

WEDNESDAY BUSHONG

<https://wbushong.github.io>

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EMPLOYMENT

Wellesley College

Assistant Professor of Cognitive & Linguistic Sciences and Psychology

July 2024–

University of Hartford

Assistant Professor of Psychology

August 2020 – June 2024

EDUCATION

Ph.D, Brain & Cognitive Sciences, University of Rochester

August 2020

M.A., Brain & Cognitive Sciences, University of Rochester

May 2018

B.S., Cognitive Neuroscience, University of California, San Diego

June 2015

B.A., Linguistics, University of California, San Diego

June 2015

JOURNAL ARTICLES

* equal contribution

+ Wellesley College student/alum

5. **Bushong, W.** (2025). Strong evidence for maintenance of gradient representations during language processing. *Glossa Psycholinguistics*, 4(1): 15, 1–29.
4. **Bushong, W.** and Jaeger, T. F. (2025). Changes in informativity of sentential context affects its integration with subcategorical information about preceding speech. *Journal of Experimental Psychology: Learning, Memory, and Attention*, 51(12), 1968–1989.
3. Bicknell, K.,* **Bushong, W.**,* Tanenhaus, M., and Jaeger, T. F. (2025). Maintenance of subcategorical information maintenance during speech perception: Revisiting misunderstood limitations. *Journal of Memory and Language*, 140, 104565.
2. Segool, N. K., Tarampi, M. R., **Bushong, W.**, Woike, A. C., and Nicklin, J. M. (2023). Writing-Psychology partnerships: The impact of learning community and major cohorts in a first-year college effectiveness trial. *Scholarship of Teaching and Learning in Psychology*.
1. **Bushong, W.** and Jaeger, T. F. (2019). Dynamic re-weighting of acoustic and contextual cues in spoken word recognition. *The Journal of the Acoustical Society of America*, 146(2), EL135-EL140.

CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS PAPERS

+ Wellesley College student/alum

4. **Bushong, W.**, LaMarche, D., Espinal, E. A., and Longo, Z. J. (2024). Listeners optimally integrate acoustic and semantic cues across time during spoken word recognition. In *Proceedings of the Forty-Sixth Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society*.
3. **Bushong, W.** and Jaeger, T. F. (2019). Memory maintenance of gradient speech representations is mediated by their expected utility. In *Proceedings of the Forty-First Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society*.

2. **Bushong, W.** and Jaeger, T. F. (2019). Modeling long-distance cue integration in spoken word recognition. In *Proceedings of NAACL 2019 Cognitive Modeling and Computational Linguistics Workshop*.
1. **Bushong, W.** and Jaeger, T. F. (2017). Maintenance of perceptual information in speech perception. In *Proceedings of the Thirty-Ninth Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society*.

