

Buddhika Bellana

York University, Glendon Campus
2275 Bayview Avenue, Toronto, ON M4N 3M6, CAN
Email: bbellana@yorku.ca
Website: www.bellanalab.com
Google Scholar: [\[link\]](#)

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Associate Professor Department of Science ¹ , Glendon Campus, York University	2025 –
Assistant Professor Department of Psychology, Glendon Campus, York University	2021 – 2025
Adjunct Scientist Rotman Research Institute, Baycrest Academy for Research and Education	2022 –

EDUCATION & TRAINING

University of Toronto, <i>Postdoctoral Fellow</i> Advisor: Katherine Duncan	2020 – 2021
Johns Hopkins University, <i>Postdoctoral Fellow</i> Advisors: Janice Chen and Christopher Honey	2018 – 2021
University of Toronto Advisors: Cheryl Grady and Morris Moscovitch	PhD 2018
University of Toronto Advisors: Cheryl Grady and Morris Moscovitch	MA 2013
York University Thesis advisors: Guy B. Proulx and Larry Leach	BA 2012

RESEARCH SUPPORT

External Grants – Awarded (Primary Investigator)	
Discovery Grant (NSERC-DG) <i>Title:</i> Lingering mental context and the formation of lasting memories - \$194, 500	2022 – 2029 ²
Canadian Foundation for Innovation, Infrastructure Grant (CFI-JELF) <i>Title:</i> Lingering mental context and the formation of lasting memories - \$90, 376	2024 – 2027
Ontario Research Fund, Small Infrastructure Fund (ORF) <i>Title:</i> Lingering mental context and the formation of lasting memories - \$90, 376	2024 – 2027

¹ Glendon underwent restructuring during 2024-2025, with Psychology moving to the Department of Science

² This includes a 2-year parental leave extension

External Grants – **Submitted (Primary Investigator)**

-

External grants – **Awarded (Co-Applicant or Named Collaborator)**

Connected Minds Team Grant 2022 – 2029

Title: Biskaabiiyaang Indigenous Metaverse: Creating an ethical and responsible virtual environment driven by Indigenous communities and community needs

PIs: Maya Chacaby (YorkU), Rebecca Caines (YorkU), Gunnar Blohm (Queen's)

Role: Co-applicant

- \$1, 500, 000

Insight Grant (SSHRC-IG) 2024 – 2030

Title: How Collective Knowledge Shapes Personal Understanding of Life Transitions

PIs: Donna Addis (Baycrest), Karl Szpunar (Toronto Metropolitan University), Malcolm Binns (Baycrest)

Role: Co-applicant

- \$281, 513

Discovery Grant (NSERC-DG) 2023 – 2028

Title: Investigating how schematic frameworks scaffold the simulation of novel events

PI: Donna Addis (Baycrest)

Role: Named collaborator

- \$295, 000

Insight Development Grant (SSHRC-IDG) 2024

Title: Language of Episodic Thought

PIs: Johannes Mahr (YorkU)

Role: Named collaborator

- \$66, 716

External grants – **Submitted (Co-Applicant or Named Collaborator)**

-

Internal Grants – **Awarded (Primary Investigator)**

Small Research Grant (York University; \$5, 000) 2024

Small Research Grant (York University; \$5, 000) 2023

Junior Faculty Research Fund (York University; \$4, 000) 2023

Glendon Research Grant (York University; \$4, 000) 2022

Fellowships

Postdoctoral Fellowship (NSERC-PDF – held at Johns Hopkins) 2020 – 2022

Title: Predictive model strength and information-seeking in naturalistic contexts

- \$90, 000

Ontario Graduate Scholarship (OGS – held at University of Toronto) 2017 – 2018

- \$15, 000

J. Davidson Ketchum Graduate Scholarship in Psychology (University of Toronto) 2016 – 2017

- \$10, 740

University of Toronto Fellowship (University of Toronto) - \$15, 000	2016 – 2017
Post-graduate Scholarship (NSERC-PGS – held at University of Toronto) <i>Title: Contributions of posterior parietal cortex to episodic memory</i> - \$63, 000	2013 – 2016
Alexander Graham Bell Scholarship (NSERC-CGSM – held at University of Toronto) <i>Title: A Continuum of Ageing: White Matter Integrity and Attentional Control</i> - \$17, 500	2012 – 2013

HONOURS & AWARDS

York Research Award (York University)	2025
Principal's Research Excellence Award – Emerging Researcher (York University)	2024
Elected Member (Memory Disorders Research Society; link)	2023
Cermak-Corkin Postdoctoral Award (Memory Disorders Research Society; link)	2021
Collaborative Research Award (Johns Hopkins University)	2018
Men's Service Group Studentship (Rotman Research Institute, Baycrest)	2015 – 2017
Jack & Rita Catherall Fund (Rotman Research Institute, Baycrest)	2014 – 2016
Bartlett Award for Best Data Blitz Presentation (Toronto Area Memory Group)	2016

