

GINA M. BESENYI, MPH, PHD
Department of Clinical and Digital Health Sciences
College of Allied Health Sciences, Augusta University
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Academic Appointments

- 2015-present Augusta University, College of Allied Health Sciences
Assistant Professor, Department of Clinical and Digital Health Sciences
- 2011-2012 Kansas State University, College of Arts and Sciences
Instructor, Department of Kinesiology

Education and Training

Doctor of Philosophy, Arnold School of Public Health, University of South Carolina, Columbia, South Carolina (2015)

- Department of Health Promotion, Education, and Behavior
- Dissertation Topic: Developing mobile technology to engage youth in active living policy, systems, and environmental health promotion efforts
- Dissertation Committee: Dr. Andrew T. Kaczynski (advisor), Dr. Sara Wilcox, Dr. Gabrielle Turner-McGrievy, Dr. Benjamin Schooley

Master of Public Health, Graduate School, Kansas State University, Manhattan, Kansas (2011)

- Dual Emphasis: Physical activity and nutrition
- Thesis Topic: Park environments and youth physical activity
- Thesis Committee: Dr. Andrew T. Kaczynski (advisor), Dr. Sonja Wilhelm Stanis, Dr. Melissa Bopp

Bachelor of Science, Department of Kinesiology, Kansas State University, Manhattan, Kansas (2003)

- Minor: Leadership Studies
- Kinesiology Practicum Topic: Exercise prescription for stroke rehabilitation
- Leadership Practicum Topic: Leadership theories in group exercise

Publications

1. **Besenyi, G.M.**, Diehl, P., Schooley, B., Turner-McGrievy, G.M., Wilcox, S., Wilhelm Stanis, S.A., Kaczynski, A.T. (under review). Development and testing of mobile technology for community engagement in park improvements: Validity and reliability of the eCPAT application with youth. Manuscript submitted for publication in *Translational Behavioral Medicine*.
2. Fair, M.L., Kaczynski, A.T., Hughey, S.M., **Besenyi, G.M.**, Powers, A.R. (under review). Evaluation of a youth-focused initiative to facilitate park usage, discovery, and physical activity in Greenville County, SC. Manuscript submitted for publication in *Preventing Chronic Disease*
3. Kaczynski, A.T., Schipperijn, J., Hipp, J.A., **Besenyi, G.M.**, Wilhelm Stanis, S.A., Hughey, S.M., & Wilcox, S. (revise and resubmit). ParkIndex: Development of a standardized metric of park access

for research and public health planning. Manuscript submitted for publication in *Preventive Medicine*.

4. Groshong, L., Wilhelm Stanis, S.A., Kaczynski, A.T., Hipp, J.A., **Besenyi, G.M.** (under review). Exploring attitudes, perceived norms, and self-efficacy: A foundation for theory-based messages to encourage park-based physical activity. Manuscript submitted for publication in the *Journal of Physical Activity and Health*.
5. Veitch, J., Abbott, G., Kaczynski, A.T., Wilhelm Stanis, S.A., **Besenyi, G.M.**, & Lamb, K. (in press). Park availability and physical activity, TV time, and overweight and obesity among women: Findings from Australia and the United States. Manuscript accepted for publication in *Health & Place*.
6. **Besenyi, G.M.**, Kaczynski, A.T., Wilhelm Stanis, S.A., Bergstrom, R., Oestman, K.B., & Colabianchi, N. (in press). Sex differences in the relationship between park proximity and features and youth physical activity. Manuscript accepted for publication in *Children, Youth, and Environments*.
7. **Besenyi, G.M.**, Fair, M.L., Hughey, S.M., Kaczynski, A.T., Powers, A., Dunlap, E., & LiveWell Greenville Park Hop Team (2015). Park Hop: Pilot evaluation of an inter-agency collaboration to promote park awareness, visitation, and physical activity in Greenville County, SC. *Journal of Park and Recreation Administration*, 33(4), 69-89.
8. Parsons, A., **Besenyi, G.M.**, Kaczynski, A.T., Wilhelm Stanis, S.A., Blake, C.E., & Barr-Anderson, D.A. (2015). Investigating issues of environmental justice in neighborhoods surrounding parks. *Journal of Leisure Research*, 47(2), 285.
9. Kaczynski, A.T., **Besenyi, G.M.**, Wilhelm Stanis, S.A., Koohsari, M.J., Oestman, K.B., Bergstrom, R., Potwarka, L.R., & Reis, R.S. (2014). Are park proximity and park features related to park use and physical activity among adults? Variations by multiple socio-demographic characteristics. *International Journal of Behavioral Nutrition and Physical Activity*, 11(146), 0146-4.
10. **Besenyi, G.M.**, Kaczynski, A.T., Wilhelm Stanis, S.A., Bergstrom, R., Lightner, J., & Hipp, A. (2014). Planning for health: A community-based spatial analysis of park availability and chronic disease across the lifespan. *Health and Place*, 27, 102-105.
11. Moore, J.B., Beets, M.W., **Besenyi, G.M.**, Kaczynski, A.T., Morris, S.F., & Kolbe, M.B. (2013). Sex moderates associations between perceptions of the physical and social environments and physical activity in youth. *American Journal of Health Promotion*, 29(2), 132-135.
12. Westley, T., Kaczynski, A.T., Wilhelm Stanis, S., & **Besenyi, G.M.** (2013). Parental neighborhood safety perceptions and their children's health behaviors: Associations by child age, gender, and household income. *Children, Youth, and Environments*, 23(3), 118-147
13. Kaczynski, A.T., Wilhelm Stanis, S.A., **Besenyi, G.M.**, & Child, S. (2013). Differences in youth and adult physical activity in park settings by sex and race/ethnicity. *Preventing Chronic Disease*, 10, 42.
14. **Besenyi, G.M.**, Kaczynski, A.T., Wilhelm Stanis, S.A., & Vaughan, K.B. (2013). Demographic variations in observed energy expenditure across park activity areas. *Preventive Medicine*, 56, 79-81.

