# **Brent Pitchford**

Department of Psychology Brock University Mackenzie Chown Complex Room B420 1812 Sir Isaac Brock Way St. Catharines, ON, L2S 3A1 Email: bpitchford@brocku.ca Website: brentpitchford.com Citizenship: Canadian

# FORMAL EDUCATION

Canada

2018-Present PhD, Behavioural and Cognitive Neuroscience

**Brock University** 

Thesis: The Influence of Incentives on Attention: Considering the Role of

Individual Differences in Attention-to-Reward

Supervisor: Dr. Karen Arnell

2016-2018 MA, Behavioural and Cognitive Neuroscience

**Brock University** 

Thesis: Self-Control and its Influence on Global/Local Processing: An Investigation of the Role of Frontal Alpha Asymmetry and Dispositional

Approach Tendencies

Supervisor: Dr. Karen Arnell

2012-2016 **BSc, Psychology** 

Carleton University, High Distinction

Thesis: Uh, Um... The Distinctive Usage of Filled Pauses in Psychopathic

Young Offenders' Speech Supervisor: Dr. John Logan

### RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

2019-2022	Alexander Graham Bell Canada Graduate Scholarship (Doctoral) National Science and Engineering Research Council (\$105,000)
2019-2020	Ontario Graduate Scholarship
2017-2018	Government of Ontario (\$15,000; Declined)
2018-2019	Ontario Graduate Scholarship Government of Ontario (\$15,000)
2017-2018	Alexander Graham Bell - Canada Graduate Scholarship (Master's) National Science and Engineering Research Council (\$17,500)
2015	

# 2017 Spring Research Fellowship

Department of Graduate Studies (\$4000)

2016-2017 Research Fellowship

Faculty of Graduate Studies (\$2000)

2016-2017 **Research Fellowship** 

Attention Lab (\$2000)

2016-2017 Graduate Fellowship

Attention Lab (\$5000)

# ACADEMIC DISTINCTIONS AND AWARDS

2021	<b>Library Open Access Publishing Fund</b> Brock University Library (\$1500)
2018	Certificate of Academic Excellence 2018 – Master's Thesis Canadian Psychological Association
2018-2019	Entrance Scholarship (PHD) Department of Graduate Studies (\$2000)
2017-2018	Excellence Scholarship Department of Graduate Studies (\$5000)
2016-2017	Entrance Scholarship (MA) Department of Graduate Studies (\$2000)
2012-2015	Entrance Scholarship Carleton University (\$4000)
2013-2016	Deans' Honour List Carleton University

### PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

- **Pitchford, B.** & Arnell, K.M (2022) An examination of how reward associations differentially facilitate and impair Stroop performance. Manuscript submitted for publication.
- **Pitchford, B.,** & Arnell, K. M. (2022). Evaluating individual differences in rewarded Stroop performance: Reliability and associations with self-report measures. *Psychological Research*, 1-18.
- **Pitchford, B.** & Arnell, K.M. (2021). Individual differences in attentional breadth changes over time: An event-related potential investigation. *Frontiers in Psychology, 12*, 1-12.

- **Pitchford, B.** & Arnell, K.M. (2019). Resting EEG in alpha and beta bands predicts individual differences in attentional breadth. *Consciousness and Cognition*, 75, 102803.
- **Pitchford, B.** & Arnell, K.M. (2019). Self-control and its influence on global/local processing: An investigation of the role of frontal alpha asymmetry and dispositional approach tendencies. *Attention, Perception, & Psychophysics, 81*(1), 173-187.
- **Pitchford, B.** & Arnell, K.M. (2019). Speech of young offenders as a function of their psychopathic tendencies. *Canadian Journal of Experimental Psychology*, 73(3), 193-201.

### **CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS**

- **Pitchford, B.**, Baker, K. A., Mondloch, C. J., & Arnell, K. M. (2022, November). *Does the other-race effect require attention? An investigation using the attentional blink.* Poster to be presented at Object Perception, visual Attention, and visual Memory (OPAM) annual meeting, Boston, Massachusetts.
- **Pitchford, B.** & Arnell, K. M. (2022, May). The influence of large and small reward associations on Stroop performance in rewarded and nonrewarded contexts. Poster presented at Vision Sciences Society (VSS), St. Pete Beach, Florida.
- **Pitchford, B.** & Arnell, K. M. (2019, September). *High approach-motivated versus low approach-motivated positive affect following self-control: The relation between ERPs and attentional breadth.* Poster presented at Society of Psychophysiological Research (SPR) annual meeting, Washington, D.C.
- **Pitchford, B.** & Arnell, K. M. (2018, November). *Resting EEG in alpha and beta bands predicts individual differences in global/local processing*. Poster presented at Object Perception, visual Attention, and visual Memory (OPAM) annual meeting, New Orleans, Louisiana.
- **Pitchford, B.** & Arnell, K. M. (2018, October). *Investigating changes in attentional breadth following self-control: An ERP study*. Poster presented at Society of Psychophysiological Research (SPR) annual meeting, Quebec City, Quebec.
- **Pitchford, B.** & Arnell, K. M. (2018, May). Approach motivation and narrowed attentional breadth following self-control: Investigating the role of asymmetrical frontal activity. Poster presented at Vision Sciences Society (VSS), St. Pete Beach, Florida.
- **Pitchford, B.** & Arnell, K. M. (2017, May). *Executive control processes can narrow attention for those with high approach tendencies*. Poster presented at Vision Sciences Society (VSS), St. Pete Beach, Florida.
- **Pitchford, B.** & Arnell, K. M. (2017, May). Forest for the trees after inhibiting prepotent responses: The association between reward responsiveness and local focus. Poster presented at Southern Ontario Neuroscience Association (SONA), Brock University, St.

