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**Training and Professional History**

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Education

Ph.D. University of Lausanne, Lausanne, Switzerland, May 2002,  
Psychology

B.A. University of Lausanne, Lausanne, Switzerland, October 1984,  
Social Sciences

**Academic Experience**

August 1<sup>st</sup> 2015-present

Associate Professor in Psychology, specialization: children cognitive development  
(psycholinguistics)

August 1<sup>st</sup> 2009–present

Courses taught:

PSY 101 Introductory Psychology

PSY 364 Life Span Development

PSY 300 Research Methods

PSY 301 Child Development

PSY 305 Infancy and Early Childhood development

PSY 400 Advanced Research Methods

Sept. 2003-July 2009

Post-doctoral Researcher and Associate Researcher in the Cognitive Development Laboratory of  
Prof. Linda Smith, at Indiana University, Bloomington, USA.

**Honors and Awards**

2003 Prize of the Faculty of Social Sciences for the Ph.D. thesis, University of Lausanne,  
Switzerland

2010 Research Grant-in Award winner attributed by the Center of Scholarly and Creative  
Excellence, GVSU, MI, for the research project “Basic Emotions and Early-Learned  
Verbs”.

- 2011 Professional Development Award attributed by the Robert and Mary Pew Faculty Teaching and Learning Center for a project for the Liberal Education Academy 2010-2011: "Evaluating a Creative Thinking Technique Implementation in the Classroom".
- 2021 Nomination by the Psychology Department to the Distinguished Undergraduate Mentoring Award

### **Professional memberships**

Society for Research in Child Development (SRCD) since 2005  
 Association of Psychological Science (APS) 2009-2016  
 International Association for the Study of Child Language in 2014  
 Jena Piaget Society since 2020

### **Professional services**

Guest editor for the Journal *Cognition, Brain, Behavior* (2011)

### **Ad-Hoc Reviewing**

NSF Action, Perception and Cognition Program (2022)  
 Society of Research in Child development Conference, abstracts review (2022)  
 Royal Society Open Science (2019) Joint IEEE 9th International Conference on Development and Learning and Epigenetic Robotics (ICDL-EpiRob, 2019)  
 Quarterly Journal of Experimental Psychology (2019)  
 Conference of the Society for Research in Child development (2018)  
 Journal of Cognition and Development (2018, 2019)  
 Journal of Child Language (2011, 2014, 2015, 2016)  
 Czech Academy of Science (2015)  
 Infant and Child Development (2015)  
 Developmental Psychology (2012, 2014)  
 Behavior Research Methods (2013)  
 Cognition, Brain, Behavior, review of 8 articles (2011, 2020)  
 New ideas in Psychology (2011, 2019)  
 International Conference on Development and Learning (2006)  
 Cognitive Science Conference (2006)

### **Conferences**

Jean Piaget Society (JPS): Constructivism: Celebrating 50 years, 2021  
 Experimental Meaning in Language (EML)  
 Dubrovnik Conference on Cognitive Science (DUCOG)  
 International Association for the Study of Child Language (IASCL)  
 Athens Institute for Education and Research: Annual International Conference on Languages & Linguistics (ATINER)  
 Society for Research in Child Development (SRCD)  
 Cognitive Science Society (COG.SCI.)  
 International Conference on Development and Learning (ICDL)  
 International Cognitive Linguistics Conference (ICLC)  
 Midwestern Psychological Conference (MPA)