15. Bai, H., Wilhelm Stanis, S.A., Kaczynski, A.T., & **Besenyi, G.M.** (2013). Perceptions of neighborhood park quality: Associations with physical activity and BMI. *Annals of Behavioral Medicine*, 45(1), 39-48.
16. Vaughan, K.B., Kaczynski, A.T., Wilhelm Stanis, S.A., **Besenyi, G.M.**, Bergstrom, R., & Heinrich, K.M. (2013). Exploring the distribution of park availability, features, and quality across Kansas City, Missouri by income and race/ethnicity: An environmental justice investigation. *Annals of Behavioral Medicine*, 45(1), 28-38.
17. Bopp, M., Kaczynski, A.T., & **Besenyi, G.M.** (2012). Active commuting influences among adults. *Preventive Medicine*, 54, 237-241.
18. Kaczynski, A.T., Wilhelm Stanis, S.A., & **Besenyi, G.M.** (2012). Development and testing of a community stakeholder park audit tool. *American Journal of Preventive Medicine*, 42(3), 242-249.
19. Kaczynski, A.T., Wilhelm Stanis, S.A., Hastmann, T., & **Besenyi, G.M.** (2011). Variations in observed park physical activity intensity level by gender, race, and age: Individual and joint effects. *Journal of Physical Activity and Health*, 8(S2), 151-160.

Professional Publications

1. Kaczynski, A.T., & **Besenyi, G.M.** (2011). Parks and physical activity: Green infrastructure for healthy communities. In *F as in fat: How obesity threatens America's future 2011*. Washington, DC: Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and Trust for America's Health.
2. Kaczynski, A.T., Wilhelm Stanis, S.A., **Besenyi, G.M.**, Vaughan, K.B., & Bai, H. (2011). Kansas City parks and physical activity project: A report to the City of Kansas City, Missouri Parks and Recreation Department. Manhattan, KS: Kansas State University.

Refereed Conference Presentations (* indicates student advisee)

1. **Besenyi, G.M.**, Wilhelm Stanis, S.A., & Kaczynski, A.T. (in press). eCPAT mobile technology: Linking healthcare providers with park resource information. Accepted for presentation at the *National Symposium for Parks and Recreation in Public Health*, February 10-12, 2016, Bloomington, IN
2. **Besenyi, G.M.**, Diehl, P., Schooley, B.L., Turner-McGrievy, G.M., Wilcox, S., Wilhelm Stanis, S.A., Kaczynski, A.T. (in press). Development and testing of mobile technology for community park improvements: Validity and reliability of the eCPAT application with youth. Accepted for presentation at the *13th Annual Active Living Research Conference*, January 31 – February 3, 2016, Clearwater Beach, FL.
3. Gallerani, D.G.*, **Besenyi, G.M.**, Wilhelm Stanis, S.A., & Kaczynski, A.T. (in press). “We actually care and we want to make the parks better”: Youth experiences, changes, and perceptions as community advocates. Accepted for presentation at the *13th Annual Active Living Research Conference*, January 31 – February 3, 2016, Clearwater Beach, FL.
4. Kaczynski, A.T., **Besenyi, G.M.**, Child, S., McIver, K.L., Colabianchi, N., Dowda, M., & Pate, R.R. (in press). Relationship of objective neighborhood quality attributes with youth physical activity: Findings

from the Healthy Communities Study. Accepted for presentation at the *13th Annual Active Living Research Conference*, January 31-February 3, 2016, Clearwater Beach, FL.