CONFERENCE ABSTRACTS

⁺ Wellesley College student/alum

19. **Bushong, W.**, Chang, A.,⁺ Doherty, M., and Mercado, L.⁺ (2026, January). *The role of sentence context in the perceptual learning of speech*. Talk presented at the Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America, New Orleans, LA.
18. Habahbeh, H.,⁺ **Bushong, W.**, and Kim, Y. (2026, January). *What's in a word? A new visual feature-level description of written Korean*. Talk presented at the Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America, New Orleans, LA.
17. Westwig, A.,⁺ Kim, Y., and **Bushong, W.** (2025, July). *Listener trade-offs between acoustics and semantics in noisy speech*. Poster presented at the Forty-Seventh Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society, San Francisco, CA.
16. **Bushong, W.** (2025, July). *Sentential context is insufficient for perceptual learning of speech*. Poster presented at the Forty-Seventh Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society.
15. Tarampi, M. R., **Bushong, W.**, Caron, E., Segool, N.K., & Walton, N. (2024, November). *Spatial abilities are enhanced in expert speed jigsaw puzzlers*. Poster presented at the 65th Annual Meeting of the Psychonomic Society, New York, NY.
14. **Bushong, W.** and LaMarche, D. (2024, May). *The role of semantic context in spoken word recognition: Prediction and recovery or optimal cue integration?* Poster presented at the 37th Annual Human Sentence Processing Conference, Ann Arbor, MI.
13. **Bushong, W.** and Jaeger, T. F. (2023, January) *Modeling subcategorical information in speech perception*. Talk presented at the Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America, Denver, CO.
12. **Bushong, W.** and Jaeger, T. F. (2021, March). *Modeling subcategorical information maintenance in spoken word recognition*. Short talk presented at the 34th Annual CUNY Conference on Human Sentence Processing, Philadelphia, PA.
11. **Bushong, W.** and Jaeger, T. F. (2019, July). *Modeling long-distance cue integration in spoken word recognition*. Poster presented at the Forty-First Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society, Montreal, Canada.
10. **Bushong, W.** and Jaeger, T. F. (2018, September). *Expected utility of later context mediates maintenance of subcategorical information*. Poster presented at the 24th Annual Conference on Architectures and Mechanisms for Language Processing (AMLaP), Berlin, Germany.
9. **Bushong, W.** and Jaeger, T. F. (2018, September). *Cue reliability and adaptive re-weighting in spoken word recognition*. Poster presented at the 24th Annual Conference on Architectures and Mechanisms for Language Processing (AMLaP), Berlin, Germany.
8. **Bushong, W.**, Burchill, Z., and Jaeger, T. F. (2018, September). *Understanding changes in garden-paths as expectation adaptation*. Poster presented at the 24th Annual Conference on Architectures and Mechanisms for Language Processing (AMLaP), Berlin, Germany.

7. Burchill, Z., **Bushong, W.** and Jaeger, T. F. (2018, September). *Wasted power and false interactions in reading time analyses*. Poster presented at the 24th Annual Conference on Architectures and Mechanisms for Language Processing (AMLaP), Berlin, Germany.
6. **Bushong, W.** and Jaeger, T. F. (2018, March). *Cue reliability and re-weighting in speech perception*. Poster presented at the 31st Annual CUNY Conference on Human Sentence Processing, Davis, CA.
5. **Bushong, W.**, Bicknell, K., and Jaeger, T. F. (2017, March). *Listeners maintain uncertainty about linguistic input*. Poster presented at the 30th Annual CUNY Conference on Human Sentence Processing, Cambridge, MA.
4. **Bushong, W.**, and Jaeger, T. F. (2017, March). *Expectation adaptation to high-level linguistic constraints on word order*. Talk presented at the 30th Annual CUNY Conference on Human Sentence Processing, Cambridge, MA.
3. **Bushong, W.** and Jaeger, T. F. (2016, October). *Processing the relative ordering of definite and indefinite noun phrases*. Poster presented at the Dimensions of D Workshop, Rochester, NY.
2. **Bushong, W.**, Morgan, E., Yen, M., and Levy, R. (2015, September). *Compositional and holistic representations in multiword expressions*. Poster presented at the 21st Annual Conference on Architectures and Mechanisms for Language Processing (AMLaP), Valletta, Malta.
1. **Bushong, W.**, Ürgen, B. A., Miller, L. E., and Saygin, A. P. (2015, May). *Influence of form and motion on biological motion prediction*. Poster presented at Vision Sciences Society 15th Annual Meeting, St. Pete, Florida.

THESES

Bushong, W. (2020). Maintenance of subcategorical information in spoken word recognition. PhD Thesis, Department of Brain and Cognitive Sciences, University of Rochester. (committee: Florian Jaeger, Michael Tanenhaus, Aaron White, Melissa Sturge-Apple)

Bushong, W. (2015). Compositional and holistic processing in novel and attested multiword expressions. Undergraduate Honors Thesis, Department of Linguistics, UC San Diego. (advisor: Roger Levy)

Bushong, W. (2015). Influence of form and motion on biological motion prediction. Undergraduate Honors Thesis, Department of Cognitive Science, UC San Diego. (committee: Ayşe Saygin, Seana Coulson, Burcu Ürgen)

INVITED TALKS

“How do listeners represent linguistic information across time?” (2025). Language & Cognition talk series, Harvard University.