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Trainees also in **bold**

* Denotes equal contributions

1. **Hirsch, M.**, Virk, T., Chang, C., **Bellana, B.**, & Cyr, A-A. Exploring perceptions of curiosity in older age: A mixed methods approach. *Psychology & Aging*. (2026). [\[link\]](#)
2. **Hirsch, M.**, Virk, T., Chang, C., **Bellana, B.**, & Cyr, A-A. Age differences in the conceptualization and experience of curiosity: A qualitative study. *PLOS One* (2026). [\[link\]](#)
3. Li, X., Ni, N. K., Born, S., Gualano, R., Lee, I., & **Bellana, B.***, & Chen, J.* Interactive narratives reveal the personalizing effect of agency on episodic memory. *Nature Communications*. (2026). [\[link\]](#)
4. Barnett, A., & **Bellana, B.** (2025). Situation models and the default mode network. *Current Opinion in Behavioral Sciences*. 66, 101593. [\[link\]](#)
5. Fenerci, C. Cheng, Z., Addis, D.R., **Bellana, B.**, & Sheldon, S. (2025). Studying memory narratives with natural language processing. *Trends in Cognitive Sciences*. 29(6), 516-525. [\[link\]](#)
6. Honey, C., Mahabal, A., & **Bellana, B.** (2023). Psychological Momentum. *Current Directions in Psychological Science*. 32(4), 284-292. [\[link\]](#)
7. **Bellana, B.**, Ladyka-Wojcik, N., Lahan, S., Moscovitch, M. & Grady, C.L. (2023). Activity in the left angular tracks both recollection and prior knowledge during recognition. *Brain Structure and Function*. 228, 197-217. [\[link\]](#)
8. **Bellana, B.**, Mahabal, A., & Honey, C.J. (2022). Narrative thinking lingers in spontaneous thought. *Nature Communications*. 13(1), 4585. [\[link\]](#)

9. Bouffard, N., Golestani, A., Brunec, I. K., **Bellana, B.**, Park, J-Y., Barense, M. D., & Moscovitch, M. (2022). Single voxel autocorrelation uncovers gradients of temporal dynamics in the hippocampus and entorhinal cortex during rest and navigation. *Cerebral Cortex*. bhac480. [\[link\]](#)
10. Romero, K., Ladyka-Wojic, N., Heir, A., **Bellana, B.**, Leach, L., & Proulx, G.B. (2022). The Influence of Cerebrovascular Pathology on Cluster Analysis of Neuropsychological Scores in Patients With Mild Cognitive Impairment. *Archives of Clinical Neuropsychology*. [\[link\]](#)
11. **Bellana, B.**, Mansour, R., Ladyka-Wojic, N., Grady, C.L. & Moscovitch, M. (2021). The influence of prior knowledge on the formation of detailed and durable memories. *Journal of Memory and Language*. 121, 104264. [\[link\]](#)
12. Wei, H.T., Francois-Nienaber, A., Deschampes, T., **Bellana, B.**, Hebscher, M., Sivaratnam, G., Bagherzadeh, M., & Meltzer, J. (2021). Sensitivity of amplitude and phase based MEG measures of interhemispheric connectivity during unilateral finger movements. *Neuroimage*. 242, 118457. [\[link\]](#)
13. Lee, H., **Bellana, B.**, & Chen, J. (2020). What can narratives tell us about the neural bases of human memory? *Current Opinion in Behavioral Sciences*. 32, 111-119. [\[link\]](#)
14. Ramanan, S. & **Bellana, B.** (2019, commentary). A domain general role for the angular gyrus in retrieving internal representations of the external world. *The Journal of Neuroscience*, 39(16), 2978-2980. [\[link\]](#)
15. Brunec, I.K.*, **Bellana, B.***, Ozubko, J.D., Man, V., Robin, J., Liu, Z-X., Grady, C.L., Rosenbaum, R.S., Winocur, G., Barense, M.D. & Moscovitch, M. (2018). Multiple scales of representation along the hippocampal anteroposterior axis in humans. *Current Biology*, 28(13), 2129-2135.e6. [\[link\]](#)
16. Anderson, J.A.E., Chung-Fat-Yim, A., **Bellana, B.**, Luk, G. & Bialystok, E. (2018). Language and cognitive control networks in bilinguals and monolinguals. *Neuropsychologia*, 117, 351-363. [\[link\]](#)
17. **Bellana, B.**, Liu, Z-X., Diamond, N., Grady, C.L. & Moscovitch, M. (2017). Similarities and differences in the default mode network across rest, retrieval and future imagining. *Human Brain Mapping*, 38(3): 1155-1171. [\[link\]](#)
18. Anderson, J.A.E., Sarraf, S., Amer, T., **Bellana, B.**, Man, V., Campbell, K.L., Hasher, L. & Grady, C.L. (2017). Task-linked diurnal brain network reorganization in older adults: A graph theoretical approach. *Journal of Cognitive Neuroscience*, 29(3), 560-572. [\[link\]](#)
19. **Bellana, B.**, Liu, Z., Anderson, J.A.E., Moscovitch, M. & Grady, C.L. (2016). Laterality effects in functional connectivity of the angular gyrus during rest and episodic retrieval. *Neuropsychologia*, 80(8): 24-34. [\[link\]](#)
20. Greenberg, A., **Bellana, B.** & Bialystok, E. (2013). Perspective-taking ability in bilingual children: Extending advantages in executive control to spatial reasoning. *Cognitive Development*, 28(1): 41-50. [\[link\]](#)