5. Fair, M.L., Kaczynski, A.T., Hughey, S.M., **Besenyi, G.B.**, Powers, A.R. (in press). Evaluation of a youth-focused initiative to facilitate park usage, discovery, and physical activity in Greenville County, SC. Accepted for presentation at the *13th Annual Active Living Research Conference*, January 31 – February 3, 2016, Clearwater Beach, FL.
6. Adlahka, D., Tully, M., **Besenyi, G.M.**, Mooney, S.J., Rundle, A.G., Hipp, J.A., Mantiega, A. (in press). Evaluating the uptake of built environments within natural experiments. Workshop accepted for presentation at the *13th Annual Active Living Research Conference*, January 31 – February 3, 2016, Clearwater Beach, FL.
7. Kaczynski, A.T., Wilhelm Stanis, S.A., **Besenyi, G.M.**, Souza, D. (2015). The Electronic Community Park Audit Tool (eCPAT): Developing technology to promote physical activity and health through parks. Workshop presented at the *National Recreation and Park Association Annual Conference*, September 15-17, 2015, Las Vegas, Nevada.
8. **Besenyi, G.M.**, Kaczynski, A.T., Wilhelm Stanis, S.A., & Veitch, J. (2015). Using technology for community-based active living advocacy and environmental change: The Community Park Audit Tool App (eCPAT). Workshop presented at the *14th Annual International Society for Behavioral Nutrition and Physical Activity*, June 3-6, 2015, Edinburgh, Scotland.
9. Kaczynski, A.T., Schipperijn, J., Hipp, J.A., Wilhelm Stanis, S.A., **Besenyi, G.M.**, & Hughey, S.M. (2015). ParkIndex: A tool for advancing parks and public health research and practice. Symposia presented at the *14th Annual International Society for Behavioral Nutrition and Physical Activity*, June 3-6, 2015, Edinburgh, Scotland.
10. **Besenyi, G.M.**, Steedley, M., Diehl, P., Schooley, B., Turner-McGrievy, B., Wilcox, S., Wilhelm Stanis, S., Smith, T., & Kaczynski, A.T. (2015). eCPAT: Development and beta testing of mobile technology to engage youth in active living policy, systems, and environmental health promotion efforts. Oral presentation at the *American Academy of Health Behavior 15th Annual Scientific Meeting*, March 15-18, 2015, San Antonio, TX.
11. Kaczynski, A.T., **Besenyi, G.M.**, & Wilhelm Stanis, S.A. (2015). Using technology for community-based advocacy and environmental change: The Community Park Audit Tool App (eCPAT). Invited workshop at the *American Academy of Health Behavior 15th Annual Scientific Meeting*, March 15-18, 2015, San Antonio, TX
12. **Besenyi, G.M.**, Kaczynski, A.T., Wilhelm Stanis, S.A., & Smith, T. (2015). Using technology for community-based active living advocacy and environmental change: The Community Park Audit Tool App (eCPAT). Invited workshop at the *12th Annual Active Living Research Conference*, February 22-25, 2015, San Diego, CA.
13. **Besenyi, G.M.**, Carter, T.K., Pope, A.W., Gordon, K.L., Freeman, B., & Kaczynski, A.T. (2014). The Healthy Young People Empowerment (HYPE) Project: Facilitator's Guide, PHEHP Public Health Materials Contest winner. Oral presentation at the *American Public Health Association 142nd Annual Meeting and Exposition*, November 15-19, 2014, New Orleans, LA.

14. **Besenyi, G.M.**, Kaczynski, A.T., Veitch, J., Abbott, G., Wilhelm Stanis, S.A., & Bergstrom, R.D. (2014). Park proximity and multiple health outcomes: Findings from the United States and Australia. Oral presentation at the *American Public Health Association 142nd Annual Meeting and Exposition*, November 15-19, 2014, New Orleans, LA.
15. **Besenyi, G.M.**, Moore, J.B., Remington, K., & Kaczynski, A.T. (2014). Associations of neighborhood greenness with objectivity measured physical activity in urban and rural middle school youth. Oral presentation at the *American Public Health Association 142nd Annual Meeting and Exposition*, November 15-19, 2014, New Orleans, LA.
16. Heboyan, V., **Besenyi, G.M.**, Pope, A.W., & Oniffrey, T. (2014). Rates and correlates of physical activity among underserved minority populations: Evidence from South Carolina's LGBT Tobacco Users. Poster presentation at the *International Society for Behavioral Nutrition and Physical Activity*, May 21-24, 2014, San Diego, CA.
17. Kaczynski, A.T., Wilhelm Stanis, S.A., Hipp, J.A., Groshong, L., & **Besenyi, G.M.** (2014). Examining the efficacy of point-of-decision prompts for encouraging park-based physical activity. Oral presentation at the *American Academy for Health Behavior 14th Annual Scientific Meeting*, March 16-19, 2014, Charleston, SC.
18. **Besenyi, G.M.**, Fair, M.L., Dunlap, E., Kaczynski, A.T., Powers, A., & the LiveWell Greenville Park Hop Team. (2014). Park Hop: An inter-agency collaboration to promote park visitation and physical activity in Greenville, SC. Poster presentation at the *11th Annual Active Living Research Conference*, March 9-12, 2014, San Diego, CA.
19. **Besenyi, G.M.**, Carter, T.K., Pope, A.W., Gordon, K.L., Hebda, S., & Kaczynski, A.T. (2014). Youth advocacy for policy, systems, and environmental changes for healthy eating/active living: Pilot evaluation of the Health Young People Empowerment (HYPE) Project. Oral presentation at the *11th Annual Active Living Research Conference*, March 9-12, 2014, San Diego, CA.
20. Child, S., **Besenyi, G.M.**, & Kaczynski, A.T. (2014). Environmental impacts on health: Arguing for a fundamental cause approach. Oral presentation at the *Fourth International Conference on Health, Wellness, and Society*, March 14-15, 2014, Vancouver, Canada.
21. Child, S., **Besenyi, G.M.**, & Ajja, R. (2013). Exploring sedentary park users' perceptions of social and physical park environments: A qualitative approach. Poster presentation at the *American Public Health Association 141st Annual Meeting and Exposition*, November 2-6, 2013, Boston, MA.
22. **Besenyi, G.M.**, Lenkerd, A., Kaczynski, A.T., Wilhelm Stanis, S.A., & Blake, C.E. (2013). Equitable Communities? A GIS spatial analysis of unhealthy characteristics around parks. Oral presentation at the *URISA GIS and Public Health Conference*, June 17-20, 2013, Miami, FL.
23. **Besenyi, G.M.**, Carter, T.K., Bozard, E., Gordon, K., Pope, A.W., & Kaczynski, A.T. (2013). Engaging youth in policy, systems, and environmental change efforts: Development of the Healthy Young People Empowerment (HYPE) Curriculum. Poster presentation at the *10th Annual Active Living Research Conference*, February 26-28, 2013, San Diego, CA.
24. Kaczynski, A.T., **Besenyi, G.M.**, Wilhelm Stanis, S.A., Vaughan, K.B., Bergstrom, R.D., & Reis, R. (2013). Socio-demographic variations in the association of park proximity and facilities with park use

