Hannah Little

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A digital enthusiast and linguist with extensive professional experience in research, teaching and science communication. I specialise in linguistic and cultural evolution, experimental methods and data analysis.

Jan 2018 -	**Postgraduate Certificate in Academic Practice**, *University of the West of England*.
2012–2017	**PhD**, *Artificial Intelligence Laboratory, Vrije Universiteit Brussel*. Thesis: It's not all in your Mind: Modality Effects on the Emergence of Speech Structure Supervisor: Prof. Dr. Bart de Boer
2010–2011	**MSc Evolution of Language and Cognition**, *University of Edinburgh*. Thesis: "Foreigner Directed Speech: Its role in Cultural Transmission of Language & the resulting effects on Language Typology". Supervisor: Dr. Kenny Smith
2007–2010	**BA English Language and Linguistics**, *University of York*, (First Class Honors). Thesis: "Morphosyntactic Unification of Case Markers and Postpositions in Hungarian" Supervisor: Dr. George Tsoulas

Work Experience

Oct 17 – now	**Lecturer**, *Science Communication Unit, University of the West of England. Bristol, UK*. I teach students at foundation, undergraduate and postgraduate levels methods for science and science communication. I specialise in units on digital communication.
Oct 17	**Data Annotator**, *The University of Cambridge, Cambridge, UK*. Learner corpus annotation for the ALTA Institute (short term casual contract)
Sep 16–Sep 17	**PostDoc**, *Max Planck Institute for Psycholinguistics. Nijmegen, NL*. I worked on projects around the theme of language evolution. I design, build and run experiments, and disseminate the results in publications and presentations.
Sep 12	**Festival Communications Assistant**, *British Science Festival, Aberdeen, UK*. I liaised with journalists and speakers. I wrote and edited press releases and monitored press generated by the festival. I also helped promote and report on events on social media.
Jan 12–Oct 12	**STEM Outreach Coordinator**, *STEM Outreach, Newcastle College, Newcastle, UK*. I worked as a coordinator and administrator for the STEM Ambassadors Programme, Nuffield Research Placements and the British Science Association Crest Awards in the region. I liaised with science and technology organisations and educational institutes to organise outreach events. I worked extensively with schools to encourage engagement with the science outreach programmes mentioned above. I also maintained the organisation's blog and social media.

Web Literacy html5, javascript, Wordpress, Social Media
Programming R, python (including PsychoPy), jsPsych, E–Prime, praat, latex

Teaching (Teaching evaluations available on request)

2018	Lecturer on Writing Science module. MSc module.
2018	Lecturer on Science in Public Spaces module. MSc module.
2018	Lecturer on Science on Air and on Screen module. MSc module.

2018	Lecturer on Science Communication module. BSc module.
2018	Lecturer on People and Science module. Foundation level course.
2017	Course Tutor. Biomedical Skills. BSc Module.
2017	Convener/Lecturer. Minds, Mechanisms and Interaction in the Evolution of Language Summer School. I covered sections on open science, preregistration and data cleaning. MPI for Psycholinguistics, Nijmegen, Netherlands
2012–2015	Teaching assistant, Methods of Scientific Research (MSc Course), VUB, Brussels, Belgium

Grants and Bursaries

2017	Cultural Evolution Society Conference Travel Grant.
2017	Data on the Mind Workshop. Berkeley, University of California. Funded Participant.
2016–2017	Max Planck Institute Visitorship Grant
2012–2016	European Research Council, PhD studentship as part of the ABACUS project
2015	VUB Doctoral School, NSE Travel Grant €750
2012	British Interactive Group, Bursary to attend the BIG Annual Training Conference
2012	Edinburgh Beltane, Bursary to attend the Science Communication Conference

Academic Service

Public Relations Officer for the **International Association of Cognitive Semiotics (IACS)**

Conference Organisation	**Science Communication workshop** at CogSci2018 in collaboration with scicommcon.
	Evolang 2018, Toruń, Poland (Scientific Committee)
	Modality Matters Workshop (Evolang 2018), with Ashley Micklos
	Minds, Mechanisms and Interaction in the Evolution of Language Workshop, Max Planck Institute for Psycholinguistics (2017)
	Advancing Behavioural and Cognitive Understanding of Speech workshop, Max Planck Institute for Psycholinguistics (2017)
	The Evolution of Speech workshop, EvoLangXI (2016)
	The Evolution of phonetic capabilities: causes, constraints and consequences, Satellite Meeting at the International Congress of Phonetic Sciences (2105)

