 2016 Learn & Earn Pittsburgh Summer Youth Employment Initiative*, Three Rivers Workforce Investment Board, PI, 2016, \$69,500.

*Evaluation of the 2015 Learn & Earn Pittsburgh Summer Youth Employment and STEM Initiative*, Three Rivers Workforce Investment Board, PI, 2015, \$134,000.

*Simple Interactions 2.0*, The Grable Foundation, The Heinz Endowments, PI, 2015-2017, \$280,000 (\$115,000 Grable, \$165,000 Heinz).

*City of Learning Research*, The Sprout Fund, PI, 2015, \$23,000.

*Adolescent Peers' Socialization of Emotions via Social Media*, University of Pittsburgh School of Education Student-Faculty Research Grant, Co-PI with \*C. G. Horner, 2015-2016, \$3,000.

*Evaluation of the Pittsburgh Youth Organizing for School Change Program*, The Heinz Endowments, PI, 2014-2017, \$555,000.

*Planning for an Evaluation of the Pittsburgh Youth Organizing Program*, The Heinz Endowments, PI, 2014, \$25,000.

*Award to attend the Summit to Reconnect Learning*, The Sprout Fund, Conference stipend, 2014, \$1500.

*The Digital Corps: Bringing in the community for digital learning in youth programs*, Robert Bowne Foundation Edmund A. Stanley, Jr. Research Grant, PI, 2014, \$25,000.

*Really Simple Improvement (RSI): A process for increasing staff-youth developmental interactions in out-of-school time*, The Grable Foundation, The Heinz Endowments, PI, 2013-2014, \$130,000 (\$80,000 Grable, \$50,000 Heinz).

*National Afterschool Matters Pittsburgh Youth Worker Practitioner Fellowship*, United Way of Allegheny County, PI, 2013-2014, \$25,500.

*Hive Days of Summer Youth Reporters Program*, The Sprout Fund, PI, 2013, \$5,000.

*Award to attend Digital Medial and Learning (DML)*, The Sprout Fund, Conference stipend, 2013, \$1450.

*Youth Voice and Leadership in the Pittsburgh Hive*, The Sprout Fund, PI, 2013, \$25,000.

*Michigan Stress Management and Relaxation Techniques (M-SMART)*, Ann Arbor Public Schools, Fetzer Institute, Impact Foundation, and University of Michigan, Co-I with R. Benn & J. S. Eccles, 2010, \$121,776.

*Youth Driven Spaces*, Kellogg Foundation, Co-I with J. Weiss & L. Van Egeren, 2009-2011, \$376,440.

## PUBLICATIONS

\* = graduate student or post-doctoral fellow

### Pre-publication

- Akiva, T. (under review). A new vision for the role of community in educating our nation's youth: Why educators and policymakers should take out-of-school learning more seriously.
- Akiva, T., \*Carey, R. L., Cross, A. B., Delale-O'Connor, L., & Brown, M. R. (revise & resubmit). Reasons youth engage in activism programs: Social justice or sanctuary?
- Akiva, T., \*DeMand, A., Delale-O'Connor, L., \*McNamara, A. R., \*Scott, P. W. (under review). Summer youth employment programs: How important is adult support?
- Akiva, T., Schunn, C. D., & Louw, M. (in press). What drives attendance at informal learning activities? A study of two art programs. *Curator: The Museum Journal*.
- Dawes, N., Garza, G., & Akiva, T. (under review). Accountability and adolescent engagement in a youth activism program: A qualitative exploration.
- Hill, S. L., Connolly, J., Akiva, T., & \*McNamara, A. R. (in press). Taking it to a new level: Inquiry-based professional development as a field building enterprise. In H. J. Malone & T. Donahue (Eds.), *The growing out-of-school time field: Past, present, and future*. Charlotte, NC: Information Age Publishing.
- \*McNamara, A., Akiva, T., Wardrip, P., Brahms, L., & Crowley, K. (under review). Facilitation in Educational Makerspaces.
- \*Rupp, K., Taverno, S. E., Gary-Webb, T. L., Akiva, T., Jakicic, J. M. (under review). Household support for physical activity in adolescent girls recruited from lower socioeconomic status neighborhoods.