and physical activity among adults. Oral presentation at the *10th Annual Active Living Research Conference*, February 26-28, 2013, San Diego, CA.

25. Wilhelm Stanis, S.A., Kaczynski, A.T., **Besenyi, G.M.**, & Vaughan, K.B. (2013). Using the Community Park Audit Tool for community-based advocacy and environmental change. Invited workshop presented workshop at the *10th Annual Active Living Research Te Conference*, February 26-28, 2013, San Diego, CA.
26. Moore, J.B., Beets, M.W., **Besenyi, G.M.**, Kaczynski, A.T., Morris, S.F., & Kolbe, M.B. (2013). Sex moderates the associations between perceptions of the physical and social environment with physical activity in youth. Poster presentation at the *10th Annual Active Living Research Conference*, February 28-30, 2013, San Diego, CA.
27. Bai, H., Wilhelm Stanis, S.A., Kaczynski, A.T., & **Besenyi, G.M.** (2013). Influence of perceived park quality and facility use on youth park visits and park-based physical activity. Poster presentation at the *10th Annual Active Living Research Conference*, February 28-30, 2013, San Diego, CA.
28. **Besenyi, G.M.**, Kaczynski, A.T., Wilhelm Stanis, S.A., Bergstrom, R.D., & Lightner, J.S. (2012). Protecting our health: A GIS spatial analysis of park availability and chronic disease across age groups. Presented at the *American Public Health Association 140th Annual Meeting and Exposition*, October 27-31, 2012, San Francisco, CA.
29. Bai, H., Wilhelm Stanis, S.A., Kaczynski, A.T., & **Besenyi, G.M.** (2012). Perceptions of neighborhood park quality: Differences across demographic and visit characteristics. Presented at the 2012 *International Symposium on Society and Resource Management*, June 17-21, 2012, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada.
30. **Besenyi, G.M.**, Vaughan, K.B., Kaczynski, A.T., Wilhelm Stanis, S.A., & Bergstrom, R.D. (2012). Are we too dense? A geographic analysis of fast food density, park space, and body mass index across Kansas City, Missouri. Oral presentation at the *International Society of Behavioral Nutrition and Physical Activity Annual Meeting*, May 23-26, 2012, Austin, TX.
31. Vaughan, K.B., Kaczynski, A.T., Wilhelm Stanis, S.A., Bergstrom, R., **Besenyi, G.M.**, & Heinrich, K.M. (2012). Deprivation amplification in Kansas City, Missouri: Exploring differences in park quantity and quality by income and race. Poster presentation at the *International Society of Behavioral Nutrition and Physical Activity Annual Meeting*, May 23-26, 2012, Austin, TX.
32. Engstrom, T.W., Kaczynski, A.T., Wilhelm Stanis, S.A., & **Besenyi, G.M.** (2012). Parental neighborhood safety perceptions and children's health behaviors: Variations by age, gender, and household income. Poster presentation at the *International Society of Behavioral Nutrition and Physical Activity Annual Meeting*, May 23-26, 2012, Austin, TX.
33. **Besenyi, G.M.**, Kaczynski, A.T., Wilhelm Stanis, S.A., Bergstrom, R., & Vaughan, K.B. (2012). Exploring gender differences in the relationship between park proximity and features and youth physical activity. Poster presentation at the *9th Annual Active Living Research Conference*, March 12-14, 2012, San Diego, CA.
34. Vaughan, K.B., Kaczynski, A.T., Wilhelm Stanis, S.A., Bergstrom, R.D., & **Besenyi, G.M.** (2012). Environmental justice and physical activity: Examining disparities in access to parks in Kansas City,

Missouri. Oral presentation at the 9th Annual Active Living Research Conference, March 12-14, 2012, San Diego, CA.

