

Xiao-Fei Yang, PhD

Center for Affective Neuroscience, Development, Learning and Education ([CANDLE](#))
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PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENT

- 2023- **Assistant Research Professor**
University of Southern California
- 2021- **Scientific Director of CANDLE**
University of Southern California
- 2019-2023 **Senior Research Associate**
University of Southern California

EDUCATION

- 2014-2019 **Postdoctoral Research Associate**
University of Southern California
- 2006 - 2013 **Ph.D. in Neuroscience**
University of Southern California
Dissertation: Individual differences in heart rate responses and expressive behavior during social emotions:
Effects of resting cardiac vagal tone and culture, and relation to the default mode network
- 2002 - 2006 **B.S. Biological Sciences**
Fudan University, Shanghai China

EXTRAMURAL FUNDING

XFY's role is in bold.

- 2025-2027 *CANDLE Innovation Lab: Igniting educational transformation at the nexus of developmental neuroscience and pedagogical innovation.* Bezos Family Foundation. (funding secured, under final negotiation with the university; **Key Personnel**; M.H. Immordino-Yang, PI; Total Grant=\$2.1M)
- 2022-2025 *Supporting and measuring what matters for at-promise youth and their teachers: A practitioner and researcher consortium for innovation, sustainability and scaling.* Chan Zuckerberg Initiative. (**Project Leader**; M.H. Immordino-Yang, PI; Total grant=\$1.5M, Total direct cost=\$1,304,348)

- 2021 *To err is human and how the brain learns: A transdisciplinary COP approach to schooling for adaptive error monitoring and intellectual humility.* (not funded) Templeton Foundation (**co-PI**; M.H. Immordino-Yang, PI; Total grant=\$1M)
- 2020 *Making mistakes matter: a cross-sectional and longitudinal neuropsychological study of educational practices and performance monitoring.* (finalist, not funded) Spencer Foundation (**co-PI**; M.H. Immordino-Yang, PI; Total grant=\$1M).
- 2019- 2022 *The role of enhanced mindfulness practices for educators in promoting self-direction among adolescent girls of color.* Chan Zuckerberg Initiative. (USC **co-PI**; M.H. Immordino-Yang, USC PI; P. Noguera, UCLA PI; #CZIF2020-004095; Total grant=\$650K.)
- 2018-2022 *An interdisciplinary study of adolescents' development of intellectual virtues (IVs), and teachers' IV-supporting pedagogical practices.* Invited proposal to the Templeton Foundation with the Intellectual Virtues Academy Charter School, Long Beach, CA. (**Key Personnel**; M.H. Immordino-Yang, USC PI; Total Grant \$1.5M; Total to USC PI=\$445,000)
- 2019-2020 *Summer program for involving underrepresented, low-SES high school students in interdisciplinary neuroscience investigations.* Army Educational Outreach Program Research and Engineering Apprentice Program. (**co-PI**; M.H. Immordino-Yang, PI; Battelle Task Order Agreement #610608; Total direct cost=\$11k)
- 2018 *Biometrics of Social-Emotional Dynamics in Team-Based Teaching and Learning: A Multimodal Field Study in an Urban High School Context.* (not funded) U.S. Army Research Laboratory Strengthening Teamwork for Robust Operations in Novel Groups (STRONG) program. (**Junior Investigator**; M.H. Immordino-Yang, Senior Investigator; Total grant=\$100k, Total direct cost=\$60,606)
- 2018-2020 *Neurophysiological predictors of emotion regulation and educational mindset development.* U.S. Army Research Laboratory-West Interdisciplinary Collaboration Grant. (**Key Personnel**; M.H. Immordino-Yang, PI; Grant #W911NF-18-2-0084; Total grant=\$161,822).
- 2018-2019 *Culture-related diversity in adolescent structural and functional brain development.* USC Zumberge Diversity and Inclusion in Research Award. (**Key Personnel**; M.H. Immordino-Yang, PI; Total direct cost=\$30K; Acc#22-1401-2550)

HONORS AND AWARDS

- 2018 Fellow, Latin American School for Education, Cognitive and Neural Sciences (Santiago, Chile)
- 2014 International Mind, Brain and Education Society Conference Distinguished Poster Award
- 2013 Fellow, UCLA Advanced Neuroimaging Training Program (NITP) Summer Course
- 2013 International Cultural Neuroscience Consortium Student Travel Award (\$1000)
- 2012 USC Social Neuroscience Initiative Summer Funding (\$1,000)
- 2011-2012 Neuroscience Merit Fellowship (\$27,000)
- 2010 USC Graduate and Professional Student Senate Conference Travel Grant (\$500)
- 2009 Women in Science and Engineering (WiSE) Travel Grant (\$500)
- 2008 USC U.S.-China institute Graduate Student Summer Fieldwork Grant (\$5,000)