### Journal articles (refereed)

- Akiva, T., \*Kehoe, S. S., & Schunn, C. D. (2017). Are we ready for citywide learning? Examining the nature of within- and between-program pathways in a community-wide learning initiative. *Journal of Community Psychology, 45*(3), 413-425.
- Akiva, T., Li, J., Martin, K. M., \*Horner, C. G., \*McNamara, A. R. (2016). Simple Interactions: Piloting a strengths- and interactions-based professional development intervention for out-of-school time programs. *Child & Youth Care Forum, 46*(3), 285-305.
- Akiva, T. & Petrokubi, J. (2016). Growing with youth: A lifewide and lifelong perspective on youth-adult partnership in youth programs. *Children and Youth Services Review, 69*, 248-258.
- Akiva, T., & \*Horner, C. G. (2016). Adolescent motivation to attend youth programs: A mixed-methods investigation. *Applied Developmental Science, 20*(4), 279-293.
- Akiva, T., \*Povis, K. T., & Martinez, A. (2015). Bringing in the tech: Using outside expertise to enhance technology learning in youth programs. *Afterschool Matters, (22)*, 45-53.
- Akiva, T., Cortina, K., & Smith, C. (2014). Involving youth in program decision-making: How common and what might it do for youth? *Journal of Youth and Adolescence, 43*, 1844-1860.
- Smith, C., Akiva, T., McGovern, G., & Peck, S. P. (2014). Afterschool quality. *New Directions for Youth Development, (144)*, 31-44.

- Akiva, T., Cortina, K. S., Eccles, J. S., & Smith, C. (2013). Youth belonging and cognitive engagement in organized activities: A large-scale field study. *Journal of Applied Developmental Psychology, 34*, 208-218.
- Benn, R., Akiva, T., Arel, S., & Roeser, R. W. (2012). Mindfulness training effects for parents and educators of children with special needs. *Developmental Psychology, 48*, 1476-1487.
- Smith, C. Peck, S. C., Denault, A., Blazevski, J., & Akiva, T. (2010). Quality at the point of service: Profiles of practice in after-school settings. *American Journal of Community Psychology, 45*, 358-369.
- Smith, C., Devaney, T. J., Akiva, T., & Sugar, S. A. (2009). Quality and accountability in the out-of-school-time sector. *New Directions for Youth Development, 121*, 109-127.
- Smith, C., Akiva T., Arrieux, D., & Jones, M. M. (2006). Quality at the point of service. *New Directions for Youth Development, 112*, 93-108.

#### Articles and book chapters

- Akiva, T. (2017). Youth employment. In K. Peppler (Ed.), *Encyclopedia of out-of-school learning* (pp. 847-848). Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications.
- Akiva, T. (2015-2016, fall/winter). Understanding and improving after-school settings for youths. *University of Pittsburgh School of Education News: Learning outside the classroom, Enriching education through informal learning* (pp. 10-11). Pittsburgh, PA: University of Pittsburgh.
- Smith, C., & Akiva, T. (2008). Quality accountability: Improving fidelity of broad developmentally focused interventions. In H. Yoshikawa & B. Shinn (Eds.), *Toward positive youth development: Transforming schools and community programs* (pp. 192-212). New York: Oxford University Press.
- Akiva, T. (2007). Getting to engagement: Building an effective after-school program. *HighScope ReSource, Spring*. Ypsilanti, MI: HighScope Press.
- Akiva, T. (2007). HighScope eTools open high tech doors to learning. HighScope ReSource, Spring. Ypsilanti, MI: HighScope Press.
- Akiva, T., & Yohalem, N. (2006). *Quality systems: Lessons from early efforts to disseminate the Youth PQA*. Washington, DC: The Forum for Youth Investment.
- Akiva, T. (2005). Turning training into results: The new Youth Program Quality Assessment. *HighScope ReSource, Fall/Winter*. Ypsilanti, MI: HighScope Press. 21-24.
- Schweinhardt (former last name), T. (2002). The camp community and the world community. *Camping Magazine, Mar/Apr*, 30-33.