**Obtained Research Funding**

- 2003            Scholarship from the Rectorate of the University of Lausanne, 2003-2004, 15'000 CHF
- 2012-present   Seed Grant from the University of Michigan-Dearborn, for an fMRI project on the neural correlates of body parts and verbs in adults, PI Nitya Sethuraman, 6'000\$, March 16. Matched by U of M: so \$12'000 + seed fund \$ 3000 so \$ 18'000 total.
- 2009    Travel grant from the Center of Scholarly and Creative Excellence, GVSU, MI, for the ISIS conference in Baltimore, March 2010
- 2010    Travel grant from the Center for Learning and Development, GVSU, MI, for the CSDL conference in San Diego, September 2010  
Travel grant from the Center of Scholarly and Creative Excellence, GVSU, MI, for the ICDL conference in Ann Arbor, August 2010
- 2011    Travel grant from the Center of Scholarly and Creative Excellence, GVSU, MI, for the SRCD conference in Montreal, April 2011  
*Travel grants for three research assistants from the APEF @ GVSU for the SRCD conference in Montreal, April 2011*
- 2012    Travel grant from the Center of Scholarly and Creative Excellence, GVSU, MI, for the MPA conference in Chicago, April 2012  
*Travel grants for three research assistants from the APEF @ GVSU for the MPA conference in Chicago, April 2012*  
*Travel grant from the Academic Conference Fund for two research assistants presenting at the MPA conference in Chicago, April 2012*
- 2013    Travel grant from the Center for Learning and Development, GVSU, MI, for the SRCD conference in Seattle, April 2013  
Travel grant from the Center of Scholarly and Creative Excellence, GVSU, MI, for the WILD conference in San Sebastian, Spain, June 2013
- 2014    Travel grant from the Center of Scholarly and Creative Excellence, GVSU, MI, for the Atiner Conference, Greece, July 2014
- 2015    Travel grant from the Center of Scholarly and Creative Excellence, GVSU, for the Society of Research in Child Development, SRCD, Philadelphia, March 2015
- 2016    1) Travel grant from the Center of Scholarly and Creative Excellence, GVSU, for the Research Seminars, University of Babes-Bolyai, Cluj-Napoca, Romania, April 2016  
2) Travel grant from the Center of Scholarly and Creative Excellence, GVSU, for the BUCLD (Boston University Conference on Language Development), Boston, Nov. 2016
- 2020    1) Travel grant from the Center of Scholarly and Creative Excellence,

- GVSU, for the Conference on embodiment, University of Babes-Bolyai, Cluj-Napoca, Romania, May 2020  
 2) Travel grant from the FTLC, GVSU, for the Conference on embodiment, University of Babes-Bolyai, Cluj-Napoca, Romania, May 2020
- 2022 Travel grant from the FTLC, GVSU, for the Society for Research in Child Development Conference and preconference on Teaching developmental science, SRCD, Salt Lake City, March 2023

## Research

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Maouene, J., Sethuraman, N., Uziel-Karl, S., & Hidaka, S. The Associative System of Body Parts and Early-Learned Hebrew Verbs: A Comparative Study with American English. Accepted with revisions by, and resubmitted to *Cognitive Linguistics*.

Brooks, P., Maouene, J., Sailor, K. & Seiler-Gardner, L. Lexical-Semantic Networks of School-age Children with and without Language Impairment Using Repeated Word Associations. *In preparation*.

Harman James, K. Sethuraman, N., Harris, R., Ichesco, E., Maouene, J. & Maouene, M. The neural correlates of body parts and verbs in adults, *in preparation*.

## Refereed Publications

Boyer, T. W., Maouene, J., & Sethuraman, N. (2017). Attention to Body Parts Varies with Visual Preference and Verb-Effector Associations. *Cognitive Processing*, 18(2), 195-203  
 doi:10.1017/s10339-017-0792-y

Maouene, J., Sethuraman, N., Maouene, M. & Otieno, S. (2016). Contingencies between verbs, body parts and argument structures in Maternal and Child Speech: A corpus study, *Language & Cognition*, 8 (02), 237 – 282. doi:10.1017/langcog.2014.48

Maouene, J., Sethuraman, N., Laakso, A., Maouene, M. (2011). Body region correlates of abstract and concrete verbs in early child language. *Cognition, Brain, Behavior. An Interdisciplinary Journal*, XV (4,) 449-484.

Maouene, J., Laakso, A., & Smith, L.B. (2011). Object associations of early-learned “light” and “heavy” English verbs. *First Language*, 31, 109-132.

Hills, T., Maouene, J., Riordan, B. & Smith, L., B. (2010). Early Word Learning: Contextual Diversity and the Associative Structure of Adult Language. *Journal of Memory and Language*, 63, 259-273.

James, K., & Maouene, J. (2009). Auditory verb perception recruits motor systems in the developing brain: an fMRI investigation. *Developmental Science*, 12:6, F26-F34.