PREPRINTS & MANUSCRIPTS UNDER REVIEW

1. **Wang, L.**, Heidari, F., Nguyen, A.T.P., van Zundert, J., van Dalen-Oskam, K., Mar, R.A.* & **Bellana, B.*** Predicting timelessness from word usage in 100-year-old novels. *Psychology of Aesthetics, Creativity and the Arts*. (Revised and resubmitted, July 2026). [[preprint](#)]
2. Kressin Palacios, G., Ouyang, T., **Bellana, B.**, & Honey, C.J. Origin and control of persistent mental content. *Nature Communications*. (Revised and resubmitted, May 2026). [[preprint](#)]

MANUSCRIPTS IN PREPARATION

1. **Fisher, W.**, Cyr, A-A., & **Bellana, B.** Memory for scrambled narratives unscrambles over time.
2. Cheng, Z., Ekinici, Ö., Fynes-Clinton, S., **Fisher, W.**, Szpunar, K., **Bellana, B.**, & Addis, D.R. As life happens: Prospectively studying the temporal dynamics of personal and shared life stories.
3. **Hirsch, M.**, **Bellana, B.***, & Cyr, A-A.* Curiosity and prior knowledge shape naturalistic information-seeking in younger and older adults.
4. **Hirsch, M.**, Virk, T., Chang, C., **Bellana, B.**, & Cyr, A-A. Dimensionality matters: Curiosity dimensions shape well-being across the lifespan.

INVITED TALKS

1. **Bellana, B.** (2026). Stories as tools for scientists of the mind and brain. *Champalimaud Centre for the Unknown*. Lisbon, PRT, June 2026.
2. **Bellana, B.** (2025). The matter of meaning in memory. *The Brain and Integrative Vision Conference at York University*. Toronto, ON, CAN, June 2025.
3. **Bellana, B.** (2024). Psychological momentum. *Ebbinghaus Empire Seminar at the University of Toronto*. Toronto, ON, CAN, Sep 2024.
4. **Bellana, B.** (2024). Stories as a window into human memory and spontaneous thought. *Rotman Research Institute Rounds*. Toronto, ON, CAN, March 2024.
5. **Bellana, B.** (2023). Psychological momentum. *Annual Meeting of the Memory Disorders Research Society (MDRS)*. Los Angeles, CA, USA. Sep 2023.
6. **Bellana, B.** (2023). Stories as a window into human memory and spontaneous thought. *Past President Symposium at the Annual Meeting of the Canadian Society for Brain, Behaviour and Cognitive Science (CSBBCS)*. Guelph, ON, CAN. Jul 2023.
7. **Bellana, B.** (2023). Persistence in human cognition: Why stories linger in our spontaneous thoughts. *Newcastle University Bioscience Unit*. Newcastle, UK. May 2023.
*Event was held virtually
8. **Bellana, B.** (2022). Narrative thinking lingers in spontaneous thought. *Department of Psychology at Toronto Metropolitan University*. Mar 2022.
*Event was held virtually

9. **Bellana, B.** (2022). Stories, deep processing and spontaneous thought. *Innovators in Cognitive Neuroscience*. Feb 2022. [[link](#)] [[ASL translation](#)]
*Event was held virtually
10. **Bellana, B.** (2021). Narrative thinking lingers in spontaneous thought. *Annual Meeting of the Memory Disorders Research Society*. Oct 2021.
*Event was held virtually
11. **Bellana, B.** (2021). A lasting influence of stories on spontaneous thought. *Department of Psychology at Columbia University*. New York, NY, USA, Mar 2021.
*Event was held virtually
12. **Bellana, B.** (2021). A lasting influence of stories on spontaneous thought. *Department of Cognitive Science at Carleton University*. Kingston, ON, CAN, Mar 2021.
*Event was held virtually
13. **Bellana, B.** (2021). Les narratifs comme fenêtre sur la mémoire et la création du sens. *Department of Psychology at York University, Glendon Campus*. Toronto, ON, CAN, Feb 2021.
*Event was held virtually
14. **Bellana, B.** (2020). A lasting influence of stories on spontaneous thought. *Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences at Dartmouth College*. Hanover, NH, USA, Oct 2020.
*Event was held virtually
15. **Bellana, B.** (2018). Prior knowledge, recollection and the angular gyrus. *Ebbinghaus Empire Semina at the University of Toronto*. Toronto, ON, CAN, Sep 2018.
16. **Bellana, B.** (2018). The role of the angular gyrus in episodic memory. *Rotman Research Institute Rounds*. Toronto, ON, CAN, March 2018.
17. **Bellana, B.** (2017). The role of the angular gyrus in episodic memory. *Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences at Johns Hopkins University*. Baltimore, MD, USA, Nov 2017.