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-Reviewed Articles

- Yang, X.-F.**, Hilliard, K., Gotlieb, R. & Immordino-Yang, M.H. (2024). Transcendent thinking counteracts longitudinal effects of mid-adolescent exposure to community violence in the anterior cingulate cortex. *Journal of Research on Adolescence*. <https://doi.org/10.1111/jora.12993>
- *Gotlieb, R., ***Yang, X.-F.** & Immordino-Yang, M.H. Diverse adolescents' transcendent thinking predicts young adult psychosocial outcomes via brain network development. *Sci Rep* 14, 6254 (2024). <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41598-024-56800-0> *RG and X-FY contributed equally to this work.
- Riveros, R., **Yang, X.-F.**, & Immordino-Yang, M. H. (2023). Sages and seekers: Intergenerational conversations increase abstract talk and values-oriented purpose among low-SES adolescents. *Journal of Positive Psychology*, 19(5), 849–861. <https://doi.org/10.1080/17439760.2023.2282774>
- Gotlieb, R. J. M., **Yang, X.-F.**, & Immordino-Yang, M. H. (2022). Concrete and abstract dimensions of diverse adolescents' social-emotional meaning-making, and associations with broader functioning. *Journal of Adolescent Research*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/07435584221091498>
- Gotlieb, R., **Yang, X.-F.**, Immordino-Yang, M.H. (2022). Default and executive networks' roles in diverse adolescents' emotionally engaged construals of complex social issues. *Social Cognitive and Affective Neuroscience*, 17(4), 421–429. <https://doi.org/10.1093/scan/nsab108>
- Gotlieb, R., **Yang, X.-F.**, Immordino-Yang, M.H., (2021). Measuring Learning in the Blink of an Eye: Adolescents' Neurophysiological Reactions Predict Long-Term Memory for Stories. *Front. Educ.* 5:594668. <https://doi.org/10.3389/educ.2020.594668>
- Dénervaud, S., Fornari, E., **Yang, X.-F.**, Hagmann, P., Sander, D., Immordino-Yang, M.H. (2020). Error-monitoring is influenced by school pedagogy: fMRI evidence from Montessori and traditional schoolchildren. *npj Science of Learning*, 5(11), 1-11. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41539-020-0069-6>
- ***Yang, X.-F.**, *Pavarini, G., Schnall, S. & Immordino-Yang, M.H. (2018). Looking up to virtue: Averted gaze facilitates moral construals via posteromedial cortical activations. *Social Cognitive and Affective Neuroscience*, 13(11), 1131-1139. <https://doi.org/10.1093/scan/nsy081> *GP and X-FY contributed equally to this work.
- Butler, O., **Yang, X.-F.**, Laube, C., Kühn, S., Immordino-Yang, M.H. (2018). Community violence exposure correlates with smaller gray matter volume and lower IQ in urban adolescents. *Human Brain Mapping*, 39(5), 2088–2097. <https://doi.org/10.1002/hbm.23988>
- Yang, X.-F.**, Immordino-Yang, M.H. (2017). Cultural group and cardiac vagal tone independently influence emotional expressiveness. *Culture and Brain* 5:36-49. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s40167-017-0048-9>
- Immordino-Yang, M.H. & **Yang, X.-F.** (2017, invited submission) Cultural differences in the neural correlates of social-emotion experiences: An interdisciplinary, developmental perspective. *Current Opinion in Psychology, Special Issue on Emotion* edited by L. Feldman Barrett and B. Mesquita, 17, 34-40. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.copsyc.2017.06.008>
- Immordino-Yang, M.H., **Yang, X.-F.**, Damasio, H. (2016). Cultural modes of expressing emotions influence how emotions are experienced. *Emotion* 16(7)1033-1039. <https://doi.org/10.1037/emo0000201>
- Immordino-Yang, M.H., **Yang, X.-F.**, Damasio, H. (2014). Correlations between social-emotional feelings and anterior insula activity are independent from visceral states but influenced by culture. *Front. Hum. Neurosci.* 8, 728. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fnhum.2014.00728>

- Yang X.-F.**, Bossmann J., Schiffhauer B., Jordan M. & Immordino-Yang M. H. (2013). Intrinsic default mode network connectivity predicts spontaneous verbal descriptions of autobiographical memories during social processing. *Front. Psychology* 3, 592. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fpsyg.2012.00592>
- Saxbe, D. E., **Yang, X.-F.**, Borofsky, L. A. & Immordino-Yang, M. H. (2013). Embodiment of emotion: Language use during the feeling of social emotions predicts cortical somatosensory activity. *Social Cognitive and Affective Neuroscience*, 8(7), 806-812. <https://doi.org/10.1093/scan/nss075>
- Jin, X. C., Lu, Y. F., **Yang, X.-F.**, Ma, L., & Li, B. M. (2007). Glucocorticoid receptors in the basolateral nucleus of amygdala are required for post-reactivation reconsolidation of auditory fear memory. *European Journal of Neuroscience*, 25(12). <https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1460-9568.2007.05621.x>

