RYSSA MOFFAT

POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCH FELLOW

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RESEARCH SKILLS

Experimental techniques
• fNIRS • EEG • TMS
• Ultrasound tongue imaging
• Behavioural
• Semi-structured interviews

Software
• PsychoPy • OpenPose • Praat • Adobe

Programming languages
• R • Python • HTML • MATLAB

Natural languages
Fluent English, German, French
Intermediate Croatian, Finnish, Spanish

TEACHING ACTIVITIES

July 2019 - Dec 2020
Macquarie University | Departments of Cognitive Science & Linguistics
• Delusions and Disorders of the Mind and Brain
• Introductory Phonetics and Phonology
• Introduction to Psycholinguistics
• Phonological Analysis
• Language as Evidence

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

2022 | Camp Aspire
Workshop on measuring motor synchrony and for indigenous highschool students

2022 | LEAP UP University Experience Day
Introducing refugee highschool students to robotic reading companions and their research and intervention applications

2021| Widening Participation
Reading robot buddy activities with refugee highschool students

2019 | Innovate Hear at Venture Cafe
Moderation of panel discussion on 'hearable' devices for Macquarie University Hearing Strategy

AWARDS

2022 | ECR Travel Award to AS4SAN
2019 | Student Travel Award to CIAP
2019 | Graduate Research Funding
2018-2022 | IDEALAB PhD Fellowship
2016-2018 | Erasmus+ Mobility Grant

RECENT TRAINING

2022 | Deaf Awareness Training
2022 | Mental Health First Aid Training
2022 | Supervision Masterclass
2022 | Foundations of Supervision
2021 | Manawari Cultural Safety Training

EDUCATION

2018 - 2022
PhD in Cognitive Science
Joint degree from Macquarie University, Newcastle University, Universities of Groningen & Potsdam
Thesis title : *Recognition and cortical haemodynamics of vocal emotions – an fNIRS perspective*
Advisers : Prof. David McAlpine, Prof. Deniz Baskent, Dr. Lindsey van Yper, Dr. Robert Luke

2016 - 2018
M.Sc. in Clinical Linguistics
Joint degree from Universities of Eastern Finland, Groningen & Potsdam
Thesis title : *Coarticulation as a synchronic predictor of reading dysfluency*
Advisers : Prof. Martijn Wieling, Dr. Aude Noiray

2012 - 2016
HBA, Major in German Language and Culture, Minor in Linguistics
University of Ottawa
Exchange year at University of Bonn (Oct 2014 - Oct 2015)

ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

Sept 2021 - present
Postdoctoral Research Fellow | School of Psychological Science, Macquarie University
Social Brain in Action (SoBA) Lab
• Interpersonal motor synchrony • Human-Robot interaction • Inhibition • fNIRS • Aesthetic appreciation

Jan - Sep 2021
Research Assistant | School of Psychological Science, Macquarie University
Social Brain in Action (SoBA) Lab
• Child-Robot interaction • Artificial agent perception • Qualitative analysis

Mar - Dec 2018
Research Assistant | Department of Linguistics, University of Potsdam
Laboratory for Oral Language Acquisition (LOLA) & BabyLAB
• Lingual coarticulation • Developmental language disorders • Ultrasound imaging • fNIRS

May - Aug 2016
Research Assistant | Department of Neurology, RWTH Aachen University Hospital
Section for Clinical Cognition Sciences & Stroke/Aphasia Units
• Language production • TMS • EEG • Electrical pharyngeal stimulation

RESEARCH OUTPUTS

Preprints
• Caruana, Moffat, Blanco & Cross. Perceptions of intelligence & sentience shape children's interactions with robot reading companions: A mixed methods study. Under review at *Scientific Reports*. doi: 10.31234/osf.io/7t2w9
• **Moffat**, Baskent, Luke, McAlpine & van Yper. Cortical haemodynamic responses predict individual ability to recognise vocal emotions with uninformative pitch cues but do not distinguish different emotions. Under review at *Human Brain Mapping*. doi: 10.31234/osf.io/jkvyd

Talks/ Workshops
• *Cortical correlates of inhibition when observed by synchronised vs. non-synchronised peers*. SFN, Nov 2022.
• *Exploring metabolic responses to emotional prosody with fNIRS*. Listen and Learn Workshop, Nov 2019.
• *Pilot: Processing emotional prosody in normal hearing listeners with fNIRS*. CIAP, Jul 2019.
• Workshop: *Using FNIRS to Map Auditory Cortical Function*. IERASG, Jul 2019.
• *Towards an fNIRS paradigm to map emotional prosody processing.* Sunnybrook Health Science Centre, Feb 2020.

Conference Posters
• *A welcome social presence: Attentive and responsive robot reading buddies are preferred*. AS4SAN, Jun 2022.
• *Cortical responses to vocal emotions with attenuated voice pitch variation measured with fNIRS*. sfNIRS, Oct 2021.
• *Pilot: Mapping emotional prosody in normal hearing listeners with fNIRS*. ARO, Jan 2020.
• *Pilot: Using fNIRS to explore emotional prosody perception.* SPIN Workshop, Jan 2020.