CONTRIBUTED TALKS

1. **Hirsch, M., Bellana, B., & Cyr, A-A.** (2026). Curiosity and prior knowledge shape naturalistic information-seeking behaviour. *11th Annual Meeting of the Toronto Area Memory Group*. Toronto, CAN. May 2026.
2. **Bellana, B.** (2025). Memory for temporally scrambled narratives unscrambles over time. *Memory Disorders Research Society Annual Meeting*. Montreal, CAN. Oct 2025.
3. **Fisher, W., Cyr, A-A., & Bellana, B.** (2024). Quantifying episodicity in the recall of scrambled narratives. *8th Annual Meeting of the Toronto Area Memory Group*. Toronto, ON, CAN. May 2024.
4. **Bellana, B.** (2024). Why some of our experiences stick in mind. *Symposium at the Society for Affective Sciences (SAS)*. New Orleans, LA, USA. Mar 2024.
5. **Addis, D.R., Cheng, Z., Bellana, B., Fynes-Clinton, S., & Fisher, W.** (2023). Autobiographical and Collective Narratives of a Lifetime Period Integrate over Time. *Annual Meeting of the Psychonomic Society*. San Francisco, CA, USA. Nov 2023

6. Addis, D.R., Cheng, Z., **Bellana, B.**, Fynes-Clinton, S., & **Fisher, W.** (2023). Autobiographical and collective narratives of a lifetime period: Examining transformation with natural language processing. *Memory Disorders Research Society Annual Meeting*. Los Angeles, CA, USA. Sep 2023
7. **Fisher, W.**, Cyr, A-A., & **Bellana, B.** (2023). Quantifying memory transformation with scrambled stories. *Annual Meeting of the Canadian Society for Brain, Behaviour and Cognitive Science (CSBBCS)*. Guelph, ON, CAN. Jul 2023.
8. **Fisher, W.**, Cyr, A-A., & **Bellana, B.** (2023). Quantifying memory transformation with scrambled stories. *7th Annual Meeting of the Toronto Area Memory Group*. Toronto, ON, CAN. May 2023.
9. **Bellana, B.** (2020). A persistent influence of narrative transportation on subsequent thought. *Context and Episodic Memory Symposium 2020*. Philadelphia, PA, USA. Aug 2020.
*Event was held virtually
10. **Bellana, B.** (2019). A narrative mode of cognition. *Princeton Meeting for Curious Minds 2019*. Princeton, NJ, USA. Aug 2019.
11. **Bellana, B.** (2019). Dynamics of predictability (and value) in narratives. *Princeton Meeting for Curious Minds 2019*. Princeton, NJ, USA. Aug 2019.
12. **Bellana, B.** (2018). The role of prior knowledge in recollection. *Annual Meeting of the Toronto Area Memory Group*. Toronto, ON, CAN. May 2018.
13. **Bellana, B.** (2018). Angular gyrus simultaneously tracks recollection strength and task-irrelevant prior knowledge. *International Conference on Learning and Memory*. Huntington Beach, CA, USA. April 2018.
14. **Bellana, B.** (2016). Resting state connectivity predicts remote memory for naturalistic film clip stimuli. *Annual Meeting of the Toronto Area Memory Group*. Toronto, ON, CAN. May 2016.

SELECTED CONFERENCE ABSTRACTS & POSTERS

1. Kressin Palacios, G., Li, X., Ouyang, T., **Bellana, B.**, & Honey, C. J. (2026). Cognitive and neural origins of persistent mental content. *Conference on Cognitive and Computational Neuroscience 2026*. New York, NY, USA, Aug 2026. [\[link\]](#)
2. Kressin Palacios, G., Ouyang, T., Li, X., **Bellana, B.**, & Honey, C. J. (2026). Cognitive and neural origins of persistent mental content. *Proceedings of the Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society*. Rio de Janeiro, BRA, Jul 2026. [\[link\]](#)
3. **Hirsch, M.**, **Bellana, B.**, & Cyr, A-A. (2026). Curiosity and prior knowledge shape naturalistic information-seeking behaviour. *Annual Meeting of the Canadian Society for Brain, Behavioural and Cognitive Science*. Toronto, CAN. Jun 2026.
4. **Hirsch, M.**, Virk, T., Chang, C., **Bellana, B.**, & Cyr, A-A. (2025). Exploring the relationship between curiosity and aging perceptions: A mixed methods approach. *Canadian Association on Gerontology Annual Scientific and Educational Meeting*. Montreal, CAN. Oct 2025.