#### Reports

- Akiva, T., DeMand, A., \*McNamara, A., Delale-O'Connor, L. (2016). *Evaluation of the 2016 Pittsburgh Learn & Earn summer youth employment program*. Pittsburgh, PA: University of Pittsburgh.
- Akiva, T., DeMand, A., Delale-O'Connor, L., \*Horner, C. G., \*McNamara, A., & \*Kehoe, S. (2016). *Evaluation of the 2015 Pittsburgh Learn & Earn summer youth employment program*. Pittsburgh, PA: University of Pittsburgh.

- Akiva, T., Cross, A. B., Delale-O'Connor, L., \*Carey, R. L., & \*Brier, K. (2015). *Youth-led social change in Pittsburgh: Evaluation of The Heinz Endowments Youth Organizing Initiative, year 1*. Pittsburgh, PA: University of Pittsburgh.
- Akiva, T., & \*Horner, C. G. (2013). *A comparison of professional competency frameworks: Child and Youth Care Professional Certification and Pennsylvania Early Learning Keys to Quality School-Age Credential*. Pittsburgh, PA: University of Pittsburgh.
- Smith, C., Akiva, T., Sugar, S. A., Lo, Y. J., Frank, K. A., Devaney, T., Cortina, K., & Peck, S. P. (2012). *Continuous quality improvement in afterschool settings: Impact findings from the Youth Program Quality Intervention study*. Washington, DC: The Forum for Youth Investment.
- Akiva, T., & McGovern, G. (2010). *Knowledge gains from professional development training: Report on the Palm Beach County Afterschool Educator Certificate Pilot*. Available at <http://cypq.org/publications>.
- Sugar, S., Hansen, D., Wallace, L., Bertoletti, J., & Akiva, T. (2010). *Quality matters: The pilot report to the community*. Kansas City, MO: United Way of Greater Kansas City.
- Sugar, S., Wallace, L., Akiva, T., & Devaney, T. (2010). *Quality counts: Nashville After Zone Alliance quality improvement pilot final report*. Available at <http://cypq.org/publications>.
- Akiva, T. (2009). *The Camp Program Quality Assessment (Camp PQA) development and pilot study*. Ypsilanti, MI: David P. Weikart Center for Youth Program Quality.
- Smith, C., Blazeovski, J., Akiva, T., & Pell, L. (2008). *Final Report on the Palm Beach Quality Improvement System Pilot: Model Implementation and Program Quality Improvement in 38 After-School Programs*. Available at <http://cypq.org/publications>.

#### Training Support Materials and Research Briefs

- Akiva, T. & Li, J. (2016). Child-Adult Relationships are the Active Ingredient. *American Camp Association Briefing Papers Series*. Online at [www.ACAcamps.org/volunteers/care/carebriefings](http://www.ACAcamps.org/volunteers/care/carebriefings).
- Akiva, T., Li, J., Julian, M., \*Horner, C. G., & \*Martin, K. M. (2014). *Simple Interactions: An approach to professional development for adults who work with children or youth: The "how-to" manual for practitioners*. Pittsburgh, PA: University of Pittsburgh.
- Series Editor and author for 10 training guidebooks (2010-2011). Guidebooks are 50-100 pages in length and contain reviews of relevant research along with informational and worksheet materials to support live training. Titles: *Active learning, Ask-listen-encourage, Building community, Cooperative learning, Homework help, Planning and review, Reframing conflict, Structure and clear limits, Teen advisory council, Youth voice*. Washington, DC: The Forum for Youth Investment.
- Series Editor and author for 12 online courses (2010-2011). Courses take approximately one hour to complete and are designed for adult staff from youth development programs. Titles: *Active learning, Ask-listen-encourage, Building community, Cooperative learning, Homework help, Planning and review, Reframing conflict, Structure and clear limits, Youth PQA essentials, Youth PQA free course, Youth PQA video practice, Youth voice*. Available at [learning.cypq.org](http://learning.cypq.org).
- Series Editor and author for 3 titles (2010) in Technical Assistance Briefs: *External assessment using the Youth Program Quality Assessment, Program self-assessment using the Youth Program Quality Assessment, The Youth Program Quality Intervention*. Available at <http://cypq.org/publications>.

