**Yuan Chang Leong**

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**Academic Appointments**

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| **University of Chicago**  Assistant Professor, Department of Psychology | *2021 – present* |
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| **University of California, Berkeley**  Postdoctoral Scholar, Helen Wills Neuroscience Institute  Advisor: Mark D’Esposito, M.D. | *2019 – 2021* |

**Education**

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| **Stanford University**  Ph.D., Psychology  Advisor: Jamil Zaki, Ph.D. | *2014 – 2019* |
| **Princeton University**  A.B. Psychology, summa cum laude  Certificate in Quantitative and Computational Neuroscience  Advisor: Yael Niv, Ph.D. | *2009 – 2013* |

**Fellowships and Awards**

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| F32 Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Award (NIMH, NIH) | *2021* |
| Social and Affective Neuroscience Society Annual Meeting Poster Award | *2021* |
| Stanford Mind, Brain and Cognition Graduate Training Fellowship | *2018* |
| Stanford Center for Cognitive and Neurobiological Imaging Seed Grant | *2018* |
| Organization of Human Brain Mapping: Merit Abstract Award | *2018* |
| Stanford University Bio-X Travel Award | *2018* |
| Social and Affective Neuroscience Society Annual Meeting Poster Award | *2017* |
| Zimbardo Teaching Prize, Stanford University | *2016* |
| John Brinster’43 Neuroscience Senior Thesis Prize, Princeton University | *2013* |
| Outstanding Academic Achievement in Neuroscience, Princeton University | *2013* |
| Howard Crosby Warren Award for Psychology, Princeton University | *2013* |
| Society for Neuroscience Undergraduate Student Travel Award | *2012* |
| Nancy J. Newman, MD’78 & Valerie Biousse, MD Award for Neuroscience | *2012* |
| Quantitative and Computational Neuroscience Training Grant | *2012* |

**Publications**

*\** Equal author contribution

*Journal Articles*

1. **Leong, Y. C.**, Dziembaj, R. & D’Esposito, M. Pupil-linked arousal biases evidence accumulation towards desirable percepts during perceptual decision-making. *Psychological Science.* (accepted)
2. **Leong, Y. C.**, Chen, J., Willer, R. & Zaki, J. Conservative and liberal attitudes drive polarized neural responses to political content. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, 117(44)*, 27731-27739 (2020).
3. **Leong, Y.C.**, Hughes, B., Yiyu Wang & Zaki, J. Neurocomputational mechanisms underlying motivated seeing. *Nature Human Behavior, 3(9),* 962–973 (2019).
4. Morelli, S.\*, **Leong, Y.C.\***, Carlson R., Kullar M. & Zaki, J. Neural detection of socially valued community members. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, 115*(32), 8149-8154 (2019).
5. **Leong, Y.C.** & Zaki, J. Unrealistic optimism in advice taking: A computational account. *Journal of Experimental Psychology: General*, *147*(2), 170 (2018).
6. **Leong, Y. C.\*,** Radulescu, A.\*, Daniel, R., DeWoskin, V., & Niv, Y. Dynamic interaction between reinforcement learning and attention in multidimensional environments. *Neuron*, *93*(2), 451-463 (2017).
7. Chen, J.\*, **Leong, Y.C.\***, Honey, C., Yong, C.H., Norman, K.A. & Hasson, U. Shared experience and shared memory reveal a common structure for brain activity during natural recall. *Nature Neuroscience, 20*(1), 115-125 (2017).
8. Zadbood A., Chen J., **Leong, Y.C.**, Norman, K.A., Hasson U. How we transmit memories to other brains: constructing shared neural representations via communication. *Cerebral Cortex. 27(10),* 4988-5000 (2017).
9. Niv, Y., Daniel, R., Geana, A., Gershman, S.J., **Leong, Y.C.** & Wilson, R.C. Reinforcement learning in multidimensional environments relies on attention mechanisms. *The Journal of Neuroscience*, *35*(21), 8145-8157 (2015).
10. Johnson-Laird, P.N., Kang, O.E. & **Leong, Y.C.** On musical dissonance. *Music Perception: An Interdisciplinary Journal*, 30(1), 19-35 (2012).