5. **Hirsch, M.**, Virk, T., Chang, C., **Bellana, B.**, & Cyr, A-A. (2025). Aging perceptions surrounding curiosity: Exploring the perspectives of younger and older adults. *Connected Minds Conference*. Toronto, CAN. Oct 2025.
6. **Hirsch, M.**, **Bellana, B.**, & Cyr, A-A. (2025). Evaluating the feasibility of a naturalistic Wikipedia-based information foraging task. *Brain and Integrative Vision Conference*. York University, Toronto, CAN, Jun 2025.
7. **Fisher, W.**, Cyr, A-A., & **Bellana, B.** (2025). Scrambled narratives and changes in the composition of memories over time. *Brain and Integrative Vision Conference*. York University, Toronto, CAN, Jun 2025.
8. **Hirsch, M.**, **Bellana, B.**, & Cyr, A-A. (2025). Wikipedia exploration over time: Conceptualizing age-related changes in curiosity. *Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Neuroscience Society 2025*. Boston, MA, USA, Mar 2025.
9. **Fisher, W.**, Cyr, A-A., & **Bellana, B.** Memory for an event-scrambled story unscrambles over time. (2025). *Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Neuroscience Society 2025*. Boston, MA, USA, Mar 2025.
10. Kressin Palacios, G., **Bellana, B.**, & Honey, C. J. (2024). Origin and control of persistent mental content. *Conference on Cognitive and Computational Neuroscience 2024*. Boston, MA, USA, Aug 2024. [\[link\]](#)
11. **Bellana, B.**, **Fernando, S.**, **Fisher, W.**, Kressin Palacios, G., & Honey, C. J. (2024). A distinctive role of deep processing on the persistence of recent experiences in spontaneous thought. *Context and Episodic Memory Symposium 2024*. Philadelphia, PA, USA, May 2024.
12. Li, X., Ni, N. K., Born, S., Gualano, R., Lee, I., **Bellana, B.**, & Chen, J. (2024). Agency enhances individuality in memory for narratives. *Context and Episodic Memory Symposium 2024*. Philadelphia, PA, USA, May 2024.
13. Kressin Palacios, G., **Bellana, B.**, & Honey, C. J. (2024). Blocking persistent mental content. *Context and Episodic Memory Symposium 2024*. Philadelphia, PA, USA, May 2024.
14. Cheng, Z., **Bellana, B.**, Fynes-Clinton, **Fisher, W.**, & Addis, D.R. (2024). Pandemics stories: How autobiographical and collective narratives develop over time. *Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Neuroscience Society 2024*. Toronto, ON, CAN, Apr 2024.
15. **Fisher, W.**, Cyr, A-A., & **Bellana, B.** Quantifying memory transformation with scrambled stories. (2024). *Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Neuroscience Society 2024*. Toronto, ON, CAN, Apr 2024.
16. Huang, Y., **Hu, A.**, **Bellana, B.***, & Chen, J.* (2024). Neural correlates of prediction potential during movie-viewing. *Annual Meeting of the Society for Neuroscience 2024*. Chicago, IL, USA, Oct 2024.
17. Li, X., Ni, N. K., Born, S., Gualano, R., Lee, I., **Bellana, B.***, & Chen, J.* (2024). Agency personalizes naturalistic event memory. *Annual Meeting of the Society for Neuroscience 2024*. Chicago, IL, USA, Oct 2024.

18. Kressin Palacios, G., **Bellana, B.**, & Honey, C. J. (2023). How are lingering thoughts modulated by current concerns? *Curiosity, Creativity and Complexity Conference at Columbia University*. New York City, NY, USA, May 2023.
19. Cheng, Z., **Bellana, B.**, Fynes-Clinton, S., **Fisher, W.**, & Addis, D.R. (2023). Pandemic stories: How personal and collective narratives about the COVID-19 pandemic integrate over time. *Lake Ontario Visionary Establishment Conference*. Niagara Falls, ON, CAN, Feb 2023.
20. Li, X., **Bellana, B.**, Born, S., Hu, A., & Chen, J. (2022). The role of agency in memory for narratives. *Conference on Cognitive and Computational Neuroscience 2022*. Philadelphia, PA, USA, Aug 2022. [\[link\]](#)
21. Li, X., **Bellana, B.**, Born, S., Hu, A., & Chen, J. (2021). The role of agency in memory for narratives: A choose-your-own-adventure paradigm. *Context and Episodic Memory Symposium 2021*. Philadelphia, PA, USA, Aug 2021.
22. Born, S., **Bellana, B.**, & Chen, J. (2021). Written description length as an index for context dependence in naturalistic movies. *Context and Episodic Memory Symposium 2021*. Philadelphia, PA, USA, Aug 2021.
23. **Bellana, B.** & Honey, C. J. (2021). Deep processing and the mental persistence of stories. *Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Neuroscience Society 2021*. Mar 2021.
*Event was held virtually
24. **Bellana, B.** & Honey, C. J. (2020). A persistent influence of narrative transportation on unconstrained thought. *Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Neuroscience Society 2020*. Boston, MA, USA, Mar 2020.
*Event was held virtually
25. **Bellana, B.**, Lee, H., Zuo, Z., & Chen, J. (2019). Measuring behavioural and neural responses to fluctuations in real-world predictability. *Annual Meeting of the Society for Neuroscience 2019*. Chicago, IL, USA, Oct 2019.
26. **Bellana, B.**, Lee, H., Zuo, Z., & Chen, J. (2019). Measuring behavioural and neural responses to fluctuations in real-world predictability. *Conference on Cognitive and Computational Neuroscience 2019*. Berlin, DEU, Sep 2019. [\[link\]](#)
27. Golestani, A., **Bellana, B.**, Brunec, I.K. & Moscovitch, M. (2018). Investigating autocorrelation pattern in the human hippocampus using resting-state fMRI. *Sixth Biennial Conference on Resting State and Brain Connectivity – 2018*. Montreal, CAN, Sep 2018.
28. Brunec, I.K.*, **Bellana, B.***, Ozubko, J. D., Barense, M.D. & Moscovitch, M. (2018). Spatiotemporal scaling along the hippocampal long axis. *2018 Grid Cell Meeting*. London, UK, May 2018. * Equal contributions
29. Brunec, I.K.*, **Bellana, B.***, Barense, M.D. & Moscovitch, M. (2018). Hippocampal dynamics change across the lifespan. *International Conference on Learning and Memory*. Huntington Beach, CA, USA, April 2018.
*Equal contributions

