

# Rebecca Hirst, PhD

## Curriculum Vitae

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Email: [HirstR@tcd.ie](mailto:HirstR@tcd.ie)

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### EDUCATION

- 2015-2018      **PhD Psychology, The University of Nottingham (No Corrections)**  
Supervisors: Dr Harriet Allen and Dr Lucy Cragg  
Examiners: Dr Nicholas Holmes and Prof. Jutta Kray  
Title: Audio-visual Interference Control in Development and Ageing
- 2017            **Associate Fellowship of the Higher Education Academy (AFHEA), The University of Nottingham Associate Teachers Programme**
- 2015-2016      **MSc Psychology Research Methods, The University of Nottingham**  
Distinction
- 2011-2014      **BSc Psychology and Cognitive Neuroscience, The University of Nottingham**  
1<sup>st</sup> Class Honours with University and British Psychology Society Prize for highest overall degree classification

### EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

- 2020-present   **Science officer and consultant**  
Open Science Tools Ltd.
- 2019-present   **Postdoctoral Researcher**  
Trinity College Institute of Neuroscience and The Irish Longitudinal Study on Ageing  
Principle Investigator: Prof. Fiona N. Newell  
Project title: "Individual differences underlying multisensory integration in ageing"
- 2018-2019      **Postdoctoral Researcher**, University of Nottingham, Principle Investigator: Dr. Lucy Cragg
- 2017            **Visiting Scholar**, Macquarie University, Sydney, Dr Nicholas Badcock
- 2014            **Research Assistant**, School of Psychology, The University of Lincoln, Dr J Hodgeson
- 2012/13        **Research Assistant**, School of Psychology, The University of Nottingham, Prof. S Jackson

### GRANTS AND AWARDS

- 2018            **Wellcome Prime funding, PI: Dr Lucy Cragg** The University of Nottingham School of Psychology
- 2018            **PhD Public Engagement Prize: "Outstanding Contribution in Engaging the Public with Psychology 2017-2018"**, The University of Nottingham School of Psychology
- 2017            **Overseas Institutional Visit (to visit Macquarie University, Sydney)**, Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC), Project: "Validating portable EEG for assessing cognitive control"
- 2017            **Best Paper Presentation**, The University of Nottingham School of Psychology
- 2014            **MSc + PhD Scholarship**, ESRC and The University of Nottingham
- 2014            **British Psychology Society (BPS) Undergraduate Award and University Prize**, BPS and The University of Nottingham for the highest overall degree classification
- Travel Grants* *Guarantors of Brain (2017); Graduate School Travel Prize, The University of Nottingham (2017); Grindley Grant (International) Experimental Psychology Society (EPS) (2017); Grindley Grant (National) conference, Experimental Psychology Society (EPS) (2016);*

### ACADEMIC SKILLS

- Excellent oral and written communication skills.
- Programming in MATLAB, Python and R (including experiment creation with PsychoPy software).
- EEG (including portable Emotiv devices).
- Voxel Based Morphometry (VBM) analysis using Statistical Parametric Mapping (SPM) software.
- Collaboration with internal and external (including overseas) research groups.

- Strong interpersonal skills and an aptitude for conveying research to academic and non-academic audiences.
- Experience training students and staff at multiple stages, BSc, MSc and PhD, and staff.
- Award winning public outreach enthusiast.
- Confidence working with specific populations including children, older adults, and children with neurodevelopmental disorders.
- Designing, running and analysing behavioural, psychophysical and neuroimaging (EEG) experiments.
- Statistical approaches for studying and modelling large-scale data (including meta-analyses).
- Experience with multiple statistical packages including SPSS.

### **PROFFESIONAL BODY MEMBERSHIPS**

- Psychonomic society
- American Psychological Association
- Applied Vision Association

### **SELECTED PUBLICATIONS (for full list see academic website)**

**Hirst R.J.**, Setti A., Kenny R.A. & Newell F.N. (2019). Age-related sensory decline mediates the Sound-Induced Flash Illusion: Evidence for reliability weighting models of multisensory perception. *Scientific Reports*. 9. 19357. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41598-019-55901-5>

**Hirst R.J.**, Kicks E.C., Allen H.A. & Cragg L. (2019) Cross-modal interference control is limited in childhood but maintained in aging: A cohort study of stimulus and response interference in cross-modal and unimodal Stroop tasks. *Journal of Experimental Psychology: Human Perception and Performance*

**Hirst R.J.** Stacey J.E., Cragg L., Stacey P.C., Allen .H.A. (2018) The threshold for the McGurk effect in audio-visual noise decreases with development. *Scientific Reports*. 8(1). 1-12.