Series Editor and author for 2 titles (2010) in *Case Study Briefs: Making afterschool work for high school youth: A one-year turnaround in 21<sup>st</sup> CCLC, The Michigan Technical Assistance and Coaching Support Services (TACSS)*. Available at <http://cypq.org/publications>.

Series Editor and author for 4 training guidebooks on usage of observational assessment instrument (2007): *Youth PQA training guide, Youth PQA handbook, Planning with data, Youth PQA training of trainers*. Ypsilanti, MI: HighScope Press.

Author of two training guidebooks (2005). *Learning methods, Interaction and support strategies*. Ypsilanti, MI: HighScope Press.

## PRESENTATIONS

\* = graduate student or post-doctoral fellow

Conference presentations (refereed)

\*Rupp, K., Taverno Ross, S. E., Gary-Webb, T. L., Akiva, T., & Jakicic, J. M. (2017, June). *Activity interventions and programming in youth*. Poster at the annual conference of the American College of Sports Medicine, Denver, CO.

\*McNamara, A. R., Akiva, T., Wardrip, P., & Brahms, L. (2017, April). *The interactivity of learning through making*. Round table at the annual American Educational Research Association conference, San Antonio, TX.

\*McNamara, A. R., Schnakenberg, J. & Akiva, T. (2017, March). *Simple Interactions outdoors*. Presented at the Pennsylvania Association of Environmental Educators annual conference, Sandy Lake, PA.

\*McNamara, A. R., Wardrip, P., Akiva, T., & Brahms, L. (2016, October). *Making a difference: Design strategies to engage underrepresented communities in maker spaces*. Presentation at the annual Digital Media, and Learning (DML) Conference, Irvine, CA.

\*Horner, C. G., Akiva, T., & Galla, B. (2016, October). *Personas as a window to adolescents' emotional interactions online*. Poster presented at the Society for Research in Child Development's Special Topic Meeting on Technology and Media in Children's Development, Irvine, C.A.

Schnakenberg, J., \*McNamara, A., & Akiva, T. (2016, October). *A Professional Development Approach to Supporting Child-Adult Interactions in Environmental Education Programs*. Poster presented at the annual North American Association for Environmental Education, Madison, WI.

Wanless, S. B., & Akiva, T. (2016, September). *Social-emotional learning in out-of-school time*. APOST Fall Conference, Pittsburgh, PA.

Wardrip, P., Brahms, L., Akiva, T., & \*McNamara, A. (2016, September). *Facilitating hands-on learning*. Poster presented at the annual Association of Science Technology Centers conference, Tampa, FL.

\*McNamara, A., Wardrip, P., Akiva, T., & Brahms, L. (2016, October). *Making a difference: Design strategies to engage underrepresented communities in maker spaces*. Presentation at the annual Digital Media, and Learning (DML) Conference, Irvine, CA.

Akiva, T., Li, J., \*Horner, C. G., Martin, K. (2016, April). *The Simple Interactions Tool for Observing Adult-Child Interactions Across Developmental Contexts*. In B. L. Alford (Chair), *Classroom observation: Instruments, application, and findings*. Paper session at the annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association, Washington, DC.

