

LSUHSC-NO Academy for the Advancement of Educational Scholarship  
Member Profile



**James Thompson, Ph.D.**

Academy Teaching Scholar

Professor

Department of Microbiology, Immunology, and Parasitology

School of Medicine

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Biographical Sketch: Dr. Thompson was raised on a farm in Iowa. He obtained his undergraduate and graduate training in microbiology at the University of Iowa in Iowa City. After initial academic appointments at the Temple University School of Medicine in Philadelphia, he joined the faculty of the Department of Microbiology, Immunology and Parasitology here at the Health Sciences Center and advanced through the ranks to be appointed Professor in 1990. His major laboratory research interests concerned humoral responses to various pathogens as well as development of immunological technologies.

From 1998-2010, Dr. Thompson was Director of Microbiology's departmental course for Microbiology, Immunology and Parasitology given to sophomore medical students. With the implementation of computerized testing in 2003, it became feasible for Dr. Thompson to examine the contribution of person response time to didactic performance. He has developed a standardized measure of this response time, termed *pace*, examined the stability of the measure over time, its relationship to covariates, and is currently analyzing speed-accuracy trade-offs associated with pace. For future work, he would like to determine if the analytical methodologies that he has developed can be extended to 'authentic' competency assessments in skills-based scenarios.

Educational Domains Represented in Academy Portfolio

- Teaching
- Curriculum Development, Instructional Design and Assessment of Student Learning
- Advising and Mentoring
- Leadership and Service
- Educational Research

Teaching/Education Expertise

Microbiology, Immunology, and Parasitology  
Empirical analysis of response times