

# Kevin B. McGowan

1669 Patterson Office Tower  
Lexington KY 40506-0027

+1 (734) 678 4245  
kbmcgowan@uky.edu  
<http://kbmcgowan.github.io/>

## Education

---

Ph.D. Linguistics, University of Michigan, 2006–2011  
Dissertation: *The Role of Socioindexical Expectation in Speech Perception*  
Patrice Speeter Beddor & Steven P. Abney, co-chairs  
Julie Boland, Benjamin Munson, & Robin Queen, readers

Linguistic Institute, Stanford University, 2007

B.A. Linguistics, University of Michigan, 1996

## Employment

---

Assistant Professor, Department of Linguistics, University of Kentucky, 2015–

Postdoctoral Scholar, Department of Linguistics, Stanford University, 2013–2015

Lecturer, Department of Linguistics, Rice University, 2011–2013

## Professional Experience

---

Invited Faculty, LSA Summer Institute, “Speech Perception”, UC Davis, 2019

Invited Faculty, LSA Summer Institute, “Eye tracking for linguistics research” and “Doing Phonetics Research”, Lexington, 2017

Invited Instructor, LSA Annual Meeting, “Introduction to Praat”, Portland, 2015

Invited Faculty, LSA Summer Institute, “Praat Scripting”, Ann Arbor, 2013

Journal Assistant, *Language Learning Journal*, Blackwell Publishing, 2007–2010

Research Assistant, Professor Patrice S. Beddor, Michigan Phonetics & Phonology Laboratory, 2009–2010

Research Assistant, Professors Patrice S. Beddor & Andries Coetzee, Michigan Phonetics & Phonology Laboratory, 2007–2008

Web Production Technical Lead (webmaster), Information Technology Division, University of Michigan, 1997–2007

## Publications

---

- Baese-Berk, M.M., McLaughling, D., and McGowan, K.B. (resubmitted) Perception of Non-Native Speech. *Language & Linguistics Compass*
- Medeiros, D.J., Mains, P., and McGowan, K.B. (2020) Ceiling Effects on Weight in Heavy NP Shift. *Linguistic Inquiry*
- Lippi-Green, R., Barrett, E.R., Cramer, J., and McGowan, K.B. (in press) English with an Accent, third edition, Routledge
- McGowan, K.B. and Babel, A.M. (2019) Perceiving isn't believing: listeners' expectation and awareness of phonetically-cued social information. *Language in Society*, 49(1), 1-26
- McGowan, K.B., Johnson, M.T., Combs, A., and Soleymanpoor, M. (2019) Acoustic, non-invasive measurement of velopharyngeal aperture using a high frequency tone, *Proceedings of the 19th International Congress of Phonetic Sciences*.
- Beddor, P.S., Coetzee, A., Styler, W., McGowan, K.B., and Boland, J.E. (2018) The time course of individuals' perception of coarticulatory information is linked to their production: Implications for sound change. *Language*, 94(4): 931-968
- McGowan, K.B. (2016) Sounding Chinese and Listening Chinese: Perception, Imitation, and Authenticity. In *Awareness and Control in Sociolinguistics Research*, ed. by A.M. Babel. Edited volume to be published by Cambridge University Press.
- McGowan, K.B. (2015) Social Expectation improves Speech Perception in Noise. *Language and Speech* doi: 10.1177/0023830914565191
- Sumner, M., Kim, S., King, E., & McGowan, K. B. (2013). The socially-weighted encoding of spoken words: A dual-route approach to speech perception. *Frontiers in Psychology*, 4, 1015.
- Beddor, P.S., McGowan, K.B., Boland, J.E., Coetzee, A., and Brasher, A. (2013) The time course of perception of coarticulation. *Journal of the Acoustical Society of America*, 133(4):2350-2366.
- McGowan, K.B. (2012) Gradient Lexical Reflexes of the Syllable Contact Law. *Proceedings of the Annual Meeting of the Chicago Linguistics Society 45*, Volume I, R. Bochnak, N. Nicola, P. Klecha, J. Urban, A. Lemieux and C. Weaver (Eds.), p. 445-454. Chicago Linguistics Society: Chicago.

