

Hakwan LAU

hakwan@gmail.com

Academic Biography

- Co-Director (to start in Sept 2024), Center for Neuroscience Imaging Research, Institute for Basic Science, South Korea
- Professor (to start in Sept 2024), Department of Biomedical Engineering, Sungkyunkwan University, South Korea
- Visiting PI (2024 Sep - 2025 Mar), RIKEN Center for Brain Science, Japan
- Team Leader (2021 July - 2024 Aug), RIKEN Center for Brain Science, Japan
- Professor (2018 summer -2021 summer) Department of Psychology (Cognitive & Behavioral Neuroscience) & Brain Research Institute, UCLA
- Professor (2018 fall - 2020 summer) Department of Psychology, University of Hong Kong (fixed-term position taken up while on Leave from UCLA)
- Principal Investigator (2018 April - 2020 summer), State Key Laboratory of Brain and Cognitive Sciences, University of Hong Kong
- Associate Professor (2017 fall -2018 summer) Department of Psychology, University of Hong Kong (fixed-term position taken up while on Leave from UCLA)
- Associate Professor (2014 summer - 2018 summer) Department of Psychology (Cognitive & Behavioral Neuroscience) & Brain Research Institute, UCLA
- Associate Professor (2012-2014) Department of Psychology, Columbia University (NYC)
- Visiting Adjunct Assistant Professor (2012-2013) Department of Psychology, UCLA
- Research Fellow (External Principal Investigator) (2010 onwards) Donders Institute for Brain Cognition and Behaviour, Radboud University Nijmegen, Netherlands
- Assistant Professor (2007 fall - 2012 summer) Department of Psychology, Columbia University (NYC)
- Visiting Fellow (2007 Mar-Aug), Unit 610, Hospital Salpetriere, Paris
- Post-Doctoral Research Fellow (2004–2007) Wellcome Trust Centre for Neuroimaging, London (Supervisor: RE Passingham)
- D.Phil in Experimental Psychology (2001–2005) University of Oxford, Thesis title: Brain Mechanisms of Spontaneous Actions (Supervisors: RE Passingham, RD Rogers)
- Undergraduate Research/Teaching Assistant (part-time, 2000–2001) Department of Philosophy, University of Hong Kong (Supervisor: JYF Lau)
- Bachelor of Cognitive Science (1998 – 2001; 1st class honors) University of Hong Kong, Thesis title: The Problem of Division of Phenomenal Labour (Supervisor: JYF Lau, Department of Philosophy)

Grants/Awards

1. 2022: Telecommunication Prize (for the publication of “Unconscious Reinforcement Learning of Hidden Brain States Supported by Confidence”), ATR Institute International, Japan

2. 2019-2021: Tom Slick research award “Conducting Unconscious Neural Reinforcement Using Virtual Environments” from Mind Science Foundation, Co-PI, w/PI Vincent Taschereau-Dumouchel (total direct cost = \$15,000)
3. 2019-2021: Research grant “Survival Circuit Influences on Human Nature” from Templeton World Charity Foundation (RA537-01), subcontract PI, w/ PI Joseph Ledoux (subcontract total direct cost = \$357,633)
4. 2018-2023: Research grant (R61/R33) from the National Institute of Mental Health (grant no. 1R61MH113772-01A1), “Treating Phobia with Multivoxel Neuro-Reinforcement”, PI (until 2021), with co-PI Michelle Craske, consultant Mitsuo Kawato (total direct cost initially budgeted = US\$1,249,723)
5. 2018-2020: University of Hong Kong Seed Fund Award, “Treating Acrophobia with Multivoxel Neuro-Reinforcement”, PI (total direct cost = HK\$270,000)
6. 2018-2019: Research grant from the (US) Air Force Office of Scientific Research, a 1-year extension for “Stochastic Resonance and Biases in Perceptual Decision Making”, PI (total direct cost = US\$94,259)
7. 2017: J Arthur Woodward Graduate Mentor Award (UCLA)
8. 2015-2018: Research grant from the (US) Air Force Office of Scientific Research “Stochastic Resonance and Biases in Perceptual Decision Making”, PI (total direct cost = US\$280,709)
9. 2014-2019: Research grant (R01) from the National Institute of Health (NINDS, Grant No. R01NS088628) “The Neural Basis of Metacognition”, PI w/ co-PI Steve Fleming (total direct cost initially allocated = US\$1,250,000)
10. 2012 onwards: Elected Fellow, Association for Psychological Science
11. 2012: Janet Taylor Spence Award for Transformative Early Career Contributions by the Association for Psychological Science
12. 2011– 2015: Research grant from the Netherlands Organization for Scientific Research (NWO) “Neural Mechanisms of Perceptual Decisions”, co-PI w/ PI Floris de Lange (Donders Institute, Netherlands) (grant number 2300164119, total direct cost ~US\$272,000)
13. 2011 – 2014: Research grant from Templeton Foundation “Arbitrating between philosophical theories of consciousness by cognitive neuroscience experiments” PI w/ co-PIs Ned Block (