



## Curriculum vitae

### 1. Personal details and the date of the CV

- Niemistö (nee Sääkslahti)
- Donna Maria
- ORCID ID: 0000-0002-9198-9437, Web of Science ResearcherID: HMD-6513-2023
- 19.04.2023

### 2. Degrees

- 17.08.2021 Doctoral degree (PhD), at Faculty of Sport and Health Sciences in Sport Pedagogy, University of Jyväskylä (JYU), Jyväskylä, Finland. Contact information: Faculty of Sport and Health Sciences, Postal address: PO Box 35, FI-40014 University of Jyväskylä, Street address: Keskussairaalantie 4, Building Liikunta, Tel. +358 14 260 1211.
- 10.3.2015 Master's degree (MSc), at Faculty of Sport and Health Sciences in Sport Pedagogy, JYU.
- 12.04.2012 Bachelors' degree, Scuola Universitaria Interfacoltà in Scienze Motorie (SUISM), Università di Torino, Turin, Italy.
- 3.6.2006 Matriculation, College of Voionmaa, Jyväskylä, Finland.

### 3. Other education and expertise

- 31.5.2016 Italian language as a minor subject with teacher qualification, JYU, Finland.
- 4.5.2015 Health education as a minor subject with teacher qualification, JYU, Finland.

### 4. Language skills

- Native language: Finnish
- Other language skills: English C1-C2, Italian C1-C2, French A1-A2, Swedish A1-A2.

### 5. Current employment

- 1.9.2021–31.3.2024 Postdoctoral researcher at the Faculty of Sport and Health Sciences, JYU.

### 6. Previous work experience

- 1.8.2020–31.8.2021 Project researcher at the Taiturit -research project (JYU), PI Arto Laukkanen
- 1.7.2015–31.7.2020 Doctoral student at the Skilled Kids and Active Family -research projects (JYU), PI Arja Sääkslahti
- 11.11.2014–30.6.2015 Part-time assistant collaborator (tekninen avustaja) at the JYU. PI: Pauli Rintala
- 1.1.2012–29.2.2012 Part-time assistant collaborator (tekninen avustaja) at the JYU. PI: Marita Poskiparta

### 7. Career breaks

- 19.6.2020–30.04.2021 Parental leave of 9 months
- 18.5.2017–31.3.2018 Parental leave of 9 months

### 8. Research funding and grants

- 1.4.2021-31.3.2023 Project funding for Taiturit – research project by Ministry of Education and Culture, PI: Arto Laukkanen. A part of applicant team, postdoc expertise in motor competence
- 1.4.2019-31.3.2021 Project funding for Active Family – research project by Ministry of Education and Culture, PI: Arja Sääkslahti. A part of applicant team, doctoral student.
- 28.11.2019 Personal grant of 6 months to complete PhD, Juho Vainio Foundation, 11 250 €.
- 1.4.2015-31.3.2018 Project funding for Skilled Kids - research project by Ministry of Education and Culture, PI: Arja Sääkslahti. A part of applicant team, doctoral student.

### 9. Research output

- 11 publications in total (4 as a first author and 7 peer-reviewed)
- Most cited publications:
  1. Niemistö D, Finni T, Haapala EA, Cantell M, Korhonen E & Sääkslahti A. 2019. Environmental correlates of motor competence in children - The Skilled Kids study. International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health

- 16(11), 1989. <https://doi.org/10.3390/ijerph16111989> (WoS 42 times cited, Google Scholar 88 times)
2. Niemistö D, Barnett LM, Cantell M, Finni T, Korhonen E & Sääkslahti A. 2019. Socioecological correlates of perceived motor competence in 5- to 7-year-old Finnish children. *Scandinavian Journal of Medicine & Science in Sports* 29(5); 753-765. <https://doi.org/10.1111/sms.13389> (WoS 22 times cited, Google Scholar 52 times)
  3. Niemistö D, Finni T, Cantell M, Korhonen E & Sääkslahti A. 2020. Individual, family, and environmental correlates of motor competence in young children: Regression model analysis of data obtained from two motor tests. *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health* 17(7), 2548. <https://doi.org/10.3390/ijerph17072548> (WoS 15 times cited, Google Scholar 38 times)
  4. Laukkanen A, Niemistö D, Finni T, Cantell M, Korhonen E & Sääkslahti A. 2018. Correlates of physical activity parenting: The Skilled Kids -study. *Scandinavian Journal of Medicine & Science in Sports* 28(12); 2691-2701. <https://doi.org/10.1111/sms.13287> (WoS 9 times cited, Google Scholar 34 times)
  5. Niemistö D, Barnett LM, Cantell M, Finni T, Korhonen E & Sääkslahti A. 2021. What factors relate to three profiles of perception of motor competence in young children? *Journal of Sports Sciences* 40(2); 215-225. <https://doi.org/10.1080/02640414.2021.1985774> (WoS 1 times cited, Google Scholar 2 times)

#### 10. Research supervision and leadership experience

- 2022-2023 LPES0005 Master theses -seminary, and supervision of Master theses for 16 students. JYU.
- 2021–2022 LPEA034 Bachelor theses -seminary, and supervision of Bachelor theses for 16 students. JYU.

#### 11. Teaching merits:

Teaching experience in Sport Pedagogy for example in courses selected below:

- 2021–2023 LPES004 Liikuntapedagogiikan syventäminen tentti, JYU.
- 2016, 2018 LPEP014 Kummikoulu, JYU.
- 2015, 2016, 2019 LTKY018 Johdatus liikunta- ja terveystieteisiin, JYU.
- 2016, 2018 Collaboration with University of Verona. Demonstration lecture in course of “Infanzia e Movimento: lo sviluppo motorio nell’infanzia” with ass. prof. Arja Sääkslahti. Organization of the course: Patrizia Tortella, Università di Verona, Italy.

#### 12. Awards and honours

- 2019 Young researcher’s award in Sport Pedagogy, Finnish Society of Sport Sciences.
- 2019 Niemistö D, Finni, et al. 2019 was awarded as the second most viewed article in IJERPH while it was released in June 2019 with 1200 views.

#### 13. Other key academic merits, such as:

- 2022–2024 A member of organising team of international scientific conference of ‘The International Association for Physical Education in Higher Education (AIESEP) World congress’ which will be held in May 13-19, 2024, in JYU, Finland.
- 2019–2023 Referee for scientific publications in journals, such as *Journal of Science and Medicine in Sport*, *Journal of Sport Sciences*, *Research Quarterly for Exercise and Sport*, *Journal of Early Childhood Education Research*.
- 2016–2017 A member of organising team of international scientific conference ‘CIAPSE 2 - Children’s Physical Activity and Sport’ held in Jyväskylä (JYU, Finland) in January 26-28, 2017.

#### 14. Scientific and societal impact

- Activity in research communication in Finnish and English with 1) research press releases (see research press releases in list of publications), which have been noted in major news media, such as Yle and Helsingin Sanomat, 2) in JYU research blogs in 2019 and 2021, 3) by author of two podcasts released in 2018 and 2021, 4) creating webpages for research projects in Finnish and English (Taitavat tenavat/Skilled Kids, Liikkuva perhe/Active Family and Taiturit), and 5) Active in organising and participating in Research’s night.
- Expert research position in network of Liikkuva varhaiskasvatus, and activity in different research networks, such as SOSUS and Lapsi- ja perhetutkimusverkosto.

#### 15. Other merits

- 2022–2023 A member of interview committee developing interviews and organizing entrance examination in Sport Pedagogy, in the Faculty of Sport and Health Sciences. Committee’ chairman: Marja Kokkonen.