- Akiva, T. (2016, April). *Growing up across settings: Finding support, identity, and motivation in a multi-setting world*. Discussant for paper session at the annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association, Washington, DC.
- Martin, K., \*Horner, C. G., Akiva, T., McNamara, A. (2016, April). Simple Interactions: An innovative approach to OST Staff professional development. In M. L. Baker (Chair), *Supporting and strengthening after-school programs*. Paper session at the annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association, Washington, DC.
- Wardrip, P., Akiva, T., \*McNamara, A., & Brahms., L. (2016, April). From the big hype to the hard work: Understanding educator implementation of digital badges. In K. Davis & C. Gamrat (Chairs), *Democratizing Learning through Digital Badges: Theoretical and Analytical Frameworks to Advance Design and Research*. Poster session at the annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association, Washington, DC.
- Akiva, T., Cross, A., \*Carey, R. L., & Delale-O'Connor, L. (2016, April). Reasons youth engage in activism programs: Social justice work or sanctuary? In J. Mahoney (Session Organizer), *Understanding adolescent participation in out-of-school activities and programs*. Paper symposium at the biennial meeting of the Society for Research on Adolescence, Baltimore, MD.
- Akiva, T., Martinez, A., & \*Povis, K. T. (2015, June). Bringing in the tech: The Remake Learning Digital Corps. In \*S. Kehoe (Session Organizer), *Designing to bridge contexts in a learning ecosystem*. Presentation and poster at the annual Digital Media and Learning (DML) Conference, Los Angeles, CA.
- Akiva, T., \*Horner, C. G., & Schall, J. D. (2014, April). Youth beliefs about where “real” learning occurs: Lifewide vs. school-centric views. In J. N. Jones (Session Organizer), *Evolution of learning and programming in the out-of-school time field*. Paper session at the annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association, Philadelphia, PA.
- \*Horner, C. G., Akiva, T., & Schall, J. D. (2014, April). *Emotional expression patterns in urban youths’ developmental contexts: Differences in belonging, engagement, and motivation*. Roundtable at the annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association, Philadelphia, PA.
- Wanless, S.B, Wallace, T., Cartier, J., Akiva, T., Ferrara, A., & Johnson, C. (2014, April). Helping preservice teachers feel ready to teach: Mindfulness and self-regulation. In K. Schonert-Reichl (Chair), *Social and emotional learning in teacher preparation: Emerging policy, research, and programs*. Paper session at the annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association, Philadelphia, PA.
- Akiva, T., Jacobs-Priebe, L., & Russell, J. L. (2014, March). “Growing with youth”: How adult leaders support youth developmental progression within youth programs. In R. Larson (Chair), *Understanding the roles, practices, and expertise of youth program leaders*. Paper session at the biennial meeting of the Society for Research on Adolescence, Austin, TX.
- Schall, J., Akiva, T., & \*Horner, C. G. (2014, March). *Like school, home, or just for fun: Youth perceptions of an afterschool program*. Poster at the biennial meeting of the Society for Research on Adolescence, Austin, TX.
- Wu, H. J., Akiva, T., & Van Egeren, L. A. (2014, March). Development of leadership conceptions among adolescents in youth-adult partnership programs. In J. Petrokubi (Chair), *Youth as co-creators: How does civic development happen within the context of youth-adult partnership?* Paper session at the biennial meeting of the Society for Research on Adolescence, Austin, TX.
- Akiva, T., Sibthorp, J., & Bialeschki, M. D. (2013, April). Can we measure “quality” in complex social systems? A case study of summer camps. In N. Zarret (Chair), *The utility and limitations of*



