

# Victoria R. Heimer-McGinn, PhD

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**Assistant Professor**  
Psychology Department  
Roger Williams University  
Bristol, RI, USA

## Education

<b>Postdoc</b>	<i>Cognitive Neuroscience</i>	<b>Providence College</b>	Psychology Department (Providence, RI)	2017-2018
<b>Postdoc</b>	<i>Behavioral Neuroscience</i>	<b>Brown University</b>	Neuroscience Department (Providence, RI)	2013-2017
<b>Ph.D.</b>	<i>Molecular Neuroscience</i>	<b>University College Cork</b>	Department of Biochemistry (Cork, Ireland)	2013
<b>B.F.A.</b>	<i>Dance &amp; Pre-Medicine</i>	<b>University of Florida</b>	School of Theater and Dance	2006

## Honors / Awards

Archambault Teaching Award	Brown University, School of Professional Studies	2016
NSP Associate	Society for Neuroscience, Neuroscience Scholars Program	2015
Fulbright Scholar	US Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs	2006
National Hispanic Scholar Honors Program	College Board, National Hispanic Recognition Program	2002
	University of Florida	2002-2006

## Grants / Fellowships

*\* I wrote the proposal*

RI-INBRE	RI IDEa Network of Biomedical Research Excellence, to Victoria Templer	2017-2018
* NRSA F32 Postdoctoral Fellowship	National Institutes of Mental Health (USA)	2015-2017
NRSA T32 Postdoctoral Fellowship	National Institutes of Mental Health (USA), to Barry Connors	2013-2014
Research Frontiers Programme	Science Foundation Ireland (Ireland), to Paul Young	2008-2012
* Norwegian Marshall Fund	The Norway-America Association (Norway)	2007
* Fulbright Scholarship	US Department of State (USA)	2006-2007
REU Grant	National Science Foundation (USA), Rebecca T. Kimball	2005-2006
National Hispanic Scholarship	University of Florida (FL, USA) - Full tuition and expenses	2002-2006

## Publications

**Heimer-McGinn, V.R.**, Wise T, Templer, V. (*under review*) Social housing conditions enhance acquisition memory in rats.

**Heimer-McGinn, V.R.**, Kent, B., Burwell, R.D. (*In preparation*) Representations of context in the postrhinal cortex.

Templer, V.L., Wise, T.B., **Heimer-McGinn, V.R.** (2019). Social housing protects against age-related working memory decline independently of physical enrichment in rats. *Neurobiology of Aging*, 75,117-125.

**Heimer-McGinn, V.R.**, Poeta, D.L., Aghi, K., Udawatta, M., Burwell, R.D. (2017). Disconnection of the perirhinal and postrhinal cortices impairs recognition of objects in context but not contextual fear conditioning. *Journal of Neuroscience*, 37(18), 4819-4829.

Lenihan JA, Saha O, **Heimer-McGinn, V.**, Cryan JF, Feng G, Young PW (2017) Decreased anxiety-related behaviour but apparently unperturbed NUMB function in ligand of NUMB protein-X (LNX) 1/2 double knockout mice. *Molecular Neurobiology*, 54(10), 8090-8109.

Scaplen KM, Gulati AA, **Heimer-McGinn, V.**, Burwell RD (2014). When do objects become landmarks? Hippocampal place cells respond differently to manipulations of visual cues depending on size, perspective, and experience. *Hippocampus*, 24 (11), 1287-99.

**Heimer-McGinn, V.**, Murphy AC, Kim JC, Dymecki SM, Young PW (2013). Decreased dendritic spine density as a consequence of tetanus toxin light chain expression in single neurons *in vivo*. *Neuroscience Letters*, 555, 36-4.

Kimball RT, Wang N, **Heimer-McGinn, V.**, Ferguson C & Braun EL (2013). Identifying localized biases in large datasets: A case study using the avian tree of life. *Molecular Phylogenetics and Evolution*, 69(3), 1021-32.

**Heimer-McGinn, V.** and Young, P. (2011). Efficient inducible pan-neuronal Cre-mediated recombination in SLICK-H transgenic mice. *Genesis*, 49(12), 942-949.

Kimball, R.T., Braun, E.L., Barker, F.K., Bowie, R.C., Braun, M.J., Chojnowski, J.L., Hackett, S.J., Han, K.L., Harshman, J., **Heimer-Torres, V.**, Holznagel, W., Huddleston, C.J., Marks, B.D., Miglia, K.J., Moore, W.S., Reddy, S., Sheldon, F.H., Smith, J.V., Witt, C.C., Yuri, T. (2009). A well-tested set of primers to amplify regions spread across the avian genome. *Molecular Phylogenetics and Evolution*, 50(3), 654-60.