Peer-reviewed articles in preparation/under review

- Yang, X.-F.**, Baniqued, P., Heine, K., Gotlieb, R., & Immordino-Yang, M.H. (in late-stage preparation). Developmental neuroanatomical correlates of IQ and transcendent thinking in diverse adolescents: A 2-year longitudinal study.
- Denervaud, S., Baniqued, P., **Yang, X.-F.**, Immordino-Yang, M.H. (in late-stage preparation). Making mistakes matter: Neuropsychological correlates of performance monitoring in math learning.
- Kundrak, C., **Yang, X.-F.**, & Immordino-Yang, M.H. (in late-stage preparation). Teachers' neurophysiology mediates the effect of pedagogical practices on secondary students' experiences of challenge.
- Kundrak, C., Candaux, E., **Yang, X.-F.**, Baniqued, P., & Immordino-Yang, M.H. (in late-stage preparation). Secondary teachers' beliefs about learning and pedagogical practices are linked via pedagogical orientations, and mediated by cultivated cardiac regulatory capacities.
- Jahner, E., Kundrak, C., **Yang, X.-F.**, Farrington, C., Porter, S. & Immordino-Yang, M.H. (in late-stage preparation). Developmental neural, psychological, and emotional correlates of academic mindsets: A 5-year longitudinal study from adolescence to young adulthood
- Yang, X.-F.**, Immordino-Yang, M.H. (in late-stage preparation). Heart-rate responses during social emotion is influenced by culture and relates to individuals' expressiveness.
- Yang, X.-F.**, Immordino-Yang, M.H. (in late-stage preparation). Orienting heart rate deceleration during social emotion processing predicts deactivation in default mode network regions.

PEER-REVIEWED CONFERENCE SYMPOSIA/TALKS

- Kundrak, C., **Yang, X.-F.**, Gonzalez, E., & Immordino-Yang, M. H. (2024, July 10-12). Psychosocial and neurobiological characterizations of effective secondary teaching: An innovative transdisciplinary approach. In M. H. Immordino-Yang (chair) & C. Kundrak (co-chair), *Empirical explorations of the social dimension of teaching and learning: Transdisciplinary research to inform holistic, student-centered education* [Symposium]. International Mind, Brain, and Education Society Biennial Conference, Leuven, Belgium.
- Yang, X. -F.**, Kundrak, C., Gonzalez, E., & Immordino-Yang, M. H. (2024, March 1). Diverse adolescents' transcendent meaning making about complex social issues predicts young adult psychosocial outcomes via brain network development. In M. H. Immordino-Yang (chair), *Making education meaningful: Integrating neurobiological and psychosocial developmental science on adolescent learning and secondary teaching* [Panel session]. USC Rossier 2024 Research for Impact Conference, Los Angeles, CA.
- Kundrak, C., **Yang, X.-F.**, & Immordino-Yang, M.H. (2022, July). *Secondary teachers' neural activity when grading student work differs according to the social-cognitive complexity of their pedagogical orientation.*

Flash Talk presented at the International Mind, Brain, and Education Society (IMBES) Biennial Conference, Montreal, Canada. (Among four of fifty posters selected for Flash Presentation)