Hills T., Maouene, M., Maouene, J., Sheya, A., & Smith, L., B. (2009). Early semantic Networks: Preferential Attachment or Preferential Acquisition? *Psychological Science*, 20(6), 729-339.

Hills T., Maouene, M., Maouene, J., Sheya, A., & Smith, L., B. (2009). Categorical Structure among shared features in networks of early-learned nouns. *Cognition*, 112, 381-396.

Maouene, J. Hidaka, S. & Smith B. L. (2008) Body parts and early-learned verbs. *Cognitive Science*, 32:7, pp.1200-1216.

### **Refereed Published Conference Proceedings**

Brooks, P., Maouene, J., Sailor, K. & Seiler-Gardner, L. *Modeling the semantic networks of school-age children with specific language impairment and their typical peers*. Proceedings of the 41<sup>st</sup> Annual Boston University Conference on Child Development, *BUCLD 41 Proceedings*, Cascadilla Press, 2017.

Hills, T., Maouene, J. Riordan, B. & Smith, L. Developing Early Semantic Networks And The Associative Structure Of Child Directed Speech. *Proceedings of the 50th Annual Conference of the Psychonomic Society, Boston, MA, November 19-22, 2009*.

Maouene, J., Laakso, A., Maouene, M. & Smith, L.B. Distribution of object types of ‘light’ and ‘heavy’ early-learned English verbs. *Proceedings of the Ninth IEEE International Conference on Development and Learning (ICDL-2010), Ann Arbor, MI, August 16-19, 2010*.

Hills T., Maouene, J., Riordan, B., & Smith, L.B. Contextual Diversity and the Associative Structure of Adult Language in Early Word Learning. *Proceedings of the 31st Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society, Amsterdam, NL, July 29-August 1, 2009*.

Hills T., Maouene, M., Maouene, J., Sheya, A., & Smith, L.B. Categorical Structure in Early Semantic Networks of Nouns. *Proceedings of the 30th Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society, Washington, DC, July 23-26, 2008*.

Hills T., Maouene, M., Maouene, J., Sheya, A., & Smith, L.B. Is there Preferential attachment in the Growth of Early Semantic Nouns Networks? *Proceedings of the 30th Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society, Washington, DC, July 23-26, 2008*.

Maouene, J., Hidaka, S., Maouene, M., & Smith, L., B. Body parts and early-learned verbs in Japanese and English. *Proceedings of the general session, at the 10th International Cognitive Linguistics Conference, Krakow, Poland, July 15-20th, 2007*.

Maouene, J., Hidaka, S., & Smith, L., B. Body parts and the first 100 verbs. *Proceedings of the 28th Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society, Talk Session 7-29-3 on Development, Vancouver, BC, Canada, July 26-29, 2006*.

Maouene, J., Hidaka, S., & Smith, L., B. Body parts and early acquired verbs: Evidence from children and adults. *Proceedings of the 5th International Conference on Development and Learning (ICDL), Talks Session II on The Dynamic Field Approach to Embodied Cognition: Integrating insights from Babies, Brains and Bots, Bloomington, Indiana, May 31 to June 3, 2006*.

### **Invited Lectures**

- ‘Embodiment, Cognition, adults and children’, National Institute of the Mentally Handicapped (NIMH), Department of Special Education in Secunderabad, India, December 7<sup>th</sup>, 2015.

- Department of psychology, Babes-Bolyai University, Cluj-Napoca, Romania,

Lecture 1: Master student class on embodiment and development: ‘*Debates around embodiment*’, April 12, 2016.

Lecture 2: Departmental Research Seminar: *Twelve years of investigation on the role of body parts in verbs*. April 14, 2016.

### Conferences and Symposia

Brown, P., Maouene, J., Garzone, A., & Sawyer, J. Abstract Symposium IASCL: *Using the Repeated Word Association Task to Explore Development of Lexical-Semantic Networks in Children and Adults*. Conference was cancelled than held online in 2021

Maouene, J. General panel abstract: *Examining the link between body parts and other concepts – a developmental, cross-cultural, and a simulated neural perspective*. SPEAKING BODIES Embodied Cognition at the Crossroads of Philosophy, Linguistics, Psychology and Artificial Intelligence, Cluj-Napoca, Romania, May 13-15, 2020. Conference was postponed and held on-line, May13-15, 2021.