Reviewing and Editing

Journal Reviewing	Interaction Studies, Cognitive Science, Literary and Linguistics Computing
Editing	Guest Editor, **The Journal of Language Evolution**, Special Issue on the Evolution of Sound Systems
Conferences	EvoLangXII, CogSci2017, CogSci2016 (Program committee), EvoLangXI, CogSci2015, EvoLangX
Books	Routledge, SpringerBriefs in Linguistics

Publications

Journal Papers

2017 **Little, Hannah**, Heikki Rasilo, Sabine van der Ham and Kerem Eryilmaz. Empirical approaches for investigating the origins of structure in speech. *Interaction Studies 18(3).* 332 – 354. doi: 10.1075/is.18.3.03lit

2017 **Little, Hannah**, Kerem Eryilmaz and Bart de Boer. Conventionalisation and Discrimination as Competing Pressures on Continuous Speech-like Signals. *Interaction Studies 18(3).* 355 – 378. doi: 10.1075/is.18.3.04lit

2017 **Little, Hannah**, Kerem Eryilmaz and Bart de Boer. Signal dimensionality and the emergence of structure. *Cognition 168* 1-15. doi: 10.1016/j.cognition.2017.06.011

2017 **Little, Hannah**. Introduction to the Special Issue on the Emergence of Sound Systems. *The Journal of Language Evolution 2(1)* 1-3. doi: 10.1093/jole/lzx014

2016 Eryilmaz, Kerem and **Hannah Little**. Using Leap Motion to investigate the emergence of structure in speech and language. *Behavior Research Methods 49(5)* 1748–1768. doi:10.3758/s13428–016–0818–x

Journal Papers submitted or near submission

under review Perlman, Marcus, **Hannah Little**, Bill Thompson and Robin L. Thompson. "Iconicity in Signed and Spoken Vocabulary: A Comparison between American Sign Language, British Sign Language, English, and Spanish." Target journal: Frontiers in Psychology. Research topic on Visual Language.

In revision **Little, Hannah**, Jack Wilson, Kerem Eryilmaz and Bart de Boer. "Structure as a product of restricted signal–meaning mapping."

in prep **Little, Hannah**, Yasamin Motamedi, Alan Nielsen, Marcus Perlman and Justin Sulik. "Empirical Approaches to Measuring Iconicity." Target Journal: The Journal of Language Evolution.

in prep **Little, Hannah** and Marcus Perlman. "Repeated interaction can lead to an increase in iconicity." Target Journal: Language and Cognition.

Edited Volumes

2017 **Little, Hannah** (Ed.). Special Issue on the Emergence of Sound Systems [Special Issue]. *The Journal of Language Evolution,* 2(1).

2015 **Little, Hannah**. Evolution of Phonetic Capabilities: Causes, Constraints and Consequences. *ICPhS Satellite Event.* Glasgow, UK.

Book Reviews

2016 **Little, Hannah**. Review of Ljiljana Progovac: Evolutionary Syntax. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2015. Linguist List 27(3298)

2014 **Little, Hannah**. Review of Denis Bouchard: The Nature and Origin of Language. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2013. Linguist List 25(4460)

Conference Proceedings

Submitted Perlman, Marcus, **Hannah Little** and Robin L. Thompson. "Modality differences in Iconicity: An empirical comparison of signed and spoken vocabularies" *Modality Matters. Workshop at the 12th international conference for the Evolution of Language (EvoLangXII).* Toruń, Poland.

2018 Roberts, Sean, Ashley Micklos, Justin Sulik and **Hannah Little**. "The role of interaction in language evolution." *The Evolution of Language: Proceedings of the 12th international conference (EvoLangXII).* Toruń, Poland.

2018 **Little, Hannah** and Justin Sulik. "What do iconicity judgements really mean?" *The Evolution of Language: Proceedings of the 12th international conference (EvoLangXII).* Toruń, Poland.