- Gotlieb, R., **Yang, X.-F.**, & Immordino-Yang, M. H. (2022, April). Urban adolescents' abstract talk about stories predicts young adult identity development via brain network development. In Tokuhama-Espinosa, T. (Chair), *Metacognition, Monitoring, and Mindfulness: Insights from Educational Neuroscience*, AERA Annual Meeting, San Diego, California, United States.
- Immordino-Yang, M.H., **Yang, X.-F.**, & Gotlieb, R. (2021, May). *Beyond IQ, low-SES urban high school students' abstract construals of social stories indirectly predict their young-adult identity coherence via longitudinal brain development across middle adolescence*. Flash Talk presented at the Annual Convention of the Association for Psychological Science (virtual).
- Stone, M., **Yang, X.-F.**, Gotlieb, R., & Immordino-Yang, M.H. (2020, May). *Adolescents' meaning-making predicts brain structural development differently depending on community violence exposure*. Presentation at the Social and Affective Neuroscience Society, Santa Barbara, CA. (Conference Canceled).
- Immordino-Yang, M.H., Krone, C., & **Yang, X.-F.** (2020, April). *Teaching for adolescents' deep learning: a classroom observation, interview and neuroimaging study of secondary teachers*. Presentation at the AERA Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA. (Conference Canceled).
- Gotlieb, R., **Yang, X.-F.**, & Immordino-Yang, M.H. (2020, April). *Beyond IQ: adolescents' social emotional meaning-making longitudinally predicts brain development, academic orientation, and young adult outcomes*. Presentation at the AERA Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA. (Conference Canceled).
- Gotlieb, R., **Yang, X.-F.**, & Immordino-Yang, M.H. (2020, April). *Middle-adolescents' descriptions of social-emotional feelings longitudinally predicts cognitive, creative, and relational functioning controlling for IQ*. Presentation at the AERA Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA. (Conference Canceled).
- Gotlieb, R., **Yang, X.-F.**, & Immordino-Yang, M.H. (2020, April). *Social-emotional and neurophysiological measures additively and interactively predict adolescents' long-term memory in a longitudinal study*. Presentation at the AERA Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA. (Conference Canceled).
- Yang, X.-F.** & Immordino-Yang, M.H. (2019, June). Cultural modes of expressing emotion influence how emotions are experienced. In Fortier, M. (Chair), *The cultural shaping of consciousness*. Plenary symposium presented at the 23rd Annual Meeting of Association for the Scientific Study of Consciousness, London, ON, Canada.
- Immordino-Yang, M.H. & **Yang, X.-F.** (2014, October). Cultural influences on emotional expressiveness influence the neural processing of emotional experiences. In D. Oyserman & K. van den Bos (chairs) *From cultural differences as stable characteristics to characteristics malleable by context*. Symposium presented at the annual meeting of the Society for Experimental Social Psychology, Cleveland, OH.
- Yang, X.-F.**, Immordino-Yang, M.H. (2014, February). Cultural background and resting cardiac vagal tone additively influence emotional expressiveness [Abstract]. In J. Chiao (chair) *Culture and emotion: Advances from cultural psychology and cultural neuroscience*. Symposium presented at the 15th Annual Meeting of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, Austin, TX.
- Schnall, S., Pavarini, G., **Yang, X.-F.**, & Immordino-Yang, M. H. (2014, February). Cognitive, behavioral and neural indicators of psychological distance in elevation and admiration. In P. Piff, J. Haidt (chairs), *Self-transcendence: The latest innovative research in awe, elevation, and admiration*. Symposium presented at the Annual Meeting of the Society of Personality and Social Psychology, Austin, TX.
- Immordino-Yang, M.H. & **Yang, X.-F.** (2013, September). Cultural influences on emotional expressiveness influence the neural processing of emotional experiences. In, J. Chiao (chair) & Kitayama, S. (discussant),

Culture and emotion: New insights from cultural psychology and cultural neuroscience. Presented at the Society of Experimental Social Psychology Annual Meeting, Berkeley, CA.

Yang, X.-F., Wong, S. W. H., & Immordino-Yang, M. H. (2012, June). *Heart rate deceleration predicts BOLD activity in default mode regions during emotion processing*. The 18th annual meeting of the Organization of the Human Brain Mapping, Beijing, China. **Selected for oral presentation.**

Immordino-Yang, M.H., Saxbe, D., & **Yang, X.-F.** (2012, January). Individual differences in verbal descriptions of compassion and admiration predict somatosensory and self-related neural activations. In, S. Morelli (Chair) and M. Lieberman (Co-Chair), *The power of connecting with others: Investigating empathy, admiration, compassion, and social connection in the brain*. Presented at the annual meeting of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, San Diego, CA.

PEER REVIEWED CONFERENCE POSTER PRESENTATIONS

Moliterni, C., **Yang, X.-F.**, Gonzalez, E., Kundrak, C., Ho, B., & Immordino-Yang, M. H. (2024, July 10-12). *Teachers' heart rate response supports more developmentally-oriented feedback to students* [Poster presentation]. International Mind, Brain, and Education Society Biennial Conference, Leuven, Belgium.

Yang, X.-F., Hilliard, K., Gotlieb, R., & Immordino-Yang, M. H. (2024, March 25-28). *Transcendent thinking counteracts longitudinal effects of mid-adolescent exposure to community violence in the anterior cingulate cortex* [Poster presentation]. Society for Social Neuroscience 2024, Tsukuba, Japan.

Yang, X.-F., Kundrak, C., Moliterni, C., & Immordino-Yang, M. H. (2024, March 25-28). *Secondary teachers' neural and heart-rate dynamics while evaluating their own students' versus other students' academic work* [Poster presentation]. Society for Social Neuroscience 2024, Tsukuba, Japan.

Kundrak, C., **Yang, X.-F.**, Moliterni, C., & Immordino-Yang, M. H. (2023, June 1-3). Engaging brain networks when grading students' work: Teachers' implicit social-affective processing [Paper presentation]. Jean Piaget Society 2023, Madrid, Spain.