30. **Bellana, B.**, Grady, C.L. & Moscovitch, M. (2017). Angular gyrus simultaneously tracks recollection strength and task-irrelevant prior knowledge. *Annual Meeting of the Memory Disorder Research Society*. Chicago, IL, USA, September 2017.
31. Brunec, I.K.*, **Bellana, B.***, Ozubko, J.D., Barense, M.D. & Moscovitch, M. (2017). Distinct pattern of inter-voxel dynamics along the hippocampal longitudinal axis. *Annual Meeting of the Organization for Human Brain Mapping 2017*. Vancouver, BC, CAN, June 2017.
32. **Bellana, B.**, Grady, C.L. & Moscovitch, M. (2017). Effect of prior knowledge and encoding duration on recognition memory for faces. *27th Annual Rotman-Baycrest Neuroscience Conference*. Toronto, ON, CAN, March 2017.
33. **Bellana, B.**, Amer, T., Sekeres, M., Moscovitch, M. & Grady, C.L. (2016). Whole-brain connectivity during post-encoding rest predicts immediate and delayed memory retrieval for extended naturalistic film clips. *International Conference on Memory*. Budapest, HUN, July 2016.
34. **Bellana, B.**, Liu, Z., Diamond, N., Grady, C.L., Levine, B. & Moscovitch, M. (2015). Characterizing the default mode network across rest, retrieval and future imagining. *Annual Meeting of the Organization for Human Brain Mapping 2015*. Honolulu, HI, USA, June 2015.
35. **Bellana, B.**, Liu, Z., Diamond, N., Grady, C.L., Levine, B. & Moscovitch, M. (2015). Similarities and differences in the DMN across rest, retrieval and future imagining. *25th Annual Rotman Baycrest Neuroscience Conference*. Toronto, ON, CAN, March 2015.
36. Chung-Fat-Yim, A., Berkes, M., Mesite, L., **Bellana, B.**, Luk, G. & Bialystok, E. (2015). Structural and functional differences between monolingual and bilingual young adults. *Workshop on Bilingualism and Executive Function*. New York City, NY, USA, May 2015.
37. Chung-Fat-Yim, A., Mesite, L., **Bellana, B.**, Luk, G. & Bialystok, E. (2015). White matter differences between monolingual and bilingual young adults. *22nd Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Neuroscience Society*. San Francisco, CA, USA, March 2015.
38. **Bellana, B.**, Liu, Z., Anderson, J. A. E., Moscovitch, M. & Grady, C. L. (2014). Functional connectivity of the angular gyrus during rest and recall: Laterality effects in the recollection network. *Annual Meeting of the Society for Neuroscience 2014*. Washington, DC, USA, November 2014.
39. **Bellana, B.**, Liu, Z., Anderson, J. A. E., Moscovitch, M. & Grady, C. L. (2014). Left to recollect? Laterality differences in whole-brain functional connectivity of the angular gyrus during rest and recall. *24th Annual Canadian Society for Brain, Behaviour and Cognitive Science*. Toronto, ON, CAN, July 2014.
40. **Bellana, B.**, Anderson, J. A. E., Moscovitch, M. & Grady, C. L. (2014). A PLS approach to laterality differences in resting whole-brain functional connectivity of the angular gyrus. *24th Annual Rotman-Baycrest Neuroscience Conference*. Toronto, ON, CAN, March 2014.
41. **Bellana, B.**, Grady, C. L. & Moscovitch, M. (2013). The effect of age on attentional processes across memory and perception: An extension of the Attention-to-Memory hypothesis. *2013 Annual Meeting of the Psychonomic Society*. Toronto, ON, CAN, November 2013.

42. **Bellana, B.**, Leach, L. & Proulx, G. B. (2012). An Analysis of the Kaplan-Baycrest Neurocognitive Assessment in Dementia and Normal Ageing. *73rd Annual Convention of the Canadian Psychological Association*. Halifax, NS, CAN, June 2012.

PUBLIC TALKS & MEDIA ENGAGEMENT

1. We begin with a story. *AR, Champalimaud Centre for the Unknown*. Jun 2026. [\[link\]](#)
 - An invited public outreach talk on the cognitive neuroscience of stories in Lisbon
2. Stories and the science of human memory. *Rosedale United Church*. April 2026.
 - A community outreach talk on the science of human memory and work from our lab
3. What are memories made of? *The Agenda on TVO*. November 2022. [\[link\]](#)
 - A television interview on the science of human memory
4. Stories linger in mind and how that can be measured. *YouTube*. January 2022. [\[link\]](#)
 - A video abstract of Bellana et al., (2022) Narratives linger in spontaneous thought, summarizing the findings for a general interest audience
5. On stories, minds and brains. *Life is a Freestyle*. October 2020. [\[link\]](#)
 - A podcast episode on stories in cognitive neuroscience and connections to hip-hop