“A case for item specificity in memory allocation during real-time processing” (2025). Abstract and Item-Specific Knowledge Across Domains and Frameworks (workshop at Linguistic Society of America Summer Institute), Eugene, OR.

“Cue integration across time in spoken language processing.” (2024). C.Psyd Talk Series, Cornell University.

“Maintenance of subcategorical information in spoken word recognition.” (2021). Cognitive Science Brown Bag, Villanova University.

“Uncertainty maintenance during spoken word recognition.” (2019). ALPS Lab, Stanford University.

“Learning to expect the unexpected: Adaptation to new distributions of grammatical structures.” (2018). NSF NRT PI Meeting, Washington, D.C.

“Maintenance of perceptual information in speech perception.” (2017). University of Rochester NRT Mini-Conference, Rochester, NY.

COMMUNITY TALKS

“Putting the Pieces Together: The Cognitive Psychology of Speed Puzzling.” (2024, March). Talk given with Margaret Tarampi at the USA Jigsaw Puzzling Association National Championships, San Diego, CA.

TEACHING

AT WELLESLEY COLLEGE

CLSC 300: Senior Seminar (Spring 2025-2026). This course rotates topics semi-regularly; previous iterations listed below.

2025-2026: From Perceptrons to ChatGPT: How Computational Models Help Us Understand the Mind

CLSC 110: Introduction to Cognitive Science (Fall 2024-2025)

PSY 217: Cognition (Fall & Spring 2024-2026)

AT UNIVERSITY OF HARTFORD

PSY 372: Statistics for Psychology (Fall & Spring 2020-2024)

PSY 470W: Research Methods for Psychology (Fall & Spring 2021-2024)

PSY 359/393: The Psychology of Language (Spring 2021-2024)

CPS 852c: Dissertation Seminar (Summer 2022)

FYS 100P: Linguistic Diversity and Discrimination in the US (Fall 2022)

PSY 311: Brain and Behavior (Fall 2020-2021)

AT UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER

BCS 265: Language & the Brain (Spring 2020)

CSP 502: Cognitive Foundations of Behavior (Summer 2019)

BCS 152: Language & Psycholinguistics (co-instructor with Dr. Martin Yang; Fall 2018)

TA for BCS 152: Language and Psycholinguistics (Fall 2017)

TA for CSP 519: General Linear Models II (Spring 2017)

TA for BCS 111: Foundations of Cognitive Science (Fall 2016)

AT UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO

TA for COGS 14A: Introduction to Research Methods (Fall 2013)

WORKSHOPS AND GUEST LECTURES

Psychological mechanisms of reading and dyslexia, PSY 542: Psychopathology of Childhood, University of Hartford (2023, 2024, 2025)

Functional programming using R's purrr package, BCS 512: Behavioral Research Methods, University of Rochester (2019)

Adaptation during speech perception, BCS 152: Language & Psycholinguistics, University of Rochester (2019)

R programming: Basic data wrangling and visualization, Human Language Processing Lab undergraduate research assistant meeting series (2016)

FUNDING

INTRAMURAL FUNDING

Brachman Hoffman Award, Wellesley College (\$5,746)	2025-2026
Dean's Funds, University of Hartford (\$4,000 total)	2021, 2023

AWARDS AND HONORS

Donald M. and Janet C. Barnard Fellowship, University of Rochester	2018 – 2019
Edward Peck Curtis Award for Excellence in Graduate Teaching, University of Rochester	2018
CUNY Sentence Processing Conference Student Travel Award	2017
NSF National Research Training (NRT) Fellowship, University of Rochester	2016 – 2018
Provost Fellowship, University of Rochester	2015 – 2017
Outstanding Graduate in Linguistics, UC San Diego	2015