Pueschel, E., **Yang, X.-F.**, Morales, S., Immordino-Yang, M.H. (2023, April 22-25). *Making meaning of mistakes: error monitoring as a mechanism of linking emotions and learning in math* [Poster presentation]. SRCD 2023 Conference, Salt Lake City, UT.

Moliterni, C., **Yang, X.-F.**, Kundrak, C., & Immordino-Yang, M. H. (2022, September 7-9). *Heart-rate dynamics suggest teachers' implicit social processing while evaluating students' work* [Poster presentation]. ERLI-SIG 20, 21 & 25 conference 2022, Belgrade, Serbia.

Kundrak, C., **Yang, X.-F.**, & Immordino-Yang, M. H. (2022, September 7 - 9). *Secondary teachers' pedagogical practices and teaching-specific heart rate variability dynamics additively contribute to students' perceptions of classroom support* [Poster presentation]. ERLI-SIG 20, 21 & 25 conference 2022, Belgrade, Serbia.

Moliterni, C., **Yang, X.-F.**, Kundrak, C., & Immordino-Yang, M. H. (2022, August 31-September 1.). *Heart-rate dynamics suggest teachers' implicit social processing while evaluating students' work* [Poster presentation]. EARLI SIG 27 Conference 2022, Southampton, United Kingdom.

Kundrak, C., **Yang, X.-F.**, & Immordino-Yang, M. H. (2022, July 21-23). *Secondary teachers' pedagogical practices and teaching-specific heart rate variability dynamics additively contribute to students' perceptions of classroom support* [Poster presentation]. International Mind, Brain, and Education Society (IMBES), Montreal, Canada.

Moliterni, C., **Yang, X.-F.**, Kundrak, C., & Immordino-Yang, M. H. (2022, July). *Heart rate deceleration as a biomarker of implicit processing: A demonstration of measure sensitivity in a real-world teaching task* [Poster presentation]. FENS 2022 Forum, Paris, France.

- Kundrak, C., **Yang, X.-F.**, & Immordino-Yang, M. H. (2022, March 30-April 2.). *Secondary teachers' pedagogical practices and teaching-specific heart rate variability dynamics additively contribute to students' perceptions of classroom support* [Poster presentation]. Society for Affective Science Annual Meeting (virtual).
- Hilliard, K., **Yang, X.-F.**, Stone, M. & Immordino-Yang, M.H. (2021, November). *Community violence exposure during mid-adolescence is related to greater grey matter volume reduction in urban youth* [Poster presentation]. Society for Neuroscience Annual Conference, Chicago, Illinois (virtual).
- Gotlieb, R., **Yang, X.-F.**, & Immordino-Yang, M.H. (2020, May). *Executive control, default mode, and salience networks' activity and inter-network connectivity are related to adolescents' concrete and abstract interpretations of social stories* [Poster presentation]. Social and Affective Neuroscience Society, Santa Barbara, California. (Conference Canceled)
- Riveros, R., **Yang, X.-F.**, Gan, S., Barros, I., Dang, O. & Immordino-Yang, M.H. (2019, February). *Developing goals and imagining worlds: How do adolescents build value-based life purpose and thoughtful citizenship?* [Poster presentation] The 11th USC Annual Graduate Research Symposium, Los Angeles, CA.
- Gotlieb, R., **Yang, X.-F.**, Jahner, E., & Immordino-Yang, M. H. (2018, October). *Adolescents' imagination about others' thoughts and feelings predicts their long-term memory, an effect moderated by a neurotransmitter and functional connectivity in the brain* [Poster presentation]. Kortschak Center for Learning and Creativity Research Symposium, USC, Los Angeles, CA. *The poster received the second place (\$300) prize among all symposium posters.
- Yang, X.-F.**, Pavarini, G., Schnall, S. & Immordino-Yang, M.H. (2018, September). *Learning to appreciate others' virtues: Behavioral and neural processes facilitate moral thinking* [Poster presentation]. International Mind, Brain and Education Society conference, Los Angeles, CA.
- Krone, C., **Yang, X.-F.**, Farrington, C., & Immordino-Yang, M.H. (2018, September). *Developmental neural, psychological, and emotional correlates of academic mindsets* [Poster presentation]. International Mind, Brain and Education Society conference, Los Angeles, CA.
- Riveros, R., **Yang, X.-F.**, McCoy, D., Krone, C., Gotlieb, R., & Immordino-Yang, M.H. (2018, September). *Neural and psychosocial development underlying adolescent's abstract life goals* [Poster presentation]. Mind, Brain and Education Society Conference, Los Angeles, CA.
- Gotlieb, R., **Yang, X.-F.**, & Immordino-Yang, M.H. (2018, April). *Adolescents' social emotional skills predict greater learning and this effect is moderated by right anterior insula-medial prefrontal cortices connectivity and striatal dopamine* [Poster presentation]. Society of Affective Sciences, Los Angeles, California.
- Jahner, E., **Yang X.-F.**, & Immordino-Yang, M. (2018, March) *Streams of thought: An ICA methodology for lagged resting state analysis* [Poster presentation]. The 25th Cognitive Neuroscience Society annual meeting, Boston, MA.
- Gotlieb, R., **Yang, X.-F.**, & Immordino-Yang, M. H. (2018, February). *Empathy, learning, and the moderating role of brain connectivity: a biological marker of adolescents who learn from perspective-taking* [Poster presentation]. The 10th Annual USC Graduate Research Symposium, USC, Los Angeles, CA.
- Jahner, E., **Yang, X.-F.**, & Immordino-Yang, M.H. (2017, November). *Prepared to read. Mind wandering during oral reading correlated with resting state fMRI: A lagged analysis* [Poster presentation]. Society for Neuroscience, Washington, DC.
- Riveros, R., **Yang, X.-F.**, Gotlieb, R., Jahner, E. & Immordino-Yang, M.H. (2017, March). *Intrinsic functional connectivity of the default mode network predicts the purposefulness of youths' intended adult lives* [Poster presentation]. The 10th annual meeting of the Social & Affective Neuroscience Society, Los Angeles, CA.