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES & AFFILIATIONS

Ad-hoc Reviewer

Total: 47

- | | |
|--|---|
| ▪ Behavioural Research Methods (2) | ▪ Journal of Memory and Language (2) |
| ▪ Brain Structure and Function (1) | ▪ Journal of Neuroscience (7) |
| ▪ Cerebral Cortex (8) | ▪ Learning & Memory (2) |
| ▪ Communications Psychology (1) | ▪ Memory & Cognition (1) |
| ▪ European Journal of Neuroscience (1) | ▪ Nature Communications (1) |
| ▪ eLife (3) | ▪ Nature Neuroscience (1) |
| ▪ Emotion (1) | ▪ Neurobiology of Learning and Memory (1) |
| ▪ eNeuro (1) | ▪ NeuroImage (1) |
| ▪ Hippocampus (2) | ▪ Neuropsychologia (4) |
| ▪ Human Brain Mapping (1) | ▪ npj Science of Learning (1) |
| ▪ Journal of Exp. Psychology: General (1) | ▪ PloS Biology (1) |
| ▪ Journal of Exp. Psychology: Learning, Memory & Cognition (1) | ▪ Scientific Reports (1) |
| | ▪ Trends in Cognitive Sciences (1) |

Grant Review

Total: 6

- Dutch Research Council – Vidi (1)
- NSERC – Discovery Grant (3)
- NSERC – Arthur B. McDonald Fellowship (1)
- SSHRC – Insight Grant (1)

Editorial Service

- Guest editor for the *Journal of Comparative Literature and Aesthetics* (Special issue: [“Advances in Neuroaesthetics: Narratives and Art as Windows into the Mind and Brain”](#); Vol. 47, No. 3, Autumn 2024)

Organized Research Units

- Connected Minds at York University
- Vision: Science to Application (VISTA) at York University
- Centre for Integrative and Applied Neuroscience (CIAN) at York University

Professional Memberships

- Memory Disorders Research Society (MDRS)
- Cognitive Neuroscience Society (CNS)
- Canadian Society for Brain, Behaviour and Cognitive Science (CSBBCS)

Institutional Service

Member of the Caucus d'Équité Raciale/Race Equity Caucus (Glendon, YorkU)	2022 –
Chair of the Research & Graduate Studies Committee (Glendon, YorkU)	2025
Member of Hiring Committee for Connected Minds Hire I (YorkU)	2025
Member of Hiring Committee for Connected Minds Hire II (YorkU)	2025
Member of the Research & Graduate Studies Committee (Glendon, YorkU)	2024 – 2025
Chair of the Curriculum Committee (Glendon, YorkU)	2024
Member of the Curriculum Committee (Glendon, YorkU)	2022 – 2023
Member of the Selection Committee for the Early Career Colloquium Series (JHU)	2020
Member of the Diversity, Equity and Outreach Working Group (JHU)	2020
Member of the Steering Committee for the Research Training Centre (Baycrest)	2014 – 2017
Coordinator of the Graduate Led Academic Seminar Series (UofT)	2013 – 2015

Thesis Examinations

1. Kayla Williams (YorkU; Served as Internal Examiner for MA defence)	2026
2. Yasaman Kambari (YorkU; Served as Chair for MA defence)	2026
3. Kiran Bumra (YorkU; Served as Internal Examiner for MA defence)	2025
4. Dan Casey (YorkU; Served as Internal Examiner for PhD defence)	2024
5. Joshua Quinlan (YorkU; Served as Chair for PhD defence)	2023
6. Lauri Guguryan (McGill; Served as External Examiner for PhD defence)	2023

TEACHING & MENTORSHIP

Master's Supervision

1. Pranitha Rathakrishnan	2026 –
- Co-advisor: Andrée-Ann Cyr (YorkU)	
- Competitive funding: Connected Minds MA Scholarship (2026-2028)	
2. Sahana Radhakaran	2026 –
- Co-advisor: Hannah Tarder-Stoll (YorkU)	
- Competitive funding: Connected Minds MA Scholarship (2026-2028)	
3. Michelle Hirsch	2024 – 2026
- Co-advisor: Andrée-Ann Cyr (YorkU)	
- Competitive funding: Connected Minds MA Scholarship (2025); Ontario Graduate Scholarship (2025)	
- Nominated for a university-wide thesis award	
o <u>Now: PhD student in my lab</u>	
4. William Fisher	2023 – 2025
- Co-advisor: Andrée-Ann Cyr (YorkU)	

- *Competitive funding*: Connected Minds MA Scholarship (2024)
- Nominated for a university-wide thesis award
 - o Now: in Industry; Data Analysis Engineer

Doctoral Supervision

- Michelle Hirsch 2026 –
 - *Co-advisor*: Andrée-Ann Cyr (YorkU)
 - *Competitive funding*: Connected Minds PhD Scholarship (2026-2030); Ontario Graduate Scholarship (2026)

Committee Membership

- Ghalia El Hayawan (YorkU) 2026 –
 - Level: MA (Psychology)
 - Advisor: Lauren Sergio (YorkU)
- Toluanimi Famorika (YorkU) 2023 – 2025
 - Level: MA (Clinical Psychology)
 - Advisor: Shayna Rosenbaum (YorkU)
- Kesaan Kandasamy (Toronto Metropolitan University) 2023 – 2025
 - Level: PhD (Clinical Psychology)
 - Advisor: Lixia Yang (Toronto Metropolitan University)