35. Bai, H., Wilhelm Stanis, S.A., Kaczynski, A.T., & **Besenyi, G.M.** (2012). Perceptions of neighborhood park quality: Associations with physical activity and BMI. Oral presentation at the 9th Annual Active Living Research Conference, March 12-14, 2012, San Diego, CA.
36. Kaczynski, A.T., Wilhelm Stanis, S.A., & **Besenyi, G.M.** (2011). Community park audit tool: Development, reliability, and outcomes among stakeholders. Oral presentation at the *National Recreation and Park Association Leisure Research Symposium*, November 1-4, 2011, Atlanta, GA.
37. **Besenyi, G.M.**, Kaczynski, A.T., Bopp, M.J., & Wittman, P. (2011). Gender and age differences in motivators and barriers for active commuting. Poster presentation at the *American Public Health Association 139th Annual Meeting and Exposition*, October 30-November 2, 2011, Washington, DC.
38. **Besenyi, G.M.**, Wilhelm Stanis, S., & Kaczynski, A.T. (2011). Observed physical activity by park setting among youth by gender, age, and race/ethnicity. Poster presentation at the 8th Annual Active Living Research Conference, February 22-24, 2011, San Diego, CA.
39. Kaczynski, A.T., Wilhelm Stanis, S., & **Besenyi, G.M.** (2011). Development and testing of a community stakeholder park audit tool. Invited plenary presentation at the 8th Annual Active Living Research Conference, February 22-24, 2011, San Diego, CA.
40. Kaczynski, A.T., Wilhelm Stanis, S.A., Hastmann, T., & **Besenyi, G.M.** (2010). Variations in observed park physical activity intensity level by gender and race across age groups. Oral presentation at the *International Society of Behavioral Nutrition and Physical Activity Annual Meeting*, June 9-12, 2010, Minneapolis, MN.

Invited and Professional Conference Presentations

1. **Besenyi, G.M.**, Kaczynski, A.T., & Wilhelm Stanis, S.A. (under review). Using mobile technology to engage communities in public health advocacy and promotion: The Community Park Audit Tool (eCPAT). Workshop submitted for presentation at the 87th Annual Georgia Public Health Association Meeting and Conference, March 22-23, 2016, Atlanta, GA.
2. **Besenyi, G.M.**, Steedley, M., Diehl, P., Schooley, B., & Kaczynski, A.T. (2014). eCPAT: Development and testing of mobile technology to engage youth in active living policy, systems, and environmental health promotion efforts. Poster presentation at the *2014 SEC Symposium on Obesity*, September 21-23, 2014, Atlanta, GA.
3. **Besenyi, G.M.**, Kaczynski, A.T., & Davis, P. (2014). eCPAT: Engaging youth in the development and testing of an app for park research and policy actions. Oral presentation at the *South Carolina Recreation and Park Association Conference*, September 14-16, 2014, Hilton Head, SC.
4. **Besenyi, G.M.** (2014). eCPAT: Development and testing of mobile technology to engage youth in active living policy, systems, and environmental health promotion efforts: App development. Oral presentation at the *University of South Carolina Graduate Student Day*, April 11, 2014, Columbia, SC.

5. Diehl, P., Schooley, B., **Besenyi, G.M.**, & Kaczynski, A.T. (2014). Facilitating community health promotion: Design and usability testing of a mobile community park audit app. Poster presentation at the *University of South Carolina Hospitality, Retail, and Sport Management Research Symposium*, March 28, 2014, Columbia, SC
6. Carter, T.K., **Besenyi, G.M.**, Bozard, E.L., Gordon, K.L., Pope, A.W., Splittgerber, A., & Kaczynski, A.T. (2013). Engaging youth in policy, systems, and environmental change. Oral presentation at the *American School Health Conference*, October 7-12, 2013, Myrtle Beach, SC.
7. **Besenyi, G.M.**, Carter, T.K., Bozard, E., Gordon, K., Pope, A.W., & Kaczynski, A.T. (2013). Building youth capacity for policy, systems, and environmental change for healthy eating and active living: Development of the Healthy Young People Empowerment (HYPE) Project. Oral presentation at the *South Carolina Public Health Association Annual Conference*, May 21-24, 2013, Myrtle Beach, SC.
8. **Besenyi, G.M.**, Child, S.T., & Ajja, R. (2013). Exploring sedentary park users' perceptions of social and physical park environments: A qualitative approach. Poster presentation at the *South Carolina Public Health Association Annual Conference*, May 21-24, 2013, Myrtle Beach, SC.
9. **Besenyi, G.M.**, Kaczynski, A.T., Carter, T., Bozard, E., Pope, A., Gordon, K., & Splittgerber, A. (2013). Building youth capacity for policy, systems, and environment change for healthy eating and active living: Development of the Healthy Young People Empowerment (HYPE) Project. Oral presentation at the *2013 Conference on the Value of Play*, February 17-20, 2013, Clemson, SC.
10. Kaczynski, A.T., **Besenyi, G.M.**, Carter, T., Bozard, E., Pope, A., Gordon, K., & Splittgerber, A. (2012). Building youth capacity for policy, systems, and environment change for healthy eating and active living: Development of the Healthy Young People Empowerment (HYPE) Project. Oral presentation at the *South Carolina Clinical and Translational Research Institute and Boeing Center for Children's Wellness Scientific Retreat on Obesity*, October 19, 2012, Charleston, SC.
11. Kaczynski, A.T., Wilhelm Stanis, S.A., & **Besenyi, G.M.** (2012). Engaging stakeholders in evaluating and promoting park environments for physical activity. Oral presentation at the *67th Annual South Carolina Recreation and Park Association Conference*, September 9-11, 2012, Greenville, SC.
12. Kaczynski, A.T., Wilhelm Stanis, S.A., & **Besenyi, G.M.** (2012). Youth physical activity within park activity areas: Differences by gender and race/ethnicity. Oral presentation at the *2012 Conference on the Value of Play*, February 26-29, 2012, Clemson, SC.
13. Kaczynski, A.T., Wilhelm Stanis, S.A., **Besenyi, G.M.**, McHenry, M.L., & Vaughan, K.B. (2011). Evaluating park environments for physical activity. Oral presentation at the *National Recreation and Park Association Annual Congress*, November 1-4, 2011, Atlanta, GA.
14. **Besenyi, G.M.**, Kaczynski, A.T., & Wilhelm Stanis, S. A. (2011). Creating healthier communities: Using the community park audit tool to facilitate advocacy for park-based physical activity. Oral presentation at the *Kansas Public Health Association Fall Conference*, September 21-22, 2011, Wichita, KS.