- Jahner, E., **Yang, X.-F.**, & Immordino-Yang, M.H. (2017, March,). *Resting state temporal dynamics and mind wandering frequency during reading* [Poster presentation]. Cognitive Neuroscience Society annual meeting, San Francisco, CA. *NOTE: This poster received the Best Student Poster Award with a cash prize and enrollment in the week-long human connectome workshop for the first author.
- Gotlieb, R., **Yang, X.-F.**, Rajana, H., *Cremat, D., & Immordino-Yang, M.H. (2017, March). *Adolescents' empathic reactions to social stories predict subsequent long-term memory for those stories and connectivity between right anterior insula and medial prefrontal cortices moderates this effect* [Poster presentation]. The 3rd annual conference of the Society for the Neuroscience of Creativity, San Francisco, CA. *NOTE: R.G. was one of 5 students awarded a \$500 travel grant to present her work.
- Gotlieb, R., **Yang, X.-F.**, Rajana, H., Cremat, D., & Immordino-Yang, M.H. (2017, March). *Adolescents' empathic reactions to social stories predict subsequent long-term memory for those stories and connectivity between right anterior insula and medial prefrontal cortices moderates this effect* [Poster presentation]. The 10th annual convention of the Social and Affective Neuroscience Society, Los Angeles, CA.
- Gotlieb, R., **Yang, X.-F.**, Rhoads, S., Riveros, R., & Immordino-Yang, M.H. (2016, November). *Adolescents' empathic reaction to others' triumph over adversity is positively related to intrinsic default mode network connectivity* [Poster presentation]. The 17th annual convention of the Society for Social Neuroscience, San Diego, CA.
- Gotlieb, R., **Yang, X.-F.**, Rhoads, S., Riveros, R. & Immordino-Yang, M.H. (2016, September). *Adolescents' empathic reactions to others' triumph over adversity are positively related to connectivity at rest between the default mode network and the anterior insula* [Poster presentation]. The bi-annual conference of the International Mind, Brain and Education Society, Toronto, Canada.
- Rotenstein, V., Gotlieb, R., Alsup, S., **Yang, X. F.**, Immordino-Yang, M.H. (2016, September). *Adolescents' reasoning about the community violence they have witnessed predicts subsequent empathic emotional responding to others' true experiences* [Poster presentation]. The bi-annual conference of the International Mind, Brain and Education Society, Toronto, Canada.
- Zhao, A., **Yang, X.-F.**, Gotlieb, R., Santana, M., Immordino-Yang, M.H. (2016, September). *Cultural identity, emotional home life and vagal tone additively influence bicultural immigrant adolescents' emotional expressiveness* [Poster presentation]. The bi-annual conference of the International Mind, Brain and Education Society, Toronto, Canada.
- Riveros, R., **Yang, X.-F.**, Gotlieb, R., Jahner, E., & Immordino-Yang, M.H. (2016, September). *Intrinsic functional connectivity of the default mode network predicts the purposefulness of youths' intended adult lives* [Poster presentation]. International Mind, Brain and Education Society conference, Toronto, ON.
- Gotlieb, R., **Yang, X.-F.**, Cheng, T.W., Hobeika, L. & Immordino-Yang, M.H. (2016, June). *Culture moderates how bicultural adolescents' interoceptive sensitivity impacts their empathy for triumph over adversity* [Poster presentation]. European Association for Research on Learning and Instruction: Neuroscience and Education Special Interest Group, Amsterdam, Netherlands.
- Gotlieb, R., **Yang, X.-F.**, Rhoads, S., Miranda, R.R., & Immordino-Yang, M.H. (2016, June). *Adolescents' empathic reaction to others' triumph over adversity is positively related to intrinsic default mode network connectivity* [Poster presentation]. The Federation of all European Neuroscience Societies, Copenhagen, Denmark.
- Gotlieb, R., **Yang, X.-F.**, Cheng, T.W., Hobeika, L., & Immordino-Yang, M.H. (2016, January). *Culture moderates how bicultural adolescents' interoceptive sensitivity impacts their empathy for triumph over adversity* [Poster presentation]. The Emotions Preconference of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, San Diego, CA.
- Rotenstein, V., Gotlieb, R., **Yang, X.-F.**, Immordino-Yang, M. H. (2016, January). *Adolescents' reasoning about the community violence they have witnessed predicts subsequent empathic emotional responding to novel*

