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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

2026-	Department Chair, Canine Training and Management Department, SUNY Cobleskill
2022-	Assistant Professor, Behavioral and Health Studies, SUNY Cobleskill
2025-2026	Associate Chair for Canine Program, Behavioral and Health Studies Department, SUNY Cobleskill
2024-2025	Program Coordinator, Canine Training and Management, SUNY Cobleskill
2017-2022	Postdoctoral Fellow, Penn Vet Working Dog Center, School of Veterinary Medicine University of Pennsylvania

EDUCATION

2017	Ph.D. Comparative Cognition Veterinary Medical School of Vienna, Austria
2013	M.Sc. Animal Behavior Bucknell University
2011	B.A. Psychology Magna Cum Laude, graduate of the Honors Program (with thesis) Georgia State University

PUBLICATIONS

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Hare, E., **Essler, J.L.**, Otto, C.M., Ebbecke, D., Serpell, J.A. (2024) Development of a modified C-BARQ for evaluating behavior in working dogs. *Frontiers in Veterinary Science.*

Kane, S.A., Lee, Y.E., **Essler, J.L.**, Mallikarjun, A., Preti, G., Plymouth, V.L., Verta, A., DeAngelo, A., Otto, C.M. (2022) Canine discrimination of ovarian cancer through volatile organic compounds. *Talenta*.

Eyre, A.W., Zapata, I., Hare, E., Lee, KMN, Bellis, C., **Essler, J.L.**, Otto, C.M., Serpell, J.A., Alvarez, C.E. (2022). Genome scanning of behavioral selection in a canine olfactory detection breeding cohort. *Scientific Reports.*

Collins, A., Bear, R.A., Mallikarjun, A., Kane, S.A., **Essler, J.L.**, Kaynaroglu, P., Feuer, R., Smith, J.G., Otto, C.M. (2022). Effects of intranasal and oral Bordetella bronchiseptica vaccination on the behavioral and olfactory capabilities of detection dogs. *Frontiers in Veterinary Science*.

Essler, J.L., Smith. P.G., Ruge, C.E., Darling, T.A., Barr, C., Otto, C.M. (2022). The first responder exposure to contaminating powder on dog fur during intranasal and intramuscular naloxone administration. *Journal of Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care.*

Essler, J.L., Kane, S.A., Collins, A., Ryder, K., DeAngelo, A., Kaynaroglu, P., Otto, C.M. (2021). Egg masses as training aids for spotted lanternfly *Lycorma delicatula* detection. *PLoS One*.

Morton, F.B., Buchanan-Smith, H.M., Brosnan, S.F., Thierry, B., Paukner, A., **Essler, J.L.,** Marcum, C.S., Lee, P.C. (2021). Studying animal innovation at the individual level: a ratings-based assessment in capuchin monkeys (*Sapajus [Cebus] sp.*). *Journal of Comparative Psychology*.

Essler, J.L., Kane, S.A., Nolan, P., Akaho, E.H., Berna, A.Z., DeAngelo, A., Berk, R.A., Kaynaroglu, P., Plymouth, V.L., Frank, I.D., Weiss, S.R., Odom John, A.R., Otto, C.M. (2021). Discrimination of SARS-CoV-2 infected patient samples by detection dogs: A proof of concept study. *PLoS One.*

Essler, J.L., Wilson, C., Verta, A., Feuer, R., Otto, C.M. (2020). Differences in the search behavior of cancer detection dogs trained to have either a sit or stand-stare final response. *Frontiers in Veterinary Science.*

Essler, J.L., Smith, P.G., Berger, D., Gregorio, E., Pennington, M.R., McGuire, A., Furton, K.G., Otto, C.M. (2019). A randomized cross-over trial comparing the effect of intramuscular versus intranasal naloxone reversal of intravenous fentanyl on odor detection in working dogs. *Animals*.

Muraka, M., Vesley-Gross, Z.I., **Essler, J.L.**, Smith, P.G., Hooda, J., Drapkin, R., Otto, C.M. (2019). Testing ovarian cancer cell lines to train dogs to detect ovarian cancer from blood plasma: a pilot study. *Journal of Veterinary Behavior, 32,* 42-48.

Cafazzo, S., Marshall-Pescini, S., **Essler, J.L.**, Virányi, Z., Kotrschal, K., Range, F. (2018). In wolves, play behaviour reflects the partners' affiliative and dominance relationship. *Animal Behaviour, 141*, 137-150.

Talbot, C.F., Parrish, A.E., Watzek, J., **Essler, J.L.**, Leverett, K.L., Paukner, A., Brosnan, S.F. (2018). The influence of reward quality and quantity and spatial proximity on the responses to inequity and contrast in capuchin monkeys (*Cebus [Sapajus] apella*). *Journal of Comparative Psychology, 131*(1), 75-87.

Essler, J.L., Marshall-Pescini, S., Range, F. (2017). Domestication does not explain the presence of inequity aversion in dogs. *Current Biology, 27*(12), 1861-1862.e3.

Essler, J.L., Schwartz, L.P., Rossettie, M.S., Judge, P.G. (2017). Capuchin monkeys' use of human and conspecific cues to solve a hidden object-choice task. *Animal Cognition, 20*(5), 985-998.

Brucks, D., Marshall-Pescini, S., **Essler, J.L.**, McGetrick, J., Huber, L., Range, F. (2017). What are the ingredients for an inequity paradigm? Manipulating the experimenter's involvement in an inequity task with dogs. *Frontiers in Psychology*, 8:270.

Robinson, L.M., Morton, F.B., Gartner, M.C., Widness, J., Paukner, A., **Essler, J.L.**, Brosnan, S.F., Weiss, A. (2016). Divergent personality structures of brown (*Sapajus apella*) and white-faced capuchins (*Cebus capucinus*). *Journal of Comparative Psychology*, 130(4), 305-312.

