



Candidate for Student Representative



Bria Smith (Doctoral Student)

Auburn University

My name is Bria Smith, and I became a member of SEACSM and ACSM in 2024. In February, I attended my first Regional Meeting as a Leadership Development Training Program (LDTP) Scholar, with Dr. Susan Arthur (UNC-Charlotte) as my mentor for the program. From this meeting, I created strategies for navigating the conference, placing emphasis on building new connections and creating opportunities for collaboration. I joined the Biomechanics and Minority Health Interest Groups, which allowed me to meet students and professors within the research areas. I attended my first National Meeting as an LDTP Scholar, with Dr. Erica Taylor (Columbus State University) as my mentor. Through her, I became involved in the ACSM Diversity Action Network and the Disability Action Committee, while also learning of student leadership positions.

Outside of SEACSM and ACSM, I volunteer on the Outreach Committee for the Black Biomechanists Association, as well as the Communications and Organization Committees for Latinx in Biomechanics. Through Auburn University, I serve as a senator for the Graduate Student Council, volunteering on their Events Committee and on the university's Access, Engagement, and Opportunity Committee as a student representative. I have organized a National Biomechanics Day Outreach Program funded by a grant from The Biomechanics Initiative. For the Locomotor and Movement Control Lab, I aid in the planning of community health fairs, where we provide free gait and balance testing to members of the community outside of a lab setting, and create graphics for our social media pages.

My overarching goal as a member of my community is to ensure everyone can access opportunities that would help them to thrive and grow. As SEACSM student representative, I look forward to communicating with student members and finding ways to increase student involvement in the chapter. I am excited to help with planning and managing the Annual Meeting, attending executive board meetings, and organizing chapter activities, as it would give me more insight into SEACSM operations.

Bria R. Smith Curriculum Vitae

Auburn University School of Kinesiology | 301 Wire Road, Auburn, AL 36849

Contact Information

Bria Smith, M.S.

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Education

Ph.D. Kinesiology

- Auburn University, Auburn, AL
- Expected Completion Date: May 2029

M.S. Exercise Science, *summa cum laude*

- Auburn University, Auburn, AL
- August 2024 – August 2025

B.S. Kinesiology, *summa cum laude*

- North Carolina A&T State University, Greensboro, NC
- August 2020 – December 2023

Associate of Science – General (AS), *summa cum laude*

- Guilford Technical Community College, Jamestown, NC
 - August 2016 – May 2020
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Section I: Experience & Teaching

Research Experience

- **Graduate Research Assistant | Undergraduate Research Liaison** August 2024 – Present
 - o Locomotor Control and Movement Laboratory; PI: Jaimie Roper, Ph.D.
 - o Auburn University, Auburn, AL
- **Student Research Assistant (SURE Amazon Scholar)** June 2023 – August 2023
 - o Applied Movement and Pain Laboratory (AMPL); PI: Jason Kutch, Ph.D.
 - Co-mentor: Jayati Upadhyay
 - o University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA
- **Undergraduate Research Assistant (NIH All of Us Scholar)** August 2022 – May 2023
 - o Mentor: Portia T. Williams, Ph.D.
- **Student Research Assistant (IMPACT Scholar)** June 2022 – August 2022
 - o Sleep and Human Health Laboratory (SHH); PI: Anne-Marie Chang, Ph.D.
 - o Pennsylvania State University – University Park Campus, State College, PA
- **Undergraduate Research Assistant** October 2021 – December 2023
 - o North Carolina A&T State University
 - o Mentor: Portia T. Williams, Ph.D.

Teaching Experience

Auburn University School of Kinesiology

Graduate Teaching Assistant

- KINE4400 Applied Anatomy for the Allied Health Professional | Spring 2026
- PHED1000 Active Auburn (*professor on record*) | Fall 2024 - Summer 2025
- KINE3620 Biomechanical Analysis of Human Movement | Fall 2024 – Spring 2025

Professional Experience

- Substitute Teacher at Guilford County Schools October 2023 – May 2025
- Assistant Manager at Dollar General August 2023 – October 2023
- Tennis Coach at Pat's Tennis Aces March 2017 – May 2023
- Site Coordinator/Tennis Coach at Greensboro Regional Tennis Association March 2020 – May 2023

Relevant Coursework

Auburn University (*IP = In Progress*)