2017 Sulik, Justin, Ashley Micklos and **Hannah Little**. "Interaction drives the evolution of informative signals theme session" *Proceedings of the Inaugural Cultural Evolution Society Conference.* Jena, Germany.

2017 **Little, Hannah**. "Interaction, Perspective Taking and the Emergence of Transparency" *Proceedings of the Inaugural Cultural Evolution Society Conference.* Jena, Germany.

2017 **Little, Hannah**, Marcus Perlman and Kerem Eryilmaz. "Repeated Interactions Can Lead to More Iconic Signals" In G. Gunzelmann, A. Howes, T. Tenbrink, & E. Davelaar (Eds.) *Proceedings of the 39th Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society.* (pp. 760–766) Austin, TX: Cognitive Science Society

2017 **Little, Hannah** and Marcus Perlman. "The transition from iconic signals to arbitrary signs depends on modality" In: *Proceedings of the 11th International Symposium on Iconicity in Language and Literature.* pp.37-39. Brighton, UK.

2017 **Little, Hannah.** "Causes for the inverse relationship between iconicity and phonological structure " In: *Proceedings of the 11th International Symposium on Iconicity in Language and Literature.* pp. 117-119. Brighton, UK.

2017 **Little, Hannah**, Kerem Eryilmaz and Bart de Boer. "Conventionalisation and Discrimination as Competing Pressures on Continuous Speech–like Signals." *Proceedings for CogLing7.* (pp. 38–39) Nijmegen, NL.

2016 **Little, Hannah** and Bart de Boer. "Did the pressure for discrimination trigger the emergence of combinatorial structure?" In: *Proceedings of the Second Conference of the International Association for Cognitive Semiotics.* (pp. 109–110) Lublin, Poland.

2016 Wilson, Jack J. and **Hannah Little**. "A Neo–Peircean Framework for Experimental Semiotics." In: *Proceedings of the Second Conference of the International Association for Cognitive Semiotics.* (pp. 171–173) Lublin, Poland.

2016 **Little, Hannah**. "Nahran Bhannamz: Language Evolution in an Online Zombie Apocalypse Game." In: *Createvolang: creativity and innovation in language evolution.* New Orleans, USA.

2016 **Little, Hannah**, Kerem Eryilmaz and Bart de Boer. "Differing signal–meaning dimensionalities facilitates the emergence of structure." In S.G. Roberts, C. Cuskley, L. McCrohon, L. Barceló–Coblijn, O. Feher & T. Verhoef (eds.) *The Evolution of Language: Proceedings of the 11th international conference (EvoLangXI).* (pp. 182–190) New Orleans, USA.

2016 **Little, Hannah**, Kerem Eryilmaz and Bart de Boer. "Emergence of Signal Structure: Effects of Duration Constraints." In S.G. Roberts, C. Cuskley, L. McCrohon, L. Barceló–Coblijn, O. Feher & T. Verhoef (eds.) *The Evolution of Language: Proceedings of the 11th international conference (EvoLangXI).* (pp. 468–470) New Orleans, USA.

2016   Eryilmaz, Kerem, **Hannah Little** and Bart de Boer. "Using HMMs to Attribute Structure to Artificial Languages." In S.G. Roberts, C. Cuskley, L. McCrohon, L. Barceló–Coblijn, O. Feher & T. Verhoef (eds.) *The Evolution of Language: Proceedings of the 11th international conference (EvoLangXI)*. (pp. 407–410) New Orleans, USA.

2015   **Little, Hannah** "Introduction to the evolution of phonetic capabilities satellite meeting." In: Hannah Little, ed., *The proceedings of Evolution of Phonetic Capabilities: Causes, Constraints and Consequences*. pp 1. Glasgow, UK.

2015   **Little, Hannah**, Kerem Eryilmaz and Bart de Boer. "A new artificial signal-space proxy for investigating the emergence of structure and categories in speech." In *The Scottish Consortium for ICPhS 2015 (Ed.), Proceedings of the 18th International Congress of Phonetic Sciences*. Glasgow, UK: the University of Glasgow. ISBN 978–0–85261-941–4. Paper 31.