Essler, J.L., Cafazzo, S., Marshall-Pescini, S., Virányi, Z., Kotrschal, K., Range, F. (2016). Play behavior in wolves: using the '50:50' rule to test for egalitarian play styles. *PLoS ONE, 11*(5), e0154150.

Brucks, D., **Essler, J.L.**, Marshall-Pescini, S., Range, F. (2016). Inequity aversion negative affects tolerance and contact-seeking behaviours towards partner and experimenter. *PLoS ONE, 11*(4), e0153799.

Brosnan, S.F., Talbot, C.F., **Essler, J.L.**, Leverett, K.L., Flemming, T., Dougall, P., Heyler, C., Zak, P.J. (2015). Oxytocin reduces food sharing in capuchin monkeys by modulating social distance. *Behaviour, 152*, 941-961.

Morton, F.B., Lee, P.C., Buchanan-Smith, H.M., Brosnan, S.F., Thierry, B., Paukner, A., de Waal, F.B., Widness, J., **Essler, J.L.**, Weiss, A. (2013). Personality structure in brown capuchin monkeys (*Sapajus apella*): comparisons with chimpanzees (*Pan troglodytes*), orangutans (*Pongo spp.*), and rhesus macaques (*Macaca mulatta*). *Journal of Comparative Psychology, 127*(3), 282-298.

Judge, P.G. & **Essler, J.L.** (2013). Capuchin monkeys exercise self-control by choosing token exchange over an immediate reward. *International Journal of Comparative Psychology, 26*(4), 256-266.

Salwiczek, L.H., Prétôt, L., Demarta, L., Proctor, D., **Essler, J.L**., Pinto, A.I., Wismer, S., Stoinski, T., Brosnan, S.F., Bshary, R. (2012). Adult cleaner wrasse outperform capuchin monkeys, chimpanzees and orangutans in a complex foraging task that derived from cleaner-client reef fish cooperation. *PLoS One, 7*(11), e49068.

GRANTS

2018-2021 Red Arch Cultural Heritage Law & Policy Research
Role: Co-Investigator Amount: $70,000

2018-2019 APDT Foundation Small Grant
Role: Primary Investigator Amount: $1,500

2018-2022 Austrian Science Fund (FWF)
Role: Co-Investigator Amount: €400,000

CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION

ORAL PRESENTATIONS

2025 **Essler, J.L.**, Baronowski, K., Sadekoski, T., Hefferon, B., Holohan, K., MacWatters, B., Best, E., Cornwell, M. Investigation of potential to utilize detection dogs to find invasive round goby. Animal Behavior Society 2025. Online.

2025 **Essler, J.L.**, Baronowski, K., Sadekoski, T., Hefferon, B., Holohan, K., MacWatters, B., Best, E., Cornwell, M. Investigation of potential to utilize detection dogs to find invasive round goby. Joint Symposium for Working K9s. April. Peachtree City, GA, USA.

2020 **Essler, J.L.,** & Kane, S.A. Exploring the possible use of behavioral testing in puppy and young dog aptitude in various working careers. Penn Vet Working Dog Conference. Online.

2019 **Essler, J.L.,** Lindsay, J., Byosiere, S.E., Inman, B., Gillespie, J., Monastra, C., Otto, C.M. What can working dogs' performance on the detour task tell us about their future career placement? Canine Science Forum. 18 October. Phoenix, AZ, USA.

2019 **Essler, J.L.**, Lee, Y.E., Preti, G., Gillespie, J., Eades, J., Vesley-Gross, Z., Smith, P.G., Tsang, J., Tanyi, J., Piltz Seymour, J., Johnson, A.T.C., Otto, C.M. A pilot study for training canines to recognize volatile organic

compounds from cancer-positive plasma samples collected using micro-preparative gas chromatography. Behavior. 26 July. Chicago, IL, USA.

2018 **Essler, J.L.** & DeAngelo, A. Using an artificial odor, the Universal Detector Calibrant (UDC), to imprint and train working dogs for scent detection. Penn Vet Working Dog Conference. 22 April. Philadelphia, PA, USA.

2018 **Essler, J.L.** & Kaynaroglu, P. Evaluating the tools used to predict and assess the career paths of working dogs. Penn Vet Working Dog Conference. 22 April. Philadelphia, PA, USA.

2018 **Essler, J.L**. Starting from scratch: what we've learned developing puppies into detection dogs. SF SPCA Canine Science Symposium. 14 April. San Francisco, CA, USA.

2016 **Essler, J.L.**, Marshall-Pescini, S., & Range, F. Captive wolves and pack-living dogs show similar responses to inequity. Allee Symposium, Animal Behavior. 2 August. Columbia, MO, USA.

2015 **Essler, J.E.**, Marshall-Pescini, S., Range, F. Inequity aversion in dogs and wolves. CogCom Workshop. 2 July 2015. Vienna, Austria.

2013 **Essler, J.E.**, Vining, A., Judge, P.G. Bartering up as self-control in capuchin monkeys (*Cebus apella*). Meeting of the American Society of Primatologists. 16 November. Austin, TX, USA.

INSTRUCTION

SUNY Cobleskill
Animal Ethics
Domestic Animal Behavior
Animal Cognition
Canine Detection
Behavior Problems in Companion Animals
Canine Career Opportunities
Introduction to Primatology

Delaware Valley University
Introduction to Primatology

University of Pennsylvania
VCSP 6330 Fundamentals of Animal Behavior (Contribution to course content)

ADDITIONAL APPOINTMENTS

SUNY Cobleskill

2022-	Member, Curriculum Committee
2025-2026	Head, Research Task Force
2024-2026	Co-Chair, Institutional Care and Use Committee