Maouene, J., Sethuraman, N. & Uziel-Karl, S. Panel abstract 1: *The Hands in Early-learned Verbs and body parts associations: A detailed comparison between Hebrew and English*. SPEAKING BODIES Embodied Cognition at the Crossroads of Philosophy, Linguistics, Psychology and Artificial Intelligence, Cluj-Napoca, Romania, May 13-15, 2020. Conference was postponed and held on-line May 2021.

Maganti, M. & Maouene, J. Panel abstract II: *How verbs relate to body parts? Judgments of Telugu and Hindi speaking children*. SPEAKING BODIES Embodied Cognition at the Crossroads of Philosophy, Linguistics, Psychology and Artificial Intelligence, Cluj-Napoca, Romania, May 13-15, 2020. Conference was postponed and held on-line May13-15, 2021.

Brown P. & Maouene J. General symposium abstract: *Applications of Network Modeling to Vocabulary Development from Infancy into Adulthood*. Congress of the International Association for the Study of Child Language (IASCL), July 13-17, 2020 at the University of Pennsylvania. Was held on-line Sept 16-18, 2020.

Maouene, J., & Maouene, M. Spotting climax, intentions and goals in still sequences of actions. *The X. Dubrovnik Cognitive Science Conference, entitled Communication, Pragmatics, and Theory of Mind*. May 24-27, 2018, Center for Cognitive science, University of Zagreb, Dubrovnik, Croatia.

Brooks, P., Maouene, J., Sailor, K. & Seiler-Gardner, L. *Modeling the semantic networks of school-age children with specific language impairment and their typical peers*. Talk accepted at the 41<sup>st</sup> Boston University Conference on Child Development, November 4-6, 2016, Boston, Mass.

Maouene, J., Maganti M. L., & Bapi R. S. & Maouene, M. Body parts and early-learned verbs in 5-year-old Telugu speakers. A cross-linguistic comparison in association. *Talk presented at the*

*7th Annual International Conference on Languages & Linguistics, 7-10 July 2014, Athens, Greece.*

Uziel-Karl S., Maouene, J. & Sethuraman, The relation between verbs, argument structure frames and embodiment. *Talk presented at the Haifa Language Forum, The Edmond J. Safra Brain Research Center, Haifa University, Israel (November, 2012).*

Maouene, J., Kuwabara, M. Freer, D. Maouene, M. Smith, L. B. Basic Emotions and Early-learned English Verbs. *Talk presented at the Society for Research in Child Development, Montreal, Canada, April 1, 2011.*

Maouene, J. On the bi-directionality of verb learning. *Talk presented at the Society for Research in Child Development Montreal, Canada, April 1, 2011.*

Maouene, J., Sethuraman, N., Harman James, K. Maouene, M. & Smith, L.B. Correlating Body Experiences, Knowledge of Verbs, and the Development of Argument Structure. *Talk presented at the CSDL / ESLP joint meeting, University of California, San Diego, September 16-19, 2010.*

Maouene, J., Sethuraman, N., Maouene, M. & Smith, L.B. An embodied account of argument structure development, *Talk presented at the Linguistics Society (BLS) 36 Conference, UC Berkeley, February 6 to 7, 2010.*

Maouene, J., Sethuraman, N., Maouene, M. & Smith, L.,B. Correlations Between Body Parts and Types of Argument Structure. *Talk presented at the Society for Research in Child Development, SRCD Biennial Meeting, in Denver, Colorado, April 2-4, 2009.*

Harman James, K. & Maouene, J. Neural Correlates of Verb Processing in the Developing Brain. *Talk presented at the Society for Research in Child Development, 2009 SRCD Biennial Meeting, Denver, Colorado, April 2-4, 2009.*

Organization and chair position of a symposium. The participants were Asifa Majid (Max Planck, NL), Daniel Casasanto (Max Planck, NL), Karen Harman James (Child neuropsychology, Bloomington) and Josita Maouene: "Homologies between Relational Language and Bodily Action: First Steps into an Embodiment Account of Meaning". *Society for Research in Child Development, SRCD Biennial Meeting, in Denver, Colorado, April 2-4, 2009.*