- assessment tools for measuring the quality of youth settings*. Paper symposium at the biennial meeting of the Society for Research on Child Development, Seattle, WA.
- Akiva, T., Arel, S., Benn, R. (2012, June). The effects of mindfulness training on caregivers of children with special needs: A qualitative analysis [Abstract]. *BMC Complementary and Alternative Medicine* 2012, 12(Suppl 1), P365.
- Benn, R., Akiva, T., Arel, S., Roeser, R., Eccles J. S. (2012, June). Reducing stress and cultivating well being in educators and parents with special needs children [Abstract]. *BMC Complementary and Alternative Medicine* 2012, 12(Suppl 1):P80.
- Akiva, T. (2012, June). Mindfulness training outcomes for special education teachers. In J. S. Eccles (Chair), *Mindfulness in education*. Symposium at the 42<sup>nd</sup> annual meeting of the Jean Piaget Society, Toronto, Canada.
- Akiva, T., & Cortina, K. S. (2012, April). *Correlates for youth engagement in organized activities: Participation and staff instructional practices*. Paper at the annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association, Vancouver, BC.
- Akiva, T. (2012, March). *Youth-driven programs: Involving adolescents in leadership and governance in youth programs*. Chair for paper symposium at the biennial meeting of the Society for Research on Adolescence, Vancouver, BC.
- Akiva, T. (2012, March). Involving youth in running youth programs: How common and what does it do for youth? In T. Akiva (Chair), *Youth-driven programs: Involving adolescents in leadership and governance in youth programs*. Paper symposium at the biennial meeting of the Society for Research on Adolescence, Vancouver, BC.
- Phillips, S. & Akiva, T. (2012, March). *Practicing continuous quality improvement in afterschool: The complications of coupling*. Poster at the biennial meeting of the Society for Research on Adolescence, Vancouver, BC.
- Kornbluh, M., Duddy, A., Akiva, T., Wu, H. C., & Van Egeren, L. A. (2012, March). *Challenges adults face in youth-adult partnerships*. Poster at the biennial meeting of the Society for Research on Adolescence, Vancouver, BC.
- Van Egeren, L. A., Wu, H. C., Rana, M., & Akiva, T. (2012, March). *Building youth into organizational management increases youth 21<sup>st</sup> century skills*. Poster at the biennial meeting of the Society for Research on Adolescence, Vancouver, BC.
- Akiva, T., Brummet, Q., Sugar, S., Smith, C. (2011, April). Staff instructional practices, youth engagement, and belonging in out-of-school time programs. In D. J. Shernoff (Chair), *Advances in out-of-school time research: Examining the variables important for successful OST programming and experiences*. Paper symposium at the annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association, New Orleans, LA.
- Akiva, T., Arel, S., Benn, R., Eccles, J. S., Roeser, R. (2011, April). *Mindfulness-based professional development for special educators: Participant observation in a randomized control pilot study*. Poster at the biennial meeting of the Society for Research on Child Development. Montreal, Quebec, Canada.
- Akiva, T., Pearson, L., Sugar, S., Peck, S. C., Smith, C., & Denault, A. (2010, March). Linking after-school instructional practices to youth engagement: A pattern-centered approach. In A. E. Hoxie (Chair), *Features of after-school programs related to positive youth development*. Paper symposium at the biennial meeting of the Society for Research on Adolescence, Philadelphia, PA.

Akiva, T. (2009, April). *Unpacking support for belongingness in youth programs: A multilevel, mixed methods study*. Poster at the biennial meeting of the Society for Research on Child Development. Denver, CO.

#### Invited presentations

Akiva, T. & Vargas, K. (2017, June). *Simple Interactions: A partnership to optimize and improve professional development for out-of-school time staff*. Presentation and poster at Re-inventing Tomorrow's Schools: Innovations in Pennsylvania through Community-University Partnerships. Pennsylvania State University, State College, PA.

Tananis, C., Akiva, T., & Fertman, C. (2017, June). *Practice as inquiry: Curriculum development with coherence*. Presentation at Reclaiming to Innovating: The Carnegie Project on the Education Doctorate at 10 years, Pittsburgh, PA.