## Grants, Fellowships & Honors

---

- Research and Creative Activities grant (with Jennifer Cramer), University of Kentucky, College of Arts & Sciences, \$3,360, March 2019
- Igniting Research Collaborations grant (with Michael Johnson, Electrical and Computer Engineering), University of Kentucky OVP, \$27,726, July 2018
- Confucius Institute Curriculum Development Grant, \$1,000, March 2016
- College of Arts & Sciences laboratory development grant, \$75,000, August 2015
- Rackham Predoctoral Fellowship, Rackham School of Graduate Studies, University of Michigan, 2010–2011
- Humanities Candidacy Fellowship, University of Michigan, 2010
- National Science Foundation, Honorable Mention, Graduate Research Fellowship, 2008

Pre-Candidate Research Grant, Rackham Graduate Student Research Grant, Rackham Graduate School, University of Michigan, 2008

Linguistic Society of America, LSA Linguistic Institute Fellowship, LSA Summer Institute, Stanford University, 2007

NAACL Scholarship for JHU Summer School on Human Language Technology, North American Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics, 2006

## Applications not selected for award

James S. McDowell Foundation (JSMF) Teachers as Learners Grant, Listening to teach: teaching teachers to negotiate barriers to communication in the classroom, Co-PI (\$1,227,570; submitted pre-proposal May 2019; Co-PIs: Jennifer Cramer, Rusty Barrett, Margaret Rintamaa, and Susan Cantrell)

## Invited Talks & Colloquia

---

**March, 2019** University of Tennessee, Knoxville – Social expectation and speech perception: mismatch and alignment

**November, 2016** University of Michigan – Subcategorical mismatches can be mismatches of phonetic, phonological, lexical, and social context

**April, 2016** SUNY, Buffalo – Speech perception is social

**March, 2016** North Carolina State University – Socially informed speech perception: context, congruency, and complications

**2014** UC Berkeley, Phorum – Perceiving isn't believing: listeners' expectation and awareness of phonetically-cued social information (with A.M. Babel)

**2012** Rice University – Claims about processing require online tasks: disjunction of AXB and interview results in a Bolivian crossroads. (with A.M. Babel)

**2012** University of Texas, Austin – Social expectation and theories of speech perception.

**2011** Rice University – The role of socioindexical expectation in speech perception.

## Presentations & Posters

---

**2019** McGowan, K.B., Johnson, M.T., Combs, A., and Soleymanpoor, M. Acoustic, non-invasive measurement of velopharyngeal aperture using a high frequency tone. 19<sup>th</sup> International Congress of Phonetic Sciences.

**2019** McGowan, K.B., Johnson, M.T., Combs, A., and Soleymanpoor, M. Acoustic, non-invasive measurement of velopharyngeal aperture using a high frequency tone. Poster, 177<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Acoustical Society of America

**2019** McGowan, K.B. and Johnson, M.T. Apparatus and procedure for ultrasound investigation of velopharyngeal port aperture. University of Kentucky, Igniting Research Collaborations Symposium

**2018** Wright, K. and McGowan, K.B. Covert Segregation: Dialect Discrimination in the Housing Market. 54<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Chicago Linguistics Society

**2018** Wright, K. and McGowan, K.B. Covert Segregation: Investigating Dialect Discrimination in the Housing Market. 2<sup>nd</sup> place, Five Minute Linguist competition. 92<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting of the Linguistics Society of America