**Hirst R.J.**, Cragg L., & Allen H. A. (2018). Vision dominates audition in adults but not children: A meta-analysis of the Colavita effect. *Neuroscience and Biobehavioural Reviews*. 94. 286-301. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.neubiorev.2018.07.012>

Hodgson J.C, **Hirst R.J.** & Hudson J.M. (2016) Hemispheric speech lateralisation in the developing brain is related to motor praxis ability. *Developmental Cognitive Neuroscience*. 22. 9-17

### **SELECTED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS**

|      |            |   |
|------|------------|---|
| 2020 | <b>DUE</b> | <b>International Multisensory Research Forum (IMRF), Germany, symposium and talk</b>  |
| 2019 |            | <b>Psychonomics Society, Montreal, Canada, talk</b>                                   |
| 2019 |            | <b>European Conference on Visual Perception, Leuven, Belgium, talk</b>                |
| 2018 |            | <b>International Multisensory Research Forum (IMRF), Toronto, posters</b>             |
| 2017 |            | <b>Australian Cognitive Neuroscience Society (ACNS), Adelaide, symposium and talk</b> |
| 2017 |            | <b>International Multisensory Research Forum (IMRF), Nashville, poster</b>            |
| 2016 |            | <b>British Psychology Society Developmental Section (BPSDEV), Belfast, talk</b>       |

### **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

|              |   |
|--------------|---|
| 2019-2020    | <b>Coordinator for “Creating Experiments in PsychoPy and Python” workshops</b><br>Trinity College Dublin (and in collaboration with Dublin City University) |
| 2019-present | <b>Guest Lecturer for Cognitive Psychology Modules</b><br>Dublin City University.   |
| 2019         | <b>Assisting supervision of PhD student project (single study within thesis)</b><br>School of Psychology, Trinity College Dublin                            |
| 2018         | <b>Assistant at ‘Programming Experiments in Python’ workshop</b><br>School of Psychology, The University of Nottingham                                      |
| 2018         | <b>Assistant in feedback focus groups for taught courses</b><br>School of Psychology, The University of Nottingham  |
| 2018         | <b>Assistant in “Introduction to Statistics with SPSS” course</b><br>School of Medicine, The University of Nottingham                                       |

- 2015-2017 **Assisting supervision of final year project students**  
School of Psychology, The University of Nottingham
- 2016-2017 **Demonstrator and marker for undergraduate practical classes**  
School of Psychology, The University of Nottingham
- 2015-2017 **Marking first year essays (Social and Developmental psychology modules)**  
School of Psychology, The University of Nottingham
- 2015-2016 **Seminar Tutor (MSc Philosophy of Science module)**  
Doctoral Training Centre, The University of Nottingham

#### **ADDITIONAL ROLES AND EXPERIENCE**

- 2017-2018 **Treasurers assistant**  
Applied Vision Association
- 2015-2018 **Public engagement ambassador**  
School of Psychology, The University of Nottingham.
- 2016-2018 **Athena Swan/People and Culture post graduate representative**  
School of Psychology, The University of Nottingham.
- 2016-2017 **Coordinator of Perception, Action, Human Development and Learning research group**  
School of Psychology, The University of Nottingham
- 2012-2014 **Online support volunteer for individuals with depression and stress related illness**  
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#### **PEER REVIEW APPOINTMENTS**

*Cortex*  
*Peer J*  
*Child Development*  
*Perception*  
*Multisensory Research*  
*Cognitive Processing*  
*Journal of Cognitive Psychology*  
*Quarterly Journal of Experimental Psychology*  
*The Journal of General Psychology*

#### **REFEREES**

Dr Harriet Allen, Room B75, School of Psychology, University Park, Nottingham, UK, NG72RD  
**Email:** H.A.Allen@nottingham.ac.uk **Phone:** +44(0)1158467929

Dr Nicholas Badcock, Office 3.813, Department of Cognitive Science, Australian Hearing Hub, 16 University Avenue, Macquarie University, Sydney, NSW2109, Australia  
**Email:** nicholas.badcock@mq.edu.au **Phone:** +61 2 9850 4067

Prof. Fiona Newell, Trinity College Institute of Neuroscience, Trinity College Dublin, Ireland  
**Email:** fiona.newell@tcd.ie **Phone:** 353-01-896-8402