2015   **Little, Hannah**, Kerem Eryilmaz and Bart de Boer. "Linguistic Modality Affects the Creation of Structure and Iconicity in Signals." In D. C. Noelle, R. Dale, A. S. Warlaumont, J. Yoshimi, T. Matlock, C. D. Jennings, & P. P. Maglio (Eds.), *Proceedings of the 37th Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society* (pp. 1392–1398). Austin, TX: Cognitive Science Society.

2014   **Little, Hannah** and Catriona Silvey "Interpreting emerging structures: the interdependence of combinatoriality and compositionality". In *First Conference of the International Association for Cognitive Semiotics (IACS 2014)*. pp 113–114. Lund, Sweden.

2014   **Little, Hannah** and Bart de Boer. "The effect of size of articulation space on the emergence of combinatorial structure". In: Erica A. Cartmill, Seán Roberts, Heidi Lyn and Hannah Cornish, ed., The Evolution of Language: *Proceedings of the 10th international conference (EvoLangX)*. pp. 479-481. Vienna, Austria.

2014   **Little, Hannah** and Kerem Eryilmaz "The effect of physical articulation constraints on the emergence of combinatorial structure". In: Bart de Boer and Tessa Verhoef, ed., *The EvoLangX Workshop on Evolution of Signals, Speech and Signs*. pp.11–17. Vienna, Austria.

2014   Littauer, Richard, Seán G. Roberts, James Winters, Rachael Bailes, Michael Pleyer and **Hannah Little**. "From the Savannah to the Cloud: Blogging Evolutionary Linguistics research". In: Luke McCrohon, Bill Thompson, Tessa Verhoef and Hajime Yamauchi, ed., *The Past, Present and Future of Language Evolution Research. Student Volume of the 9th International Conference on the Evolution of Language*. pp 121–133. Tokyo, Japan.

2013   Wilson, Jack, J. and **Hannah Little**. "Emerging languages in Esoteric and Exoteric Niches: evidence from Rural Sign Languages". In: *Ways to Protolanguage 3 book of abstracts*. pp. 54–55. Wroclaw, Poland.

2012   Littauer, Richard, James Winters, Seán G. Roberts, **Hannah Little**, Michael Pleyer and Bill Benzon. "Academic Research in the Blogosphere: Adapting to new opportunities and risks on the internet". In: Jan Christoph Meister, ed., *Digital Humanities 2012 Conference Abstracts*, pp. 268–269. Hamburg: Hamburg University Press.

2012   **Little, Hannah** "The Role of Foreigner-Directed Speech in Language Evolution". *European Human Behaviour and Evolution Association Annual Meeting 2012 Poster Abstracts*. pp. 7. Durham, UK.

Conference Presentations without Proceedings

2016   **Little, Hannah**, Kerem Eryilmaz and Bart de Boer. "The effects of Communication on Iconicity in Continuous Speech–like Signals." Psycholinguistics in Flanders. Antwerp, Belgium.

2015   van der Ham, Sabine, **Hannah Little**, Kerem Eryilmaz and Bart de Boer. "Experimental Evidence on the Emergence of Phonological Structure." In: The proceedings of The 13th International Cognitive Linguistics Conference (ICLC-13). Newcastle, UK.

2014 **Little, Hannah**. "Experiments in the Emergence of Combinatorial Structure: Considering the Limitations of Articulation Space Proxies". Poster presentation. Nijmegen Lectures. 28 January 2014. Nijmegen, Netherlands.

2013 Wilson, Jack, J. and **Hannah Little**. "From Pragmatics to etymology: Evidence from Rural Sign Languages". Oral presentation. Language at Leeds PGR Group. 28 November 2013. Leeds, UK.

Invited Talks

2018 **Little, Hannah**. Invited speaker at "Cog Sci and Sci Comm" workshop *CogSci 2018*, Madison, Wisconsin, USA.

2017 **Little, Hannah**. "Biases born from modality affect the emergence of linguistic structure" *Minds, Mechanisms and Interation in the Evolution of Language.* MPI, Nijmegen, the Netherlands.

2017 Perlman, Marcus, **Hannah Little** and Robin L. Thompson. "Modality driven encoding of iconicity in signed and spoken vocabulary: A Comparison between British Sign Language and English" *Types of iconicity in language use, development and processing.* MPI, Nijmegen, the Netherlands.

