**Yuan Chang Leong**

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**Academic Appointments**

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

**Education**

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| 2014 – 2019 | Ph.D. in Psychology, Stanford University (PI: Jamil Zaki, Ph.D.) |
| 2019 – 2021 | A.B. in Psychology, summa cum laude (PI: Yael Niv, Ph.D.) |

**Fellowship And Awards**

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| 2022 | Neubauer Faculty Development Fellowship |
| 2021 | F32 Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Award (NIMH, NIH) |
| 2021 | Social and Affective Neuroscience Society Annual Meeting Poster Award |
| 2018 | 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 |
| 2017 | Social and Affective Neuroscience Society Annual Meeting Poster Award |
| 2016 | Zimbardo Teaching Prize, Stanford University |
| 2013 | John Brinster’43 Neuroscience Senior Thesis Prize, Princeton University |
| 2013 | Howard Crosby Warren Award for Psychology, Princeton University |
| 2012 | Society for Neuroscience Undergraduate Student Travel Award |
| 2012 | Quantitative and Computational Neuroscience Training Grant |

**Research Support**

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| 2022-present | Data and Democracy Initiative Seed Grant (Role PI, $41,050)  *Understanding divergent interpretations of political information and the bias of universal sentiment measures* |

**Publications (Selected)**

Calabro, R., Lyu, Y., **Leong, Y. C**. Trial-by-trial fluctuations in amygdala activity track motivational enhancement of desirable sensory evidence during perceptual decision-making. *Cerebral Cortex.* (accepted)

**Leong, Y. C.**, Dziembaj, R. & D’Esposito, M. Pupil-linked arousal biases evidence accumulation towards desirable percepts during perceptual decision-making. *Psychological Science.* (2021)

Rossi-Goldthorpe, R., **Leong, Y. C.,** Leptourgos, P., & Corlett, P. R. A normative account of self-deception, overconfidence, and paranoia. *PLOS Computational Biology.* (2021)

**Leong, Y. C.**, Chen, J., Willer, R. & Zaki, J. Conservative and liberal attitudes drive polarized neural responses to political content. *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U.S.A., 117(44)*, 27731-27739 (2020).

**Leong, Y.C.**, Hughes, B., Yiyu Wang & Zaki, J. Neurocomputational mechanisms underlying motivated seeing. *Nature Human Behavior, 3(9),* 962–973 (2019).

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. *Natu Neuroscience, 20*(1), 115-125 (2017).

**Conference Talks (Selected)**

“Neurocomputational approaches to motivated visual perception”. *Society for Experimental Social Psychology Annual Meeting* (2021).

“Neural divergence between politically dissimilar individuals viewing real-world political messages”. *European Society for Cognitive and Affective Neuroscience 2021 Convention* (2021).

“Neurocomputational mechanisms underlying motivational biases in perceptual decision-making”. *Organization of Human Brain Mapping Annual Meeting* (2018)

“Shared patterns of neural activity during narrative recall reveal shared structure in memory representations across individuals”. *Association for Psychological Science Annual Convention* (2018)

“Neural detection of socially-valued community members”. *Society for Neuroscience Annual Meeting* (2017).

“Inflated perception of expertise: A computational account”. *Society for Personality and Social Psychology Annual Meeting* (2017).

**Invited Talks (Selected)**

New Your University (2022), Peking University (2021), University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (2021), University of California, Los Angeles (2021), University College London (2021), National Institutes of Health (2017), Johns Hopkins University (2017), Princeton University (2017), University of California, Berkeley (2017)

**Organized Conferences and Symposia**

Annual Meeting of the Social & Affective Neuroscience Society, Conference Chair (Co-chair: Meghan Myer, 2021)

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

**Teaching**

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| 2021-present | Introduction to Social Psychology |
| 2021-present | Mechanisms of Motivated Cognition |
| 2021-present | Mind |

**Ad-Hoc Reviewing**

Cognitive Science, Cognition, eLife, Frontiers in Psychiatry – Social Cognition, Journal of Experimental Social Psychology, Journal of Cognitive Neuroscience, Journal of Neuroscience, Nature Communications, Nature Human Behavior, Network Neuroscience, Neuropsychologia, Philos. Trans. R. Soc. B, Science Advances, Social Cognitive & Affective Neuroscience

**Outreach Activities**

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| 2021-present | Data Lab Summer Internship Mentor |
| 2020-present | Project SHORT Mentor for Graduate School Applications |
| 2019 | Bay Area Society for Neuroscience Youth SfN Symposium Speaker |
| 2018 | SPSP Summer Program for Undergraduate Research Mentor |
| 2016 | Stanford Summer Research Early Identification Program Mentor |
| 2016 | Leadership Alliance Summer Research Early Identification Program Mentor |

**Media Coverage**

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