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|-------------------------|---|
| Fall 2025 (<i>IP</i>) | ERMA7300 Design and Analysis in Education I |
| Summer 2025 | KINE7400 Advanced Anatomical Principles |
| Fall 2024 | KINE7010 Research Methods in Kinesiology |
| Fall 2024 | KINE7420 Biomechanics of Skill Analysis: Dartfish 1 |
| Fall 2024 | KINE7620 Principles of Biomechanics in Human Movement |

North Carolina A&T State University

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|-------------|---|
| Spring 2021 | MATH224 Intro Probability & Statistics |
| Spring 2022 | KINS345 Biomechanics |
| Spring 2023 | BIOL351 Human Anatomy and Physiology II |
| Fall 2023 | PHYS226 College Physics II |

Technical Skills and Training

- Data collection: Electromyography (Noraxon); Motion capture (Vicon); Actigraphy (Phillips Actiwatch Spectrum Plus, GT3X); Electroencephalography (Muse 2 EEG Headband); Inertial motion sensors (APDM)
- Data Analysis: Python; R; MATLAB; Tracker
- Basic Life Safety (BLS) certification
- CITI Training
- QPR Gatekeeper
- Conversational Spanish

Section II: Scholarly Activity

Publications

**In Progress (2)*

1. *Peoples, B.M., McIntosh, M.C., Harrison, K.D., **Smith, B.R.**, Santamaria-Guzman, K.G., Campos-Vargas, S.C., Cifuentes, D.C., Mueller, B.J., Kavazis, A.N., Beck, D.T., Roberts, M.D., & Roper, J.A. (2025). Dietary Nitrate Improves Gait and Functional Mobility in Middle-Aged and Older Adults Following 12 weeks of Resistance Training. *European Journal of Applied Physiology*.
2. ***Smith, B.R.**, Harrison, K.H., Peoples, B.M., Santamaria-Guzman, K.G., Culver, M., Robinson, A., & Roper, J.A. (2025). Locomotor Gains Without Cognitive Relief: Sleep Extension Improves Gait Speed Without Reducing Dual-Task Cost.
3. Harrison, K.D., Santamaria-Guzman, K., Peoples, B.M., Campos-Vargas, S., **Smith, B.R.**, Cifuentes, D.C., Greer, G., Neely, K.A., & Roper, J.A. (2025). Verbal Fluency Dual-Tasks Show Greater Age-Related Cognitive-Motor Interference: A Meta-Analysis of Walking Performance. *Experimental Brain Research*, 243(11). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00221-025-07169-7>

Conference Presentations

1. **Smith, B.R.**, Harrison, K., Peoples, B.M., Culver, M.N., Santamaria-Guzman, K., Campos-Vargas, S., Robinson, A.T., & Roper, J.A. (2025). Gait Parameters Related to Dynamic Balance and Bilateral Temporal Coordination Improve with Sleep Extension, but are Not Affected by Motor Dual Tasking in Young Adults. Poster. American Society of Biomechanics Annual Meeting, Pittsburgh, PA.
2. Williams, T.C., Jerkins, J.A., Renfrow, G.R., **Smith, B.R.**, Harrell, S.A., Santamaria-Guzman, K.G., Harrison, K.D., Peoples, B.M., & Roper, J.A. (2025). Peak Ground Reaction Force During the Normal and Staggered Stance 5-Repitition Sit-to-Stand is Associated with Step Width During Overground Walking: A Pilot Study. Auburn University Research Symposium, Auburn, AL.
3. Jerkins, J., Renfrow, G.P., Williams, T.C., **Smith, B.R.**, Harrell, S.A., Santamaria-Guzman, K.G., Harrison, K.D., Peoples, B.M., & Roper, J.A. (2025). Peak Rate of Force Development During 5x Sit-to-Stand as an Indicator of Cognitive Function in Younger Adults: A Pilot Study. Auburn University Research Symposium, Auburn, AL.
4. Campos-Vargas, S.E., Peoples, B.M., Santamaria-Guzman, K., Cifuentes, D.C., Harrison, K.D., **Smith, B.R.**, & Roper, J. (2025). Anaerobic exercises improve the balance and stability of young adults. Poster. ACSM Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA.
5. Santamaria-Guzman, K., Cifuentes, D.C., Harrison, K.D., Peoples, B.M., Campos-Vargas, S.E., **Smith, B.R.**, & Roper, J.A. (2025). Footwear Alters Gait and Predicts Falls: Two-Minute Walk Test Insights in Over-50 Adults. Poster. ACSM Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA.
6. **Smith, B.R.**, Harrison, K., Peoples, B., Culver, M., Santamaria-Guzman, K., Robinson, A., & Roper, J.A. (2025). Sleep Extension Significantly Affects Gait Speed, not Motor Dual Tasking in Young Adults. Poster. ACSM Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA.
7. **Smith, B.**, Upadhyay, J., & Kutch, J. (2023). Neuroscience of Ocean Surfing as a Form of Nonpharmacological Treatment for Chronic Pain. *University of Southern California Viterbi SURE Program*. Los Angeles, CA. Undergraduate Research Symposium, Poster.
8. **Smith, B.** & Williams, P.T. (2023). Prevalence of Arthralgia in African Americans and White Americans: A Systematic Review. *NIH All of Us Research Scholars Program*. Virtual research symposium, presentation.