## Scholarly Talks

### Guest Lectures

“Representations of Context in the Postrhinal Cortex”	University of Rhode Island (RI)	2018
“Representations of Context in the Postrhinal Cortex”	Providence College (RI)	2016
“Optogenetics in Practice” – Undergraduate class	Brown University (RI)	2014

### Department Seminars

“Contextual representations in the postrhinal cortex”	Brown University (RI)	2015
“The Perirhinal and Postrhinal Cortices” – Data Blitz	Alpert Medical School, Brown University (RI)	2015
“Generating Knockout Mice using Recombinant ES Cells”	UCC (Ireland)	2010
“SLICK Technique for Silencing Neurons”	UCC (Ireland)	2008

## Outreach and Advocacy

### Non-Profit Enterprise

Chair	<a href="#">Brain Week Rhode Island</a> (RI)	2017-present
Co-Chair	Brain Week Rhode Island (RI)	2015-2017
Co-Founder	Brain Week Rhode Island (RI)	2015
Co-Founder	BRAINY Visits: Interactive Neuroscience for PK-12 (RI)	2016
Co-Founder	Brown Brain Fair, Brown University (Providence, RI)	2016

### Event Organizing

BRAINY Visits	Brain Week Rhode Island & multiple K-12 schools (15+)	2016-present
Opioid Panel: The Biology of Public Health	Brain Week Rhode Island	2019
Movie Screenings with Panel Discussion	Brain Week Rhode Island & Roger Williams University (RI)	2019
Movie Screenings with Panel Discussion	Brain Week Rhode Island & Brown University (RI)	2016-2018
Brown Brain Fair	Brain Week Rhode Island & Brown University (RI)	2016-2018

### Invited Talks

The Brain and Psychological Trauma	The Institute for the Study and Practice of Non-Violence (RI)	2018
The Brain and Mental Illness	National Alliance for Mental Illness (Providence, RI)	2018
Neuroscience Through a Historical Lens	Everett Dance Theater (Providence, RI)	2016
Career Paths in Neuroscience	Wheeler High School (Providence, RI)	2013

## University Service

### Roger Williams University

Member	New Faculty Learning Community	2018-2019
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### Brown University, RI (postdoctoral)

Co-founder	Postdocs in Brain Science	2014
Executive Committee Member	Postdocs in Brain Science	2014-2017
Organizer	Mock Chalk-Talks	2014-2017
Organizer	Meet the Speaker lunches	2014-2017
Organizer	Grant Writing Workshop Series	2016
Organizer	Speed-Mentoring Workshop	2015
Organizer	Neurology and Neuroscience Research Night	2015

### University College Cork, Ireland (graduate)

Exam Proctor	Registrar's Office	2012
Conference Reporter	Schizophrenia Research Forum – Wiring the Brain	2009
Graduate Liaison	Biochemistry Department	2008-2009
Journal Club Coordinator	Anatomy Department	2008-2009

## Teaching Certificates

Cert IV Teaching Consultant Program	Sheridan Center for Teaching and Learning, Brown University	2014-2016
Cert III Professional Development Seminar	Sheridan Center for Teaching and Learning, Brown University	2015-2016
Cert II Consultant for Cert I	Sheridan Center for Teaching and Learning, Brown University	2014-2015
Cert I Reflective Teaching	Sheridan Center for Teaching and Learning, Brown University	2013-2014

## Teaching

### Undergraduate

PSYCH261	Introduction to Neuroscience	Roger Williams University	Spring 2019
PSYCH340	Research Methods in Psychology	Roger Williams University	Spring 2019
PSYCH340	Research Methods in Psychology	Roger Williams University	Spring 2019
PSYCH261	Introduction to Neuroscience	Roger Williams University	Fall 2018
PSYCH340	Research Methods in Psychology	Roger Williams University	Fall 2018
PSYCH340	Research Methods in Psychology	Roger Williams University	Fall 2018
CLPS 1150	Memory and the_Brain	Brown University	Fall 2015

### High School

The Secret Lives of Animals: Brain and Behavior	Brown University, Stem II Program	Summer 2016
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## Mentoring

### Thesis Advisor

Ms. Kaia Lindenburg	Undergraduate	Roger Williams University '19	2018-2019
Ms. Devon Poeta	Graduate (Masters)	Brown University '15	2013-2015
Mr. Krishan Aghi	Undergraduate	Brown University '15	2013-2015

### Laboratory Training

Ms. Taylor Wise	Post-Baccalaureate	Providence College staff	2017-2018
Ms. Katrina Dayaw	Undergraduate	Providence College '19	2017-2018
Ms. Judith Dayaw	Undergraduate	Providence College '19	2017-2018
Ms. Anne Dankert	Undergraduate	Providence College '21	2017-2018
Ms. Robert Vera	Undergraduate	Providence College '20	2017-2018
Ms. Amrita Singh	Undergraduate	Brown University '19	2016-2018
Ms. Methma Udawatta	Undergraduate	Brown University '17	2016-2017
Mr. Chandler Werthmann	Undergraduate	Brown University '18	2014-2015
Mr. Krishan Aghi	Undergraduate	Brown University '15	2013-2015
Ms. Isabel Torres	High School	The Villages HS, FL '16	2013-2015