Hills T., Maouene, M., Maouene, J., Sheya, A., & Smith, L.B. Alternative Models of Network Growth: Preferential Attachment, Preferential Acquisition, and the Lure of the Associates in Early Word Learning". *Talk accepted at the 1st ICC International Conference on Network Modeling and Economic systems. ISEG, Lisbon, October 9-11, 2008.*

Hills T., Maouene, M., Maouene, J., Sheya, A., & Smith, L.B. Preferential Acquisition not Attachment in the Development of Children's Semantic Networks. *Talk accepted at the 5th Conference on Applications of Social Network Analysis, ASNA 2008, University of Zurich, 12-13 September 2008.*

Maouene, J., & Smith, L., B. The body, the hands and early verbs. *Talk presented at the symposium on Meaning for Hands at the 2007 Biennial meeting of the Society for Research in Child development, Boston, March 29th-April 1st, 2007.*

## Posters

Snyder, C.P., Maouene, J., Sethuraman, N., & Boyer, T. W. The Sights and Sounds of Actions: Visual Attention to Action Effectors During an Image-Verb Processing Task. *Poster presented at The 60th Annual Meeting of the Southeastern Psychological Association, SEPA, March 5-8, 2014, Nashville, TN, USA.*

Maganti M., & Maouene, J. Body parts and early-learned verbs in 5 year old Telugu speakers. *Poster presented at the 13th International Congress for the Study of Child Language, IASCL, July 14-18, 2014, Amsterdam, Netherlands.*

Maouene M., Maouene J., & Canada K. Letting clusters and paths emerge from early semantic hypernetwork structure of features and their nouns. *Poster presented at the WILD - Workshop on Infant Language Development, June 20th-22nd, 2013, Donostia - San Sebastián, Spain.*

Maganti M.L., Maouene, J., Witherspoon, T. Collinge A., Notter, R. & Nesheim, M. Contingencies between verbs, body parts, and argument structure in Maternal and Child Speech: A corpus study in Telugu. *Poster presented at the WILD - Workshop on Infant Language Development, June 20th-22nd, 2013, Donostia - San Sebastián, Spain.*

Maouene J., Sethuraman, N. & Maouene, M. Body parts correlates of early abstract and concrete verbs. *Poster accepted at the 2012 International Conference on Infant Studies, Minneapolis, Minnesota, June 7-9, 2012.*

Maouene, J. & Smith, LB. How toddlers map common transitive English verbs to pictured events: An early dependency on common object. *Poster presented at the XXVIth International Conference on Infant Studies, Baltimore, Maryland, USA, March 11-14, 2010.*

Hills, T., Maouene, J. Riordan, B. & Smith, L. Developing Early Semantic Networks And The Associative Structure Of Child Directed Speech. ? *Proceedings of the 50th Annual Conference of the Psychonomic Society, Boston, MA, November 19-22, 2009.*

Maouene, J., Hidaka, S., & Smith, L., B. A developmental trajectory of the granularity of early-learned verbs clustered by body parts. *Poster presented at the 7th International Conference on Development and Learning, Monterrey, CA, August 9 to 12, 2008.*

Maouene, J., Maouene, M., & Smith, L., B. Set operators for superordinate category machine learning. *Poster member accepted at the 28th Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society, Vancouver, BC, Canada, July 26-29, 2006.*

Maouene, J. How do children build the meaning of Verbs? Grounding verb meanings in body parts, objects and contact. *Poster presented at the Society for Research in Child development, Session of Processes in Lexical learning, use, and Comprehension, Atlanta, May 2005.*

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## Book Chapter



Smith, L., Maouene, J., & Hidaka, S. (2007). The body and children's word learning, in J. M. Plumert & J. Spencer (Eds.), *Emerging landscapes of mind: Mapping the nature of change in spatial cognitive development*. New York: Oxford University Press.

**Editorial**

Maouene, J. & Ionescu, T. (2011). Editorial: Embodiment and Development. *In Cognition, Brain, Behavior, an Interdisciplinary Journal*, (pp. 403-408), vol. XV, No 4, ASCR Publishing House.

**Ph.D. Thesis**

Maouene, J. (2002). *Role et fonctionnement du prototype image dans le development de la categorization, Etude chez des enfants de 18 a 64 mois*. Manuscript de these, Universite de Lausanne.