9. **Smith, B.** & Williams, P.T. (2023). Prevalence of Arthralgia in African Americans and White Americans: A Systematic Review. *NIH All of Us Research Scholars Program*. Virtual research symposium, poster.
10. **Smith, B.,** & Chang, A.M. (2022). The Relationship Between Sleep Duration and Intensity of Physical Activity. *Pennsylvania State University NHLBI IMPACT Program*. State College, PA. Undergraduate Research Symposium, presentation.

Funding and Awards

ASB NextGen Biomechanics Travel Award August 2025 – August 2025

- American Society of Biomechanics | Awarded \$1000 for travel + additional expenses

Presidential Graduate Opportunity Fellowship August 2025 – July 2028

- Auburn University | Awarded full tuition, monthly stipend, + additional expenses

ACSM Leadership and Diversity Training Program May 2025 – May 2026

- American College of Sports Medicine | Awarded for lodging, travel, + additional expenses
- Mentor: Erica Taylor, PhD, FACSM

National Biomechanics Day x Black Biomechanics Association Grant April 2025 – April 2026

- National Biomechanics Day | Awarded \$660

SEACSM Leadership and Diversity Training Program February 2025 - February 2026

- Southeast American College of Sports Medicine | Awarded \$599
- Mentor: Susan Arthur, Ph.D.

Graduate Teaching Assistantship Recipient August 2024 – August 2025

- Auburn University | Awarded tuition + \$1,500 monthly stipend

Thurgood Marshall College Fund Sanofi NextGen Scholar August 2023 – December 2023

- North Carolina A&T State University | Awarded \$15,000

Thurgood Marshall College Fund Crème of Nature Scholar August 2023 – December 2023

- North Carolina A&T State University | Awarded \$5,500

Honors Program Scholarship Recipient August 2020 – December 2023

- North Carolina A&T State University | Awarded \$28,000

Section III: Professional & Academic Service

Professional Societies

2025 – Present Latinx in Biomechanix

- Communications Committee Volunteer | Social Media Management
- Organization Committee Volunteer

2025 – Present Auburn University Graduate Student Council (GSC)

- School of Kinesiology Senator
- GSC Events Committee Volunteer

- Access, Engagement, and Opportunity Graduate Student Representative (Senate Committee)
- 2025 – Present Auburn University School of Kinesiology Student Activity Advisory Committee (SAAC)
 - Student Chair
- 2024 – Present American Society of Biomechanics (ASB)
 - Diversity Subcommittee volunteer
- 2024 – Present Southeast American College of Sports Medicine (SEACSM)
 - Biomechanics Interest Group Member
 - Minority Health Interest Group Member
- 2024 – Present American College of Sports Medicine (ACSM)
 - Biomechanics Interest Group Member
 - Minority Health Interest Group Member
 - Diversity Action Network Volunteer
- 2024 – Present Black Biomechanists Association (BBA)
 - Outreach Committee Volunteer
- 2022 – 2024 Phi Epsilon Kappa Honors Fraternity (PEK)
 - Served as organization’s secretary Fall 2022 – Fall 2023
- 2022 – 2023 Minority Pre-Physician Associate Club (MPAC)
 - Served as organization’s event planner Fall 2022 – Fall 2023

Outreach

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| October 2025 | National Biomechanics Day |
| November 2024 – Present | Auburn-Opelika Parkinson’s Disease Support Group Volunteer |
| October 2024 – Present | Health Fair Volunteer |
| September 2024 – December 2024 | I Am My Brother’s Keeper (IAMBK) Volunteer |
| June 2023 – July 2023 | Angel City Games Volunteer |
| 2016 – 2021 | Greensboro Regional Tennis Association Tennis Coach |
| 2016 – 2020 | Guilford County Schools Classroom Aide |