### Mentor

Ms. Ameyo Attila	Undergraduate	Brown Center for Students of Color '18	2014-2018
Ms. Carin Pappendorp	Undergraduate	Brown Brain Bee, Brown University '17	2015-2017
Mr. Mackensie Woodburn '17	Undergraduate	Brown Brain Bee, Brown University '17	2015-2017

## Research Projects

"Sociability, Attention, and Memory in the Posterior Parietal Cortex"	Providence College (RI, USA)	2017-present
"Representations of Context in the Postrhinal Cortex"	Brown University (RI, USA)	2016-present
"Effects of Social Housing on Working Memory"	Providence College (R, USA I)	2017-2019
"Effects of Social Housing on Task Acquisition"	Providence College (RI, USA)	2017-2019
"Contextual Learning Supported in the Peri and Postrhinal Cortices"	Brown University (RI, USA)	2013-2016
"Objects and Landmarks as Seen by the Hippocampus"	Brown University (RI, USA)	2013-2014
"Synaptic Plasticity in Single Silenced Cells"	University College Cork (Ireland)	2008-2013
"Anxiety Phenotype in LNX-protein Knockout Mice"	Duke University (NC, USA)	Summer 2008
"AQP4 Protein in Migraines; Finding Novel Protein Interactions"	University of Oslo (Norway)	2006-2007
"Mapping the Avian Phylogenetic Tree"	University of Florida (FL, USA)	2004-2006
"Stress Relieving Techniques for Autistic Individuals"	The Groden Center (RI, USA)	Summer 2003

## Poster Presentations

### Submissions by Student Advisees:

- Dankert A, Wise T, Heimer-McGinn V, Templer V. (2018) "The Role of the Posterior Parietal Cortex in Memory for Temporal Order" 11<sup>th</sup> Annual RI SURF Conference, North Kingstown, RI.
- Dayaw K, Dayaw J, Wise T, Heimer-McGinn V, Templer V. (2018) "Posterior Parietal Cortex: Evidence for Social Functioning" 11<sup>th</sup> Annual RI SURF Conference, North Kingstown, RI.
- Vera R, Wise, T, Dankert A, Heimer-McGinn V, Templer V. (2018) "The Role of the Posterior Parietal Cortex in Judgments of Physical Distance" 11<sup>th</sup> Annual RI SURF Conference, North Kingstown, RI.

### First Author Presentations:

- Heimer-McGinn VR, Kent B, Burwell RD (2016) "Representations of context in the postrhinal cortex" Society for Neuroscience 46<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting, San Diego, CA.
- Heimer-McGinn VR, Poeta DL, Burwell RD (2015) "Disconnection of the perirhinal and postrhinal cortices impairs recognition of objects in context" Society for Neuroscience 45<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting, Chicago IL.  
*\*Also presented at the Diversity Fellows Poster Session*
- Heimer-McGinn VR, Poeta DL, Burwell RD (2014) "Perirhinal contributions to postrhinal representations of context" Society for Neuroscience 44<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting, Washington DC.
- Heimer-McGinn V, Kim JC, Dymecki S, Young P (2012) "Examination of Morphological Consequences of Inhibition of Neurotransmission in Single Neurons *in vivo*" Neuroscience Ireland Annual Meeting, Dublin, Ireland.
- Heimer-Torres V, Feng G & Young P (2010) "SLICK-H Transgenic Mice for Inducible Neuron-Specific Cre-Mediated Recombination" 7<sup>th</sup> FENS Forum (Federation of European Neuroscience Societies), Amsterdam, The Netherlands.
- Snaebjornsson MT, Heimer-Torres V, Ottersen OP & Petersen PH (2010) "The aquaporin-4 protein interacts with multiple PDZ domain scaffolding proteins" 7<sup>th</sup> FENS Forum, Amsterdam, The Netherlands.
- Heimer-Torres VR, Braun EL & Kimball RT (2006) "Molecular Evolution of Non-Canonical Introns in the Class Aves" Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology Annual Meeting, Orlando, FL.

## Membership

Professional Societies	American Psychological Association	2018-present
	Society for Neuroscience	2014-present
	Federation of European Neuroscience Societies	2008-present
	Neuroscience Ireland	2008-present
	Biochemistry Society (University College Cork, Ireland)	2008-2013
Online Research Forums	Ciencia Puerto Rico	2008-present
	Schizophrenia Research Forum	2008-present

## Languages

- Spanish (bilingual native speaker)  
 English (bilingual native speaker)  
 French (competent)  
 Norwegian (basic)