2016 **Little, Hannah**. "It's not all in your Mind": Modality Effects on the Emergence of Combinatorial Structure" Invited Colloquium - Diversity in Language, Culture and Cognition. 8 December 2016. Max Plank Institute for Psycholinguistics. Nijmegen, The Netherlands

2015 **Little, Hannah**. "Extherements: An experimental investigation into signal space topology and the emergence of structure." Invited talk. The Language Evolution and Computation Unit. 17 March 2015. The University of Edinburgh, UK.

Public Engagement Articles (Full list including University Media and Blogging available on request)

upcoming 2018 **Little, Hannah**. "From the walking dead to the talking heads: Sci-Fi influences on Linguistics. Robots and Language Grounding." Article in Babel: The Language Magazine.

upcoming 2018 **Little, Hannah**. "From the walking dead to the talking heads: Sci-Fi influences on Linguistics. Zombies and Language Contact" Article in Babel: The Language Magazine.

upcoming 2018 **Little, Hannah**. "From the walking dead to the talking heads: Sci-Fi influences on Linguistics. X-Men and Language Genetics" Article in Babel: The Language Magazine.

upcoming 2018 **Little, Hannah**. "From the walking dead to the talking heads: Sci-Fi influences on Linguistics. Aliens and Language Development" Article in Babel: The Language Magazine.

upcoming **Little, Hannah**. "From the walking dead to the talking heads: Sci-Fi influences on Linguistics" Article series in Babel: The Language Magazine.

2016 **Little, Hannah**. "How reliably can we measure the relatedness of two languages?" Ask a Linguist Feature. Babel: The Language Magazine 2016, Issue 16. Page 35.

2015 **Little, Hannah**. "The Combinatorial Structure of Language, Music, Life and Everything". Cover Feature. Babel: The Language Magazine 2015, Issue 13. Pages 14–17.

2011 – 2012 Various Copy in EuSci: Student Science Magazine of the University of Edinburgh.

2010 – present Blogging: replicatedtypo.com, lablit.com, geekfeminism.org

Public Engagement

Public Engagement Research

ongoing   The Great Escape. Investigating the impact of 'escape rooms' as science communication.

Public Engagement Evaluation

2018   Social Media analysis. 2017 Christmas Lectures Evalution. Royal Institution.

Public Engagement Volunteer Work (Full list available on request)

2018   Christmas lecture zone. I'm a Scientist get me out of here, Wellcome Trust, London
2017-now   STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) Ambassador, STEMNET
2014   Greenlight for Girls (Kodu coding workshop), Brussels, Belgium
2013   I'm a Scientist get me out of here, Wellcome Trust, London
2013   The European Gender Summit, Brussels, Belgium
2012   Greenlight for Girls (Blockly coding workshop), Brussels, Belgium
2012   BBC, Science explainer on Mr. Bloom's Nursery Roadshow, Ready, Set, Grow!
2012   Newcastle Science Festival Roadshow
2011–2015   STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) Ambassador, STEMNET
2011–2012   Member of the NE Science alliance
2011–2012   Member of the Newcastle Branch of the British Science Association

Public Engagement Speaking

2017   "Where do words come from?" Radboud Talks, Nijmegen, the Netherlands.
2016   "Tweets and Waggles." Stand–up Comedy. Brussels Bright Club, Belgium.
2015   "Animal Communication." Let's talk Science Stand–up science show, Leuven, Belgium.
2012   "The evolution of language: culture or cognition?" Newcastle Skeptics in the Pub.
2012   "The Public Misunderstanding of Linguistics." Stand–up Comedy. Newcastle Bright Club.

Continuing Professional Development in Public Engagement

Storytelling training (Radboud Talks, Nijmegen), Let's talk Science (Science Communication Summer School, Leuven), Effective Science Communication Course (Principae, Brussels), Science Communication Conference 2011 & 2012, British Interactive Group (BIG) Event 2012, "Engaging Hard to Reach Users" Workshop (National Centre for Research Methods, Northumbria University), Twilight CPD Course for STEM Club leaders (STEM Clubs Network), Science Communication Training Workshop, Icebreakers & Games (The Training Group, Graphic Science), EUSci Popular Science Editing Workshop (University of Edinburgh)