15. Vaughan, K.B., Kaczynski, A.T., Wilhelm Stanis, S.A., Bergstrom, R., & **Besenyi, G.M.** (2011). Environmental justice and physical activity: Examining disparities in access to parks in Kansas City, MO. Poster presentation at the *68th Annual Kansas Public Health Association Fall Conference*, September 21-22, 2011, Wichita, KS.
16. Vaughan, K.B., & **Besenyi, G.M.** (2011). Evaluating park environments to promote youth advocacy for physical activity. Oral presentation at the *7th Annual Extension HealthFest, Rock Springs*, April 2, 2011, Junction City, KS.
17. Wilhelm Stanis, S.A., Kaczynski, A.T., & **Besenyi, G.M.** (2011). Evaluating park environments for physical activity. Poster presentation at the *Missouri Park and Recreation Association Annual Conference and Exposition*, March 8-11, 2011, St. Louis, MO.
18. Kaczynski, A.T., Wilhelm Stanis, S.A., & **Besenyi, G.M.** (2011). Evaluating park environments for physical activity. Poster presentation at the *Kansas Recreation and Parks Association Conference and Trade Show*, February 1-3, 2011, Wichita, KS.
19. Kaczynski, A.T., Wilhelm Stanis, S.A., & **Besenyi, G.M.** (2010). Leveraging the role of parks as activity-promoting elements of the built environment. Invited oral presentation at the Kansas Department of Health and the Environment *Kansas Health Summit: Built Environment and the Outdoors*, October 19-20, 2010, Wichita, KS.
20. **Besenyi, G.M.**, Wilhelm Stanis, S.A., & Kaczynski, A.T. (2010). Variations in youth park-based energy expenditure by race/ethnicity, age, and gender. Poster presentation at the *67th Annual Kansas Public Health Association Fall Conference*, September 29-30, 2010, Topeka, KS.
21. **Besenyi, G.M.**, Kaczynski, A.T., Bopp, M., & Wittman, P. (2010). Gender and age differences in motivators and barriers for active commuting. Poster presentation at the *67th Annual Kansas Public Health Association Fall Conference*, September 29-30, 2010, Topeka, KS.
22. Kaczynski, A.T., Bopp, M., Wittman, P., & **Besenyi, G.M.** (2009). To drive or not to drive: What influences walking and cycling to work? Oral presentation at the *Kansas Department of Health and the Environment 2009 Summit: Cultivating Healthy Kansans*, December 1-3, 2009, Topeka, KS.
23. **Besenyi, G.M.** (2007). Employee wellness: Fit for work. Oral presentation at the *Association of Public Safety Communications Officials Conference*, June 5-8, 2007, Holton, KS.

Research Funding Awards

Pending

- National Institutes of Health STTR (Phase I) Kaczynski (PI) 04/01/16-03/01/17
 - eCPAT: Advancing public park information and technology resources to diverse audiences for healthy communities
 - Role: Co-I
 - \$209,782
- National Institutes of Health STTR (Phase I) Weaver (PI) 0/01/16-03/01/17

- Order from the Chaos: Developing software for the collection of field based data
- Role: Consultant
- \$150,000

Ongoing

- University of South Carolina Office of Research Kaczynski (PI) 05/16/15-05/15/16
 - ParkIndex: Development of a prototype tool for advancing parks and public health research and practice
 - Role: Co-I
 - \$14,950

Completed

- National Recreation and Park Association Kaczynski (PI) 07/01/14-06/30/15
 - Development and testing of eCPAT mobile technology to engage youth in active living policy, systems, and environmental change health promotion efforts
 - Role: Co-I
 - Amount: \$15,000
- University of South Carolina Office of Research Kaczynski (PI) 05/16/14-05/15/15
 - Evaluation of an inter-agency collaboration to promote park visitation and physical activity among youth in Greenville County, SC
 - Role: Co-I
 - Amount: \$14,842
- University of South Carolina Office of the Provost Kaczynski (PI) 05/16/14-08/15/15
 - Are disparities in access to quality park environments associated with childhood obesity? An environmental justice investigation
 - Role: Co-I
 - Amount: \$19,995
- University of Missouri Research Council Wilhelm Stanis (PI) 04/01/14-05/31/15
 - Evaluation of eCPAT: Assessing the acceptability, feasibility, and efficacy of the Community Park Audit Tool with youth
 - Role: Co-I
 - Amount: \$7,498
- South Carolina Clinical and Translational Research Institute Kaczynski (PI) 07/01/13-12/30/14
 - eCPAT: Using mobile technology to assess the acceptability, feasibility, and efficacy of the Community Park Audit Tool with youth
 - Role: Co-I
 - Amount: \$29,666
- SPARC Graduate Fellowship Besenyi (PI) 05/16/13-05/16/14
 - eCPAT: Development and testing of mobile technology to engage youth in active living policy, systems, and environmental health promotion efforts