true stories [Poster presentation]. The 17th annual Convention of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, San Diego, CA

- Rhoads, S. A., Rotenstein, V., **Yang, X.-F.**, Riveros, R. R., Immordino-Yang, M. H. (2016, January). *Adolescents' resting state brain connectivity is positively related to social media use, but negatively related to non-social media use* [Poster presentation]. The 17th annual Convention of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, San Diego, CA.
- Rhoads, S. A., **Yang, X.-F.**, Miranda, R. R., Immordino-Yang, M. H. (2015, October). *Adolescents' intrinsic default mode network connectivity is positively related to social media use, but negatively related to non-social media use* [Poster presentation]. The 2015 "Digital Media and Developing Minds" Sackler colloquium, Irvine, CA.
- Cheng, T., **Yang, X.-F.**, Hobeika, L., Immordino-Yang, M.H. (2015, April). *Interoceptive awareness and acculturation in bicultural adolescents* [Poster presentation]. The 2015 Meeting of the Social and Affective Neuroscience Society, Boston, MA.
- Immordino-Yang, M.H., **Yang, X.-F.**, Damasio, H. (2015, April). *Cultural modes of expressing emotions influence how emotions are experienced* [Poster presentation]. The 2015 Meeting of the Social and Affective Neuroscience Society, Boston, MA.
- Yang, X.-F.**, Cheng, T., Hobeika, L., Vergara, S., Immordino-Yang, M.H. (2015, February). *Interoceptive awareness and cultural identity are related negatively in East-Asian American adolescents, but positively in Latino American adolescents* [Poster presentation]. The Advances in Cultural Psychology Preconference of the 16th Annual Meeting of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, Long Beach, CA.
- Yang, X.-F.**, Immordino-Yang, M.H. (2015, February). *East-Asian adolescents' emotional home life predicts the acquisition of an acculturated pattern of correlation between anterior insula activity and social-emotional feelings* [Poster presentation]. The Emotion Preconference of the 16th Annual Meeting of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, Long Beach, CA.
- Immordino-Yang, M.H., **Yang, X.-F.** (2015, February). *Cultural and individual differences in the contributions of somatosensory neural activity to social-emotional feelings* [Poster presentation]. The 16th Annual Meeting of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, Long Beach, CA.
- Immordino-Yang, M.H., **Yang, X.-F.** (2014, November). *Adolescents' age and emotional home life predict the acquisition of strong and culture-specific patterns of correlation between neural activity and social-emotional feelings* [Poster presentation]. The 2014 International Mind, Brain and Education Society Conference, Fort Worth, TX. **Winner of Distinguished Student Poster Award.**
- Jahner, E., Pound, V., **Yang, X.-F.**, Immordino-Yang, M.H. (2014, November). *Cultural literacy, intellectual curiosity, academic resilience and the road to "self as scientist": Qualitative analyses of low-SES adolescents' experiences in a neuroscience camp* [Poster presentation]. The 2014 International Mind, Brain and Education Society Conference, Fort Worth, TX. **Winner of Distinguished Student Poster Award.**
- Rotenstein, V., Bansal, S., **Yang, X.-F.** & Immordino-Yang, M.H. (2014, April). *Social and non-social media are oppositely related to empathic concern in adolescents* [Poster presentation]. USC Undergraduate Research Symposium, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA.
- Yang, X.-F.**, Immordino-Yang, M.H. (2014, April). *Culture and cardiac vagal tone independently influence expressiveness and heart-rate response during emotion* [Poster presentation]. The 2014 International Cultural Neuroscience Consortium Conference, Ann Arbor, MI.
- Yang, X.-F.**, Immordino-Yang, M.H. (2013, November). *Resting cardiac vagal tone inversely relates to intrinsic salience network connectivity* [Poster presentation]. The 43rd annual meeting of Society for Neuroscience, San Diego, CA.