*Preprints*

1. Nastase, S. A., Liu, Y. F., Hillman, H., Zadbood, A., Hasenfratz, L., Keshavarzian, N., ... **Leong, Y. C.**, … & Hasson, U. Narratives: fMRI data for evaluating models of naturalistic language comprehension. *bioRxiv.* (2020)
2. Rossi-Goldthorpe, R., **Leong, Y. C.,** Leptourgos, P., & Corlett, P. R. A normative account of self-deception, overconfidence, and paranoia. *PsyArXiv.* (2021)

*Conference Proceedings*

1. Velez, N.\*, **Leong, Y.C.\*,** Pan, C., Zaki, J. & Gweon, H. Learning and making novel predictions about others’ preferences. *37th Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society* (2016).
2. **Leong, Y.C.** & Niv, Y. Human reinforcement learning processes act on learned attentionally-filtered representations of the world. *1st Multidisciplinary Conference on Reinforcement Learning and Decision Making* (2013).
3. Daniel, R., DeWoskin, V., **Leong, Y.C.**, Radulescu, A. & Niv, Y. Humans employ selective attention when learning in complex environments: evidence from computational modeling and neuroimaging. *1st Multidisciplinary Conference on Reinforcement Learning and Decision Making* (2013).

**Oral Presentations**

*Chaired Symposia*

1. “First Impressions: When Are They Updated? When Are They Maintained?”. Society for Personality and Social Psychology Annual Meeting (Co-chair: Jack Cao, 2017).

*Invited Talks*

1. “An integrative view of motivated cognition”. UCLA Brain Mapping Seminar, University of California, Los Angeles (2021).
2. “Motivated perception: How the brain sees what it wants to see”. Mind, Brain, Computation and Technology Seminar, Stanford University (2019).
3. “Neurocomputational mechanisms underlying motivated seeing”. Affective Brain Lab Seminar Series, University College London (Skype, 2018).
4. “Dynamic modulation of attention during decision-making”. National Institutes of Health (2017).
5. “Dynamic modulation of attention during decision-making”. Johns Hopkins University (2017).
6. “Neural prediction of social support hubs in emerging social networks”. Langfeld Conference: From micro-level cognitive phenomena to large-scale social dynamics, Princeton University (2017).
7. “Optimism bias in advice-taking: A computational account”. Stanford-Berkeley-Davis Social and Affective Area Talks, University of California, Berkeley (2017).
8. “Learning what’s relevant in a largely irrelevant world”. Barbados Workshop in Reinforcement Learning: Planning in Reinforcement Learning (2013).

*Conference Talks*

1. “Neural divergence between politically dissimilar individuals viewing real-world political messages”. European Society for Cognitive and Affective Neuroscience 2021 Convention (2020).
2. “Polarized neural responses to political content are associated with biased assimilation of political information and subsequent attitude change”. Society for Neuroeconomics Annual Meeting (2020).
3. “The role of pupil-linked arousal processes in dynamically modulating motivational biases in perceptual decision-making”. Reading Emotions Symposium (2020)
4. “Neurocomputational mechanisms underlying motivated seeing”. Bay Area Affective Science Meeting (2018).
5. “Neurocomputational mechanisms underlying motivational biases in perceptual decision-making”. Organization of Human Brain Mapping Annual Meeting (2018)
6. “Shared patterns of neural activity during narrative recall reveal shared structure in memory representations across individuals”. Association for Psychological Science Annual Convention (2018)
7. “Neurocomputational mechanisms underlying motivated seeing”. Social and Affective Neuroscience Society Meeting (2018)
8. “Neural detection of socially-valued community members”. Society for Neuroscience Annual Meeting (2017).
9. “Inflated perception of expertise: A computational account”. Society for Personality and Social Psychology Annual Meeting (2017).
10. “Dynamic interaction between reinforcement learning and attention in multidimensional environments”. Interdisciplinary Symposium on Decision Neuroscience (2015).
11. “Dynamic interaction between reinforcement learning and attention in multidimensional environments”. Manhattan Area Memory Meeting (2014).