- Amount: \$4,970
- Eat Smart, Move More South Carolina Kaczynski (PI) 08/16/12-09/30/13
 - Building youth capacity for healthy community design
 - Role: Project Manager
 - Amount: \$46,604
- Kansas State University Small Research Grant Kaczynski (PI) 06/01/10-12/31/11
 - Examining neighborhood park influences on physical activity
 - Role: Co-I
 - Amount: \$1,500
- Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Active Living Research Kaczynski (PI) 01/15/10-01/14/12
 - Development of a community stakeholder park audit tool
 - Role: Project Manager
 - Amount: \$49,989

Not Funded

- Health Care Foundation of Greater Kansas City KC Children's Mercy (PI) 01/01/15-06/30/16
 - Developing sustainable technology infrastructure to improve park awareness, utilization, and physical activity promotion across greater Kansas City
 - Role: Co-I
 - Amount: \$74,988
- University of South Carolina Office of Research Kaczynski (PI) 07/01/13-06/30/14
 - Evaluation of the Healthy Young People Empowerment (HYPE) Project
 - Role: Co-I
 - Amount: \$14,931
- The Duke Endowment Kaczynski (PI) 04/01/13-03/31/15
 - Building youth capacity for healthy community design: Implementation of the Healthy Young People Empowerment (HYPE) Project in Greenville
 - Role: Co-I
 - Amount: \$200,140

Major Scholarships and Awards Received

- Arnold School of Public Health, Department of Health Promotion Education, and Behavior, Doctoral Student of the Year Award (2015)
 - Received award for outstanding academic performance, leadership, and service
- Public Health Training Materials Award, Public Health Education and Health Promotion, APHA (2014)
 - Received award as part of a collaborative team that developed the HYPE curriculum
- Physical Activity Student Section Oral Presentation Winner, American Public Health Association (2014)
 - Received award for best student oral physical activity presentation (\$200)
- George M. Reeves Trustee Fellowship, University of South Carolina (2014)

- Received fellowship for excellence in graduate study, research, and scholarship (\$750)
- Arnold School of Public Health Fellowship (2013-2014)
 - Received fellowship for PhD program (\$4000)
- South Carolina Public Health Association, Public Health Scholarship (2013)
 - Received scholarship for high academic and professional promise in public health (\$750)
- South Carolina Public Health Association, Malcolm U. Dantzler Scholarship (2013)
 - Received award and scholarship for significant commitment to public health (\$500)
- South Carolina Public Health Association, Top Student Abstract Award
 - Received award and oral presentation for public health research (\$100)
- Support to Promote Academic Advancement of Research and Creativity (SPARC) Fellowship (2013)
 - Received fellowship funds to conduct innovative research (\$5000)
- University of South Carolina, Graduate School Travel Grant Award (2013)
 - Received travel award to present scientific research (\$500)
- University of South Carolina, Graduate School Travel Grant Award (2012)
 - Received travel award to present scientific research (\$750)
- University of South Carolina, Arnold School of Public Health Travel Grant Award (2012)
 - Received travel award to present scientific research (\$250)
- Kansas State University, Department of Nutrition, Nutrition for Youth Graduate Scholarship (2012)
 - Received scholarship for doctoral studies focused on youth health (\$1000)
- Kansas State University, Graduate School, Outstanding Public Health Student Award (2011)
 - Received award for outstanding accomplishments in public health research and education
- Kansas State University, Department of Kinesiology Most Outstanding Graduate Student Award (2011)
 - Received award and scholarship for outstanding graduate accomplishments (\$350)
- Kansas Public Health Association, Best Student Research Poster Award (2010)
 - Received scholarship to attend the 2010 APHA Conference (\$500)
- American Association of University Women Scholarship (2009-2010)
 - Received scholarship for exhibiting superior non-traditional student leadership (\$1000)

Research Assistantships

University of South Carolina, Arnold School of Public Health, Department of Health Promotion, Education, and Behavior, (June 2012 – July 2015)

- Lead investigator on a study developing mobile technology for active living policy, systems, and environmental change among youth
- Lab manager, Built Environment and Community Health (BEACH) Laboratory
- Project coordinator, Healthy Young People Empowerment (HYPE) as part of a CDC Community Transformation Grant

Research Assistant, Department of Parks, Recreation, and Tourism, School of Natural Resources, University of Missouri (August 2014 – June 2015)

- Special appointment working on a grant funded project with Dr. Sonja Wilhelm Stanis

Research Consultant, Parks and Environmental Justice Project, funded by the Health Care Foundation of Greater Kansas City, University of Missouri (Jan 2012 – May 2012)

- Consultant on a project to develop point of decision physical activity prompts in park settings

Research Assistant, Department of Kinesiology, Kansas State University (August 2009-2011)

- Lab manager, Physical Activity and Public Health Laboratory
- Co-investigator on a project to develop a community stakeholder park audit tool, funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation's Active Living Research program
- Research assistant in the Youth Health Behavior Research Laboratory on multiple afterschool physical activity and nutrition R01 funded projects.