- 2015** McGowan, K.B. and Sumner, M. A phonetic explanation of pronunciation variant effects. 89<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America
- 2015** Sumner, M., McGowan, K.B., D'Onofrio, A., and Pratt, T. The contribution of form and meaning to the processing of careful and casual speech. 89<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America
- 2015** Mains, P., McGowan, K.B., and Medeiros, D. Gradient acceptability by length in heavy NP shift. 89<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America
- 2015** Moores, N.P., McGowan, K.B., Sumner, M. and Frank, MC. Children use phonetically-cued talker information to infer speaker meaning. Poster, 89<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America
- 2014** Moores, N.P., McGowan, K.B., Sumner, M., and Frank, M.C. Children use phonetically-cued talker information to disambiguate similar objects. The 55<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Psychonomics Society, Long Beach, CA
- 2014** McGowan, K.B. Sumner, M., D'Onofrio, A., and Pratt, T. The contribution of form and meaning to the processing of careful and casual speech. 27<sup>th</sup> Annual CUNY Conference on Human Sentence Processing. Columbus, OH
- 2014** Sumner, M., Calder, J., D'Onofrio, A., McGowan, K.B., and Pratt, T. Top-down vs. bottom-up processing depends on the acoustic composition of an utterance. 88<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America
- 2013** Sumner, M.; D'Onofrio, A.; McGowan, K.; Pratt, T.; and Calder, J. Differences in the recognition of careful and casual speech. Poster, 166<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Acoustical Society of America
- 2013** McGowan, K.B. and Babel, A.M. Perception of Spanish in Contact: Bolivian listeners' expectation and awareness of socioindexical variation. Workshop on Sound Change Actuation, University of Chicago
- 2013** McGowan, K.B. Sounding Chinese and Listening Chinese: Imitation, Perception, and Awareness of Non-Native Phonology. Part of panel, *Awareness & control in sociolinguistic research*. 87<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America
- 2012** Babel, A.M. and McGowan, K.B. Social Categorization and Levels of Awareness: A Cross-Disciplinary Study. Part of panel, *Voices in Movement: Phonetic Border Crossings*. American Anthropological Association annual meeting.
- 2012** McGowan, K.B. The influence of socioindexical expectations on speech perception in noise. 86<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America
- 2011** McGowan, K.B. The influence of socioindexical expectations on speech perception in noise. Poster, 162<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of the Acoustical Society of America
- 2011** McGowan, K.B. and Medeiros, D. J. Tongues don't twist –mental representations do. 85<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America
- 2011** McGowan, K.B. Are you experienced? Socio-indexical knowledge and naïve listeners. Poster, 85<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America
- 2010** McGowan, K.B. Examining Listeners' Use of Sociolinguistic Information During Early Phonetic Judgments: Evidence from eye-tracking. *New Ways of Analyzing Variation (NWAV 39)*
- 2010** McGowan, K.B. Listener Expectations and the Processing of Foreign-Accented Speech. *Mid-Continental Workshop on Phonology (MCWOP 16)*
- 2010** Beddor, P.S., McGowan, K.B., Boland, J., and Coetzee, A. The Perceptual Time Course of Coarticulation. Poster, *Laboratory Phonology (LabPhon 12)*

**2010** McGowan, K.B. Aerodynamic Modeling of Coarticulation for Unit Selection Synthesis. Poster, 84<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America

**2009** Beddor, P.S., McGowan, K.B., Boland, J., and Coetzee, A. The Perceptual Time Course of Coarticulatory Nasalization. Poster, 158<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Acoustical Society of America

**2009** McGowan, K.B. Aerodynamic Modeling for Concatenative Speech Synthesis. Poster, 158<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Acoustical Society of America

**2008** McGowan, K.B. Pointwise Mutual Information and the Syllable Contact Law. Mid-Continental Workshop on Phonology (MCWOP 14)

**2008** Coetzee, A. and McGowan, K.B. Allophonic cues to syllabification. CUNY Conference On The Syllable

**1994** Bailey, R.W. and Kevin B. McGowan The Michigan Academy – “English in Michigan: A Century of Scholarship” with Richard W. Bailey