ADVISING & MENTORSHIP**AT WELLESLEY COLLEGE***Post-baccalaureate Research Assistants*

Molly Doherty (2025)

Undergraduate Research Assistants

Hamsika Yadavalli (2026–), Ari Percer (2026–), Sienna Christie (2026–), Lee Mercado (2025–), Hala Hababbeh (2025–), Audrey Chang (2025), Sheker Atayeva (2025), Vivi Cardenas-Habell (2025)

Undergraduate Honors Thesis Committees

Anna Westwig (2024–2025), Elizabeth Kolln (2024–2025)

AT UNIVERSITY OF HARTFORD*Psy.D. Dissertation Committees*

Kiara Rayford (chair, 2022–), Emily McLain (chair, 2022–)

Graduate Research Assistants

Kanishka Mendiratta (2024), Meghan Daniels (2022–2023)

Undergraduate Research Assistants

Molly Doherty (2024–2025), Rayna Malhotra (2024), Lay Espinal (2023–; awarded Dorothy Goodwin Scholarship 2023–24 for research funding, \$2,000), Zachary Longo (2023–2024; awarded University of Hartford Student Research Award Spring 2024, \$750), Uchenna Duru (2022–2023), David Sands (2022–2023), Lissa Pimentel (2022), Daniel LaMarche (2021–2023; awarded University of Hartford Student Research Award Fall 2021, \$500), Sage Reeves (2021–2023; awarded University of Hartford Student Research Award Fall 2021, \$500), Briyani Belassi-Jones (2021)

Undergraduate Honors Thesis Committees

Emily Welch (secondary member; 2024), Kate Pascarello (secondary member; 2021), Ayanna Perez (secondary member; 2021)

Undergraduate Honors Non-Thesis Advisees

Izabela Moczydowski (2023)

High School Research Mentees (Glastonbury High School ARM Program)

Gabby Agcaoili (2021–2022), Anzal Khan (2021–2022)

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE**REVIEWING***Editorial Boards*

Computational Linguistics (2025–); Journal of Psycholinguistic Research (2026–)

Ad-hoc Reviewing

Journals: Cognition; Language; Speech Communication; Journal of Experimental Psychology: Human Perception and Performance; Language, Cognition, & Neuroscience; Ear & Hearing; Attention, Perception, & Psychophysics; Journal of the Acoustical Society of America Express Letters; Memory and Cognition; Cognitive Science. Conference Proceedings Papers: The Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society; Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing. Conference Abstracts: The Annual Conference on Architectures and Mechanisms for Language Processing; The Annual Conference on Human Sentence Processing [formerly CUNY]. Grant Proposals: NSF Linguistics directorate

INSTITUTIONAL SERVICE**AT WELLESLEY COLLEGE**

Agenda Committee member	2025–
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Program in Cognitive & Linguistic Sciences

Visiting Lecturer search committee member	2025
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Psychology Department

Experimental Review Board member	2024–
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AT UNIVERSITY OF HARTFORD

Psychology Department Policies and Procedures committee	2023-2024
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Psychology Department search committee member for PsyD faculty	2023–2024
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Psychology Department ELO evaluator–Teamwork and Collaboration	2023–2024
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Institutional Review Board	2022–2024
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Peer Support Workshop faculty liaison (statistics section)	2021–2024
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Arts & Sciences Honors Committee	2021–2024
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Psychology Department search committee member for PsyD faculty	2021–2022
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Psychology Department ELO evaluator–Written Communication and Critical Thinking	2021–2022
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Psychology Department anti-racism book club organizer	2021–2022
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Diversity Criteria Working Group	2021
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Psychology Department Hybrid Teaching Support Faculty Fellow	2021
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Psychology Department search committee member for undergraduate faculty	2020–2021
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AT UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER

Title IX Education Assessment Committee	2018–2020
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Brain & Cognitive Sciences Graduate Admissions Committee	2018–2019
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Transportation Advisory Committee	2017–2018; 2019–2020
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Strategic Planning—Career Development Sub-Group	2017
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