Teaching Experience

Assistant Professor, Department of Clinical and Digital Health Sciences, College of Allied Health Sciences, Augusta University (July 2015 – Present)

- MPHE 8905 – Environmental Impact Risk and Exposure Assessment

Teaching Assistant, Department of Health Promotion, Education, and Behavior, Arnold School of Public Health, University of South Carolina (January 2014-July 2015)

- HPEB 511 – Health Problems in a Changing Society: The Built Environment and Physical Activity

Instructor, Department of Kinesiology, Kansas State University (January 2012-May 2012)

- KIN 612 – Built Environment and Physical Activity
- KIN 610 – Planning and Evaluation of Health Promotion Programs

Teaching Assistant, Department of Kinesiology, Kansas State University (August 2010-May 2012)

- KIN 346 – Social and Behavioral Epidemiology of Public Health Physical Activity Laboratory
- KIN 220 – Biobehavioral Basis of Physical Activity Laboratory
- KIN 163 – Weight Training
- KIN 160 – Aerobic Dance and Exercise
- Undergraduate Academic Advisor

Guest Lectures

Arnold School of Public Health, University of South Carolina (August 2012-January 2015)

- HPEB 748 – Community Health Development
- HPEB 701 – Theoretical Foundations of Health Promotion
- HPEB 553 – Community Health Problems
- HPEB 511 – Health Problems in a Changing Society

College of Allied Health Sciences, Georgia Regents University (October 2014)

- MPH 8280 – Quantitative Methods in Health Administration

Relevant Professional Experience

Manager, LifeCare Fitness Center, Holton, Kansas (August 2004-August 2009)

- Responsible for all aspects of departmental operations while effectively managing annual budget
- Supervised and conducted numerous public consultation and needs assessment activities
- Coordinated community wellness promotions including health fairs, wellness education, race directing, and sports competitions
- Coached and developed a highly-effective team of full and part-time staff

Wellness Coordinator, Community HealthCare Systems, Onaga, Kansas (June 2006-August 2009)

- Coordinated multiple wellness departments to expand community services
- Initiated quality improvements and enhanced system wide communication
- Co-developed and instructed Lifestyle Exercise And Nutrition (LEAN) weight management program

Professional Certifications (1996-2011)

- Certified Personal Trainer, American Council on Exercise (ACE; 2005-2011)
- Certified Group Fitness Instructor, American Council on Exercise (ACE; 2006-2011)
- Advanced Cardiac Life Support, American Heart Association (AHA; 2009-2011)
- Certified Aquatic Director, United States Water Fitness Association (USWFA; 2006-2010)
- Level II Swim Coach, American Swimming Coaches Association (ASCA; 2004-2010)
- Certified Lifeguard/Water Safety Instructor, American Red Cross (ARC; 1996-2010)

Professional Affiliations (2009-present)

- Member, Delta Omega Honorary Society for Public Health (2015-present)
- Member, American Public Health Association (APHA; 2010-present)
- Member, International Society for Behavioral Nutrition and Physical Activity (ISBNPA; 2010-present)
- Member, South Carolina Public Health Association (SCPHA; 2013-2014)
- Member, Urban and Regional Information Systems Association (URISA; 2013-2014)
- Member, Kansas Public Health Association (KPHA; 2010-2012)
- Member, Kansas State University Public Health Club (PHC; 2010-2012)
- Member, Kansas State University Kinesiology Student Association (KSA; 2009-2011)

Academic Service Activities

- Manuscript reviewer, *Journal of Physical Activity and Health* (2015)
- Manuscript reviewer, *Journal of Urban Health* (2015)
- Manuscript reviewer, *Preventing Chronic Disease* (2014)
- Manuscript reviewer, *Journal of Science and Medicine in Sport* (2014)
- Abstract reviewer, *American Public Health Association – Physical Activity Section* (2013, 2014)
- Manuscript reviewer, *Journal of Public Health Management and Practice* (2012-2014)
- Manuscript reviewer, *Landscape and Urban Planning* (2013)
- Manuscript reviewer, *American Journal of Preventive Medicine* (2012)
- Manuscript reviewer, *Journal of Park and Recreation Administration* (2010, 2011, 2015)
- Search committee member, Assistant Professor of Physical Activity and Public Health, Department of Kinesiology, Kansas State University (2011-2012)

Community Service Activities (2003-present)

- Member, Our Lady of the Hills Catholic Church (2012-present)
- Board Member, Northeast Kansas Multi-County Health Department Board of Directors (2011-2012)
- Volunteer, Jackson County KS Health Department (2010-2012)
- Member, St. Dominic's Altar Society (AS; 2006-2012)
- Charter Member, Jackson County KS Service to Mankind (SERTOMA; 2008-2010)
- Member, Jackson County Communities that Care Coalition (JCCTCC; 2008-2009)
- Volunteer, Jackson County KS Sheriff's Youth Summer Camp (2008-2010)

- Volunteer, Relay For Life (2005-2007)
- Volunteer, Geary Rehabilitation and Fitness Center (2002-2003)
- Volunteer, Walk Kansas - Team Captain (2003)