## Teaching

---

**Advanced Phonetics** University of Kentucky, Spring 2020

**Phonetics** University of Kentucky, Fall 2015 – 2019

**Research Methods in Linguistics** University of Kentucky, Fall 2018

**Phonological Analysis** University of Kentucky, Spring 2017 & 2018

**Sociophonetics** University of Kentucky, Spring 2016 & 2018

**Computational Linguistics** Linguistics 511, University of Kentucky, Fall 2017, Spring 2020; Linguistics 409, Rice University, Spring 2013

**Eye Tracking for Linguistics Research** LSA Linguistics Institute, Lexington, 2017

**Doing Phonetics Research** LSA Linguistics Institute, Lexington, 2017 (cotaught with Melissa Baese-Berk, Melinda Fricke, & Natasha Warner)

**Intro To Ling I: Theoretical Foundations & Analysis** University of Kentucky, Fall 2015 & 2016

**Language in U.S. Society** University of Kentucky, Spring 2016 & 2017

**Introduction to R** University of Kentucky, Spring 2016 & 2017

**Praat Scripting** LSA Linguistics Institute, Ann Arbor, 2013; Stanford University, Stanford, 2014; LSA Annual Meeting, Portland, 2015

**Introduction to Phonetics** Linguistics/Anthropology 301/501, Rice University, Fall 2011 & 2012

**Hearing & Speech Perception** Graduate Seminar, Linguistics 555, Rice University, Spring 2012

**Introduction to Phonology** Linguistics 311/511, Rice University, Spring 2012 & Spring 2013

**Advanced Phonology** Linguistics 427, Rice University, Fall 2012

**Introduction to the Scientific Study of Language** Linguistics/Anthropology 200, Rice University, Fall 2011

**Language & the Human Mind** Linguistics 209/Psychology 242  
Graduate Student Instructor for Professor Sam Epstein, University of Michigan, Fall 2009

**College Writing** Writing and the Politics of English, English 125, University of Michigan, Fall 2008

**Introduction to Language** Linguistics 111, University of Michigan, Spring 2008

**Javascript Programming** Introductory JavaScript Programming Workshop, University of Michigan, School of Information, Winter 2006, Winter 2007

**Computing workshops** UNIX, Perl programming, SQL, HTML, etc., University of Michigan, Information Technology Division, 1997 - 1999

## Guest Teaching

---

**Syllables, Vowels & Consonants, and Intonation** in Andrew Byrd's online course, LIN 200 How to create your own language, Spring 2019

**Probabilistic Grammars, Optimality Theory, and Noisy Harmonic Grammar** in Andrew Byrd's Advanced Phonology, November 2018