Trovato, C., Akiva, T., & \*Hecht, M. (2017, June). *Learning tour: Designing an out-of-school learning EdD program*. Presentation at Reclaiming to innovating: The Carnegie Project on the Education Doctorate at 10 years, Pittsburgh, PA.

Akiva, T. (2017, June). *Supporting mentors to support strong girls*. Presentation to the Strong Women Strong Girls Executive Board planning retreat. Pittsburgh, PA.

Akiva, T., & \*Murray, I. E. (2016, October). *After-school, Community-Based Spaces: Responding to the Needs of Urban Youth*. Center for Urban Education Brown Bag presentation and facilitated discussion. University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA.

Akiva, T. (2016, July). *Youth Engagement*. Invited consultant for The Sprout Fund Badging Program Design Workshop, Pittsburgh, PA.

Akiva, T. & Krofcheck, V. K. (2016, June) *2015 Learn & Earn Summer Youth Employment Program*. Poster at Re-inventing Tomorrow's Schools: Innovations in Pennsylvania through Community-University Partnerships. Pennsylvania State University, State College, PA.

Akiva, T. (2013, April). *Involving youth in running youth programs: Programmatic prevalence and correlations with youth motivation and skills*. Invited presentation for Learning Science and Policy Seminar, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA.

Akiva, T. (2013, March). Panel presenter at DML Conference Report Out Lunch & Learn, Pittsburgh, PA.

Akiva, T. (2013, March). *Youth-adult relationships in afterschool programs: The power of positive connections*. Invited presentation at the Pennsylvania Department of Education Extra Learning Opportunities Conference, State College, PA.

Akiva, T. (2013, February). Invited expert at Kids + Creativity Network Primer, Pittsburgh, PA.

Akiva, T. (2012, November). *Positive connections*. Invited presentation for APOST professional development symposium, Pittsburgh, PA.

Akiva, T. (2011, May). *Moving Forward*. Invited presentation for the *10-Year Follow-Up to Community Programs to Promote Youth Development*. Institute of Medicine/National Research Council, Washington, DC.

Akiva, T. (2009, August). *Using data to improve your program*. Invited plenary address presented at the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Center Fall Kickoff. Lansing, MI.

Akiva, T. (2009, April). *The new camp quality assessment*. Invited presentation to the American Camp Association Committee for the Advancement of Research and Evaluation. Indianapolis, IN.

Akiva, T. (2008). *Why quality matters: Assessing and improving quality in youth programs*. Invited presentation for the 4<sup>th</sup> annual Youth Policy Institute, hosted by the National Conference of State Legislatures. Louisville, KY.

## TEACHING

### University of Pittsburgh

Applied Developmental Psychology Professional Seminar I, II (MS)  
Practitioner Inquiry I (EdD)  
Foundations 1: Framing, Identifying, and Investigating Problems of Practice (EdD)  
Child and Youth Development I: Introduction (MS, BA)  
Child and Youth Development II: Advanced Issues (MS, PhD)  
Child and Youth Work Basic Course (MS, BA)  
Development - Middle Childhood through Adolescence (MS)  
Professional Seminar in Applied Developmental Psychology (BA)

### University of Pittsburgh guest lectures

Neuroscience 1014, Speaking of Science: The Science of Education  
Science outreach summer program, staff training  
Applied Developmental Psychology Identity & Leadership

### University of Michigan

Educational Psychology and Human Development (BA)  
Introduction to Developmental Psychology (BA, Graduate Student Instructor)  
Educational Psychology (BA, Graduate Student Instructor)  
Research Methods (BA, Graduate Student Instructor)  
Teaching with Technology (MA, Assistant Instructor)

### Washtenaw Community College

Composition I  
Composition I (Online)

## PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

### University of Pittsburgh

School of Education Technology Committee (Chair), 2016-present  
School of Education Technology Committee (Member), 2014-2016  
School of Education EdD Committee (Member), 2016-present  
Applied Developmental Psychology Master's Program Committee (Member), 2014-present  
Faculty Search Committees (Member), 2013, 2015