Undergraduate Honours Thesis Supervision

- Jason Soliman (YorkU) 2026 –
- Alyanne Andrade-Rifa (YorkU) 2026 –
- Karissa Philippou (YorkU; Now: Applying to Clinical Psych) 2024 – 2025
- Julien Quickstad (YorkU; Now: MA student at UAlberta) 2024 – 2025
- Celina Therriault (YorkU; Now: MA student at UAlberta) 2024 – 2025
- Zoé Labonté (YorkU; Now: Applying to Clinical Psych) 2023 – 2024
- Leyao Wang (YorkU; Now: PhD student at UCL) 2023 – 2024
- Maria Moncaleano Espinosa (YorkU; Now: Psychometrist) 2022 – 2023
- Olivia Arski (UofT; Now: Clinical Research Coordinator at SickKids) 2018 – 2019
- Rania Mansour (UofT; Now: Surgery Resident at Mayo Clinic) 2016 – 2017

Undergraduate Research Assistants

- Aditi Thakkar (YorkU) 2026 –
- Alla Spinu (YorkU) 2024 –
- Riya Trikha (YorkU; Now: PhD student at YorkU) 2022 –
- Sahana Radhakaran (YorkU; Now: MA student at YorkU) 2025 – 2026
- Pranitha Rathakrishnan (YorkU; Now: MA student at YorkU) 2023 – 2026
- Sarah Mitchell (YorkU) 2025
- Maab Abdel Kadir (YorkU) 2024
- Christiane Marie Canillo (YorkU; Now: MA student at McGill) 2022 – 2024
- Anna Hu (JHU; Now: in Clinical Research Coordinator at Beth Israel Lahey Health) 2020 – 2024
- Shihara Christina Fernando (YorkU; Now: MA student at UWestern) 2022 – 2023
 - 2023 NSERC Undergraduate Student Research Award (USRA)
- William Fisher (YorkU; Now: in Industry; Data Analysis Engineer) 2022 – 2023
- Hannah Collins-Doijode (JHU; Now: Med Student at John A. Burns School of Med.) 2020 – 2021
- Kenz Wilkinson (JHU; Now: PhD student at UC Berkeley) 2019
- Natalia Ladyka-Wojcik (UofT; Now: Prof at UdeQuébec en Outaouais) 2015 – 2018
- Tanya Grocholsky (UofT) 2018
- Selin Goksoy (UofT) 2018

- | | |
|--|-------------|
| 17. Dana Arafeh (UofT; <u>Now: in Health and Patient Care</u>) | 2018 |
| 18. Anna Waisman (UofT; <u>Now: Clinical PhD student at YorkU</u>) | 2018 |
| 19. Shany Lahan (UofT; <u>Now: in Science Communication in MedTech</u>) | 2016 – 2017 |
| 20. Lynn Van Kampen (UofT) | 2015 |
| 21. Cristina Pierpaoli (UofT; <u>Now: Clinical Psychologist</u>) | 2014 |

Primary Instruction

- | | |
|---|-------------|
| 1. Introduction to Experimental Psychology (YorkU; GL-PSYC 2520; syllabus) | 2022 – 2026 |
| 2. Introduction à la Psychologie Expérimentale (YorkU; GL-PSYC 2520; syllabus) | 2022 – 2024 |
| 3. Stories, Minds and Brains (YorkU; GL-PSYC 4615; syllabus) | 2025, 2027 |
| 4. Human Neuropsychology (YorkU; GL-PSYC 4530; syllabus) | 2021 – 2022 |
| 5. The Cognitive Neuroscience of Stories (JHU; AS.200.135.22; syllabus) | 2020 |

Workshops and Other Teaching Experience

1. **Bellana, B.** (2026). Introduction to the Citation Diversity Statement. *Baycrest Academy for Research and Education: Methods Club*. Apr 2026.
 - Led a workshop for researchers on using the Citation Diversity Statement ([Zurn, Bassett & Rust, 2020](#)), a DEI-focused AI tool that combats citation bias by estimating and reporting author demographic data from a manuscript's reference list
2. **Bellana, B.** & Diamond, N. B. (2018). Introduction to the Brain. *Baycrest Academy for Research & Education*. Summer 2018.
 - Taught an introductory lecture on neuroanatomy and cognitive neuroscience in an NSERC-funded program, promoting science and technology education to high-school students and teachers
3. **Bellana, B.** & Diamond, N. B. (2017, 2018). Introduction to the Brain. *The Life Institute: Toronto Metropolitan University*. Summer 2017, 2018.
 - Taught an introductory lecture on neuroanatomy and cognitive neuroscience to retired seniors pursuing continuing education

Teaching Certifications & Training

- | | |
|--|------|
| Mentoring Best Practices syllabus | 2023 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Completed an intensive 6-week course on mentorship best practices for cognitive neuroscientists, with an emphasis on diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) | |
| Teaching Academy Fellow (Johns Hopkins University) | 2020 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Completed a 3-day intensive course on teaching best practices for researchers and participated several additional practical workshops | |

PERSONAL

Citizenship: Canadian

Languages: English (fluent) and French (intermediate)