- Yang, X.-F.**, Immordino-Yang, M.H. (2013, May). *Cultural and individual differences in heart rate response during the experience of social emotions* [Poster presentation]. The inaugural meeting of the International Cultural Neuroscience Consortium, Chicago, IL. **Winner of ICNC Student Travel Award.**
- Yang, X.-F.**, Pavarini, G., Schnall, S., Immordino-Yang, M. H. (2012, May). *Spontaneous gaze aversion during interview-induced moral elevation predicts subsequent default network activation* [Poster presentation]. The 2012 Association for Psychological Science Convention, Chicago, IL.
- Yang, X.-F.**, Saxbe, D. E., Borofsky, L. A., Murphy, M. C., Immordino-Yang, M. H. (2011, November). *Do you think it or feel it? Language and neural activity reflect individual differences in emotion processing* [Poster presentation]. The 41st annual meeting of Society for Neuroscience, Washington, D. C.
- Yang, X.-F.**, Wong, S. W. H., & Immordino-Yang, M. H. (2010, November). *Resting Cardiac Vagal Activity Predicts Heart Rate Change during Compassion for Physical Pain* [Poster presentation]. The 40th annual meeting of Society for Neuroscience, San Diego, CA.
- Yang, X.-F.**, Shoemaker, K., & Wong, S. W. H. (2009, October). *A wavelet analysis of the dynamic changes in heart rate variability during a 30-sec isometric handgrip task* [Poster presentation]. The 39th annual meeting of Society for Neuroscience, Chicago, IL. Supported by WiSE travel grant.

INVITED LECTURES/COLLOQUIA

- Embodied Brains, Social Minds and Cultural Meaning: Interdisciplinary and Developmental Research on Social Emotions.* Invited colloquium for the School of Psychology and Cognitive Science, East China Normal University, Shanghai, China (2024, April 2).
- Cultural modes of expressing emotion influence how emotions are experienced.* Invited guest lecture, PSYC 599, “Developmental Cognitive and Affective Neuroscience” (Instructor: Santiago Morales), USC (virtual; 2022, April 12).
- Cultural differences in the experience of social emotions.* Invited guest lecture, GERO 494, “Emotion-Cognition Interactions and Aging” (Instructor: Mara Mather), USC (2019, May 14,).
- How do we feel admiration and compassion? Sociocultural influences and the role of visual attention.* Invited talk for the Amy Research Lab – West, Los Angeles (2018, May)
- Community violence exposure correlates with smaller gray matter volume and lower IQ in urban adolescents:* Invited guest lecture, PSYC 499, “From Synapses to Schools: Applying Educational Neuroscience to Contemporary Issues in Education” (Instructor: Rebecca Gotlieb), USC (2018, March 22).
- The brain’s default mode network and insular cortex.* Presentation at the Neuroscience Graduate Program Core Course, NEUR 599, “Advanced Overview of Neuroscience II,” USC (2013, April 18).
- The brain’s default mode network and insular cortex.* Presentation at the Neuroscience Graduate Program Core Course, NEUR 599, “Advanced Overview of Neuroscience II,” USC (2012, April 11).

TEACHING AND MENTORING EXPERIENCE

- Fall 2006 – present *Research mentor, USC*
 Mentored 5 postdoctoral fellows, 20 graduate students, over 40 undergraduate students and over 20 high school students on research methods and career development. Over 10 undergraduate mentees received university fellowships for their research; 5 earned directed research credits under my supervision; 4 completed honor’s thesis with my support, with 3 earning the distinction of Discover Scholar

2011 Outstanding TA award during the 2010/2011 academic year, USC

Fall 2010/2009/2008 *Teaching Assistant*, How the body works: Topics in human physiology, USC
Course Organizers: Dr. Chien-Ping Ko & Dr. Michael Moore

Spring 2010 *Teaching Assistant*, General Physiology, USC
Course Organizers: Dr. Albert Herrera & Dr. Michael Moore

Spring 2009 *Teaching Assistant*, Statistics I, USC
Course Organizer: Dr. Stephen, Madigan

OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

February 21st, 2024 Presentation on scientific study of human brain for West Creek Academy (elementary school) Career Day

October 26th, 2023 Invited panel discussion on academic career paths for USC Chinese Psychology Student Association

Spring 2023 Presentation on what our brain does and how to protect it for preschool children at Montessori of Valencia

February 2014 Organized and hosted a one-day neuroscience field trip for the 4th grade class from Venn W. Ferguson Elementary School, CA.

Summer 2014 Designed curriculum and hosted a 9-day neuroscience summer camp for second-generation low SES high school students in the Los Angeles area.
Featured in LA register, [link](#)

2012 – 2015 Neuroscience Instructor and Curriculum Consultant, STAR Education Inc.