**Advising and Teaching**

*Master’s Students*

Emily Russell (MA Program in the Social Sciences)

Zhimei Niu (MA Program in the Social Sciences)

*Undergraduate and Post-bac Research Assistants*

Ren Paterson (*University of Chicago*)

Yizhou Lyu (*University of Chicago*)

Rohan Vencat (*University of Chicago*)

Samantha Kargilis, *BA* *(MPhil student at Oxford University*)

Yiyu Wang, *BA* (*PhD* *student in Psychology at Northeastern University*)

Roma Dzjembaj, *MS* (*Product Manager, Phil. Inc.*)

Chelsey Pan, *BA* (*PhD student in Psychology at USC*)

Deshawn Sambrano, BA (*PhD in Psychology student at Harvard University*)

*Graduate Applications Advising*

Lavonna Mark, *BA* (*PhD student in Neuroscience at Stanford University*)

Khai Qing Chua, *BA*

Alison Li, *BA* (*PhD student in Psychology at UCSB*)

Sarah Mier, *BA* (*PhD student in Psychology at Vanderbilt University*)

Jiaying Xu (*PhD student in Psychology at UCSD*)

*Teaching*

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| Brain and Decision-Making, Stanford University, Teaching Assistant | *2019* |
| Introduction to Statistical Methods, Stanford University, Teaching Assistant | *2018* |
| Judgment and Decision-Making, Stanford University, Teaching Assistant | *2017* |
| Introduction to Perception, Stanford University, Teaching Assistant | *2017* |
| R Bootcamp, Stanford University | *2016* |
| Computational Modeling Workshop, Stanford Undergraduate Psychology Research Conference | *2016* |
| Psychology One, Stanford University, Teaching Fellow | *2015-2016* |

**Professional Service and Activities**

*Ad Hoc Reviewing*

*Cognitive Science*

*eLife*

*Frontiers in Psychiatry – Social Cognition*

*Nature Communications*

*Nature Human Behavior*

*Network Neuroscience*

*Neuropsychologia*

*Philos. Trans. R. Soc. B*

*Science Advances*

*Social Cognitive & Affective Neuroscience*

*Journal of Experimental Social Psychology*

*University and Departmental Committees*

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| Affective Science Seminar Organizing Committee, Stanford University | *2019* |
| Department Student Representative, Stanford University | *2014-2019* |

*Outreach*

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| Project SHORT Mentor for Graduate School Applications | *2020-* |
| Bay Area Society for Neuroscience Youth SfN Symposium Speaker | *2019* |
| SPSP Summer Program for Undergraduate Research Mentor | *2018* |
| Paths to PhD Speaker, Stanford University | *2017* |
| Stanford Summer Research Early Identification Program Mentor | *2016* |
| Leadership Alliance Summer Research Early Identification Program Mentor | *2016* |

**Training Experiences**

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| Visiting Graduate Scholar, Johns Hopkins University | *2018* |
| Summer School in Social Neuroscience and Neuroeconomics, Duke University | *2018* |
| SRNDA-Stanford Center for Reproducible Neuroscience Workshop | *2017* |
| Shanghai Neuroeconomics Collective Summer School | *2015* |
| Summer Workshop in Computational Social Science, Stanford University | *2014* |
| Cognitive Science Undergraduate Summer Workshop, University of Pennsylvania | *2012* |
| Princeton Neuroscience Institute Summer Research Program | *2012* |

**Media Coverage**

Big Think, BBC Mundo, BrainPost, Goggles Optional (podcast), KCBS Radio, Medscape Medical News, Psychology Today, PsyPost, Radiology Business, Slate (FR), Science Daily, Science Magazine, Vox, WebMD, UC Berkeley News