Catharines, ON.

**Pitchford, B.** & Logan, J. (2016, June). *Uh, Um.*.. The distinctive usage of filled pauses in psychopathic young offenders' speech. Poster presented at 2016 Canadian Society for Brain, Behaviour and Cognitive Science Conference, University of Ottawa, Ottawa, ON.

# **ORAL PRESENTATIONS**

- Pitchford, B. & Arnell, K. M. (2021). Individual differences in how reward associations affect Stroop performance, Canadian Society for Brain, Behaviour and Cognitive Science (CSBBCS), Online, Montreal, QC.
- **Pitchford, B.** (2019). Can resting EEG predict individual differences in attentional breadth? Brock Revolutionary Exploratory Workshops on Topics Related to Psychological Science: Data Blitz, Brock University, St. Catharines, ON.
- Pitchford, B. (2017). Seeing "more of the trees" after inhibiting prepotent responses. Brock Revolutionary Exploratory Workshops on Topics Related to Psychological Science: Data Blitz, Brock University, St. Catharines, ON.

# RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

#### 2016-2018 **Graduate Student and Research Assistant**

Supervisor: Dr. Karen Arnell Psychology Attention Lab

Brock University, St. Catharines, ON

Department of Psychology

Behavioural and Cognitive Neuroscience

Responsibilities: Designed and conducted behavioural experiments, stimuli creation, programmed experimental tasks and questionnaires using MATLAB and PsychoPy, analyzed data using SPSS, R and MATLAB software programs, used electrophysiological (**EEG**) methods to acquire data and then analyzed data using custom MATLAB scripts, programmed online cognitive experiments

using **JavaScript** and **HTML/CSS** languages with jsPsych.

#### 2015-2016 **Independent Thesis Study and Research Assistant**

Supervisor: Dr. John Logan

The Centre for Applied Cognitive Research

Carleton University, Ottawa, ON

Department of Psychology

Responsibilities: Conducted research looking at speech use of young offenders with Wmatrix, completed a critical literature review leading to completion of a significant research project.

Research Assistant

Supervisor: Dr. John Zelenski

2014

**Happiness Laboratory** 

Carleton University, Ottawa, ON

Department of Psychology

Responsibilities: Managed online participant recruitment system and participant sign up, ran participants through procedure, and

debriefed participants.

### TEACHING EXPERIENCE

# **Teaching Apprenticeship**

Fall 2020 **Teaching Apprenticeship, Brock University** 

Participated in the development and delivery of third year statistics in psychology (Computer Data Analysis) course under the mentorship of Dr. Karen Arnell. Developed and delivered three lectures and assignments and exam questions based on lecture content. Then received feedback from both the professor and students to help improve my teaching

ability.

# **Teaching Assistantships**

& Winter 2021

Fall 2016

Winter 2019 Course Coordinator/Teaching Assistant, Brock University

Winter 2018 Course: Personality (PSYC 2P25)

Fall 2018-2021 **Teaching Assistant, Brock University** 

Course: Computer Data Analysis (PSYC 3P39)

Fall 2017 Lab Demonstrator, Brock University

& Winter 2017 & Course: Cognition (PSYC 2P20) Winter 2020 & Winter 2022

Teaching Assistant, Brock University
Course: Health Psychology (PSYC 3P51)

# PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

### July 3, 2018 Publish, Don't Perish: Tips for Evaluating Journals

This workshop focused on strategies for evaluating the quality and relevance of academic journals, and to discuss ways to maximize the reach of research via open access publishing while avoiding predatory publications.

April 23-27, 2018 Brock University & SHARCNet: EEG Analysis Workshop

This EEG analysis workshop was designed to give researchers who are familiar with ERP projects an opportunity to get hands on experience exploring advanced EEG analysis methods in a collaborative setting

April 10, 2018 Advanced TA Certificate in Teaching in Higher Education

Certificate awarded for the completion of eight more teaching workshops (e.g., working with international students, using online resources for TAing) and completion of a statement of teaching philosophy.

April 10, 2017 **TA Certificate in Teaching and Learning in Higher Education** 

Certificate awarded for the completion of the teaching workshops below.

March 25-26, 2017 Software Carpentry at Brock University: BASH, GIT, Octave/Matlab

This hands-on workshop covered basic concepts and tools, including program design, version control, data management, and task automation.

# ACADEMIC AND ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE

2014–2016 Vice President of Finance

Psychology Society of Carleton University Planned and implemented a successful election campaign, collaborated with other executive members, formulated and maintained an annual budget while helping organize events and other activities.

### PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- -Vision Sciences Society (VSS)
- -Canadian Society of Brain
- -Behaviour and Cognitive Science (CBBCS)
- -Society of Psychophysical Research (SPR)
- -Psychonomics Society

### **REFERENCES**

Karen M. Arnell | Professor Department of Psychology Brock University 500 Glenridge Ave St. Catharines, ON, Canada L2S 3A1

(905) 688-5550 ext. 3225 Email: karnell@brocku.ca Karen Campbell | Associate Professor Department of Psychology Brock University 500 Glenridge Ave St. Catharines, ON, Canada L2S 3A1 (905) 688-5550 ext. 4281

Email: karen.campbell@brocku.ca

**Stephen M. Emrich** | Associate Professor

Department of Psychology Brock University 500 Glenridge Ave St. Catharines, ON, Canada L2S 3A1 (905) 688-5550 ext. 6181

Email: semrich@brocku.ca