**Exploring German phonetics in the lab** in Brenna Byrd's German Linguistics, October 2016

**Acoustics: Basics of Analysis** Linguistics 601, October 2015 & 2016

**Speech Synthesis** in Andrew Hippisley's Computational Linguistics, December 2015

**Acoustics** in Meghan Sumner's Experimental Phonetics, November 2014

**Fricatives & Source/Filter Theory** in Meghan Sumner's Graduate Phonetics, May 2014

**Political Correctness & Hate Speech** in Joseph C. Tyler's Language & Discrimination, March 2011

**Exemplar Theories and Social Perception of Speech** in Patrice S. Beddor's Advanced Phonetics, September 2010

**Montana Salish and Ultrasound Field Research** in Jonathon Yip's Languages of the World, July 2010

**Processing Figurative Speech** in Julie Boland's Talking Minds, March 2010

**Phonology, Speech Perception and Perceptual Illusions** in Sam Epstein's Language and Mind, October 2009

**Sound Change** in Sarah G. Thomason's Historical Linguistics, October 2008

**Aerodynamic Measurement of Nasalization** in Patrice S. Beddor's Graduate Phonetics, September 2008

## Advising

---

Aleah Combs, MALTT masters thesis chair, 2020

Kyler Laycock, MALTT masters thesis chair, 2020

Jaycee Taylor, Lexington STEAM Academy high school internship, 2018 – 2019

Jamison Nielsen, Lexington STEAM Academy high school internship, 2016 – 2018

Collin Smith, with Brenna Byrd, MALTT masters thesis cochair, 2019

Philip Barnett, with Andrew Byrd, MALTT masters thesis cochair, 2018

Aidah Aljuran, MALT masters thesis chair, 2017

Kelly Wright, MALT masters thesis chair, 2017

Kait Lee, MALT masters thesis chair, 2016

Mariama Mallah, Directed undergraduate research. Stanford University. 2013

Penelope Howe, Investigation of cues to fricative voicing in dialects of Malagasy. Rice University. Qualifying Paper, chair. 2012–2013

Ling Ma, Native Mandarin perception of English word boundary consonant overlap. Rice University. Masters Thesis, chair. 2012–2013

Ru-ping Ruby Tso, Chinese Characters and Speech Recognition. Rice University. Qualifying Paper, reader. 2012

Obi Nwabueze, Frame Switching between Registers and Dialects. Rice University. Undergraduate Research. 2012–2013

Sheri-Ann Peckham, Investigation of age-related perceptual plasticity using Jamaican Creole. Rice University. Undergraduate Research. 2011–2013

## Academic Service

---

Grant reviews, National Science Foundation, periodic and ongoing

Co-organizer, Phonetics/Phonology Interest Group, University of Kentucky, 2017–2019

Director, University of Kentucky Phonetics Lab, University of Kentucky 2015–2019

Colloquium committee chair, Department of Linguistics, University of Kentucky, 2016–2019

Peer reviews, *Journal of the Acoustical Society of America*, *Journal of Phonetics*, *Language & Speech*, *Lingua*, etc.

Conference Abstract Reviews, Speech Science and Technology 2012 – 2014; Michigan Linguistics Society; Experimental Approaches to Optimality Theory (ExpOT)

Workshop for Rice Linguistics Society: Eye-tracking for linguistics research, 2012

Organizer, Statistics for Linguistics Reading Group, Rice University, Department of Linguistics, 2011–2013

Faculty Associate, Hanszen College, Rice University, Department of Linguistics, 2011–2013

Member, Linguistics Executive Committee, University of Michigan, Department of Linguistics, 2010–2011

Board Member, *Language Learning Journal*, Blackwell Publishing, 2007–2010

Workshop: Introduction to R, University of Michigan, Department of Linguistics with S. Lin & A. Brasher, 2010

Co-chair of Michigan Linguistics Colloquium Committee, 2007–2009

## Community Outreach

---

Presenter, Lexington Living Arts & Science Center: teaching phonetics for a general audience of children and adults, 2019

Faculty Mentor, Kentucky Young Scholars Program & Lexington STEAM Academy High School, 2016–2019

Ashland Elementary School FACT Fridays: “The Science of Speech” for fourth and fifth grade students, teaching the anatomy and physics of producing speech sounds and signs, how the brain controls and processes speech, and how sociocultural factors help us make sense of what we hear, 2017–2019

## Technical Expertise

---

**Laboratory** Eyelink 1000 Plus, Eyelink II head-mounted eye tracker, Tobii tx300 remote eye tracker, EG2-PCX Electroglottograph, EVA 2 pneumotachograph, Telemed Echo Blaster 128 Ultrasound, Zonare Ultrasound, Praat, Wavesurfer, E-Prime, Inquisit, Qualtrics, Amazon Mechanical Turk, OpenSesame, sox, etc.

**Programming** Python, Perl, C, Bourne shell, JavaScript, awk, sed, tcl, SQL, PL/SQL

**Systems** RDBMS systems (Oracle, MySQL, PostgreSQL), UNIX administration & programming (Linux, \*BSD, MacOS, Solaris, etc.),  $\text{\LaTeX}$

## Professional Affiliations

---

Linguistic Society of America, 2006–

Acoustical Society of America, 2009–

Association for Laboratory Phonology, 2010–

Last updated: April 17, 2020