
Veronica Weser

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Education

M.A.: University of Virginia (2015): Graduate Program in Psychology; GPA: 4.0

B.A.: Vassar College (2012): Cognitive Science, Japanese; GPA: 3.91

Research Experience

Proffitt Perception Lab: Virtual Reality (VR) Lab coordinator, Charlottesville, VA 08/2013 – present

- Currently conducting research on speed and height mismatch in VR through a grant from Google
- Coordinates all other Proffitt Lab research conducted in VR

Fulbright Fellowship to Japan 08/2012 – 08/2013

Classification of English Spelling Errors in Developmental Dyslexia Tsukuba, Japan

- Administered English spelling tests to Japanese middle and high school students with and without developmental dyslexia
- Classified errors by type and presented comparison of normal and dyslexic errors

Vassar College Senior Thesis: Tool Use, Extension of Self to Media, Poughkeepsie, NY 08/2011 – 05/2012

- Designed and carried out independent EEG research project
- Thesis earned departmental honors

Research Assistant: Concept Formation Research (Using EEG), Poughkeepsie, NY 08/2011 – 05/2012

- Assisted faculty research by designing stimuli, programming experiments and running participants

Robotics Laboratory Intern / Perception and Action class TA, Poughkeepsie, NY 08/2010 – 05/2012

- Provided in-class assistance in the instruction of basic robotic hardware and programming skills
- Offered instruction in writing lab reports and research papers to students

The American National Corpus, Princeton, NJ 05/2010 – 12/2011

Research Assistant: Computational Linguistics and Corpus Research

- Helped manually annotate a sub-corpus of American English as a sense tagger
- Identified redundant and lacking senses based on samples of American English
- Contributed to changes and adjustments of definitions in WordNet

Undergraduate Research Symposium: Tool Use and Affordances, Poughkeepsie, NY 05/2011 – 07/2011

- Designed and carried out independent research project
- Created all stimuli, including the design and coding of a playable computer game

Publications

Weser, V., Finotti, G., Costantini, M., & Proffitt, D., Multisensory Integration Induces Body Ownership of an External Tool, *Consciousness and Cognition* (2017), 10.1016/j.concog.2017.07.002.

Publications in Preparation

- Weser, V., & Proffitt, D. (2017). A Virtual Size-Weight Illusion: Perceiving Weight in VR. (In Prep).
- Weser, V., & Proffitt, D. (2017). The Value-Weight Illusion: Top-Down Expectations of Value Influence Bottom-Up Perceptions of Weight. (In Prep).
- Weser, V., Schmidt, K., Clore, J., & Proffitt, D. (2017). Seeing skill: Heuristic reasoning when forecasting outcomes in sports. (In Prep).

Presentations at Annual Meetings

- Weser, V. & Proffitt, D. (2016). The value-weight Illusion: Can Value Bias Weight Estimates?. *Psychonomic Society's 57th Annual Meeting*, Boston, Massachusetts. (Poster Presentation).
- Weser, V., Hesch, J., Lee, J., & Proffitt, D. (2016). User Sensitivity to Speed- and Height-Mismatches in VR. *ACM SIGGRAPH Symposium on Applied Perception in Graphics and Visualization* (Poster Presentation, *Awarded Best Poster*).
- Weser, V. & Proffitt, D. (2016). Interoceptive Awareness, but not Negative Affect, Mitigates the Size-Weight Illusion. *28th APS Annual Convention*, Chicago, Illinois. (Poster Presentation).
- Weser, V., Finotti, G., & Proffitt, D. (2015). Multisensory Integration Induces Body Ownership of an External Tool. *THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE COGNITIVE SCIENCE SOCIETY, 2015*, Pasadena, California. (Poster Presentation).
- Weser, V. (2013). Classifying English Spelling Errors Committed by Japanese Speakers: A Comparison of Children with Normal and Dyslexic Development. *Annual Meeting of the Japan Dyslexia Research Association*, Hiroshima, Japan. (Research Presentation in Japanese).
- Weser, V. & Livingston, K. (2012). Is it Me or is it Mine?: Avatar Control and the Extension of Self to Videogames. An ERP Study. *THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE COGNITIVE SCIENCE SOCIETY, 2012*, Sapporo, Japan. (Poster Presentation).

Home University Presentations

- Weser, V. (2017). The Value-Weight Illusion: Can Value Bias Weight Estimates?. *Contemporary Issues in Cognitive Psychology Lecture Series*, Charlottesville, Virginia. (4th Year Research Presentation).
- Weser, V. (2016). The Value-Weight Illusion: Can Value Bias Weight Estimates?. *Huskey Graduate Research Exhibition*, Charlottesville, Virginia. (Research Presentation Competition: 2nd Place).
- Weser, V. (2016). Motion Tracking in VR: User Sensitivity and Preference. *Contemporary Issues in Cognitive Psychology Lecture Series*, Charlottesville, Virginia. (3rd Year Research Presentation).
- Weser, V. (2015). Extending the Mind to Include the Tool. *Annual Jefferson Fellows Symposium*, Charlottesville, Virginia. (Invited Speaker).
- Weser, V. (2015). Embodying Tools through Multisensory Integration. *Contemporary Issues in Cognitive Psychology Lecture Series*, Charlottesville, Virginia. (2nd Year Research Presentation).
- Weser, V. (2014). Fluency Perception: Does it take an Expert to Identify an Expert? *Contemporary Issues in Cognitive Psychology Lecture Series*, Charlottesville, Virginia. (1st Year Research Presentation).
- Weser, V. & Ellman, T. (2011). Avatar Appearance and Perceived Virtual Affordances. *Vassar College Undergraduate Research Symposium*, Poughkeepsie, NY. (Poster Presentation).

Service

Gender Diversity and Representation Committee, Charlottesville, VA 08/2014 – present

- Organized Safe-Space Training for department to promote an inclusive environment for LGBTQ members of the university community
- Created and distributed a survey assessing the department climate on the dimensions of diversity, safety, inclusiveness
- Prepared a formal report of survey results for presentation to the Director of Graduate Studies

Social Neuroscience Lab: EEG Lab Management, Charlottesville, VA 01/2014 – 01/2016

- Streamlined EEG equipment application and cleaning procedure
- Trained graduate students and undergraduate research assistants in the use of the equipment

Research Methods Course Revision Team Member, Charlottesville, VA 01/2015 – 05/2015

- Reviewed, assessed, edited, proofread, and finalized course PowerPoints, R scripts, assignments, and syllabus
- Designed & programed perceptual experiment for student data generation for analysis assignments

Fellowships and Honors

Jefferson Fellow, 2013 – present

Fulbright Fellow, University of Tsukuba, Japan, 2012 – 2013

Phi Beta Kappa

Psi Chi

Sigma Xi

Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship and Excellence in Education, Honorable Mention, 2011

Varsity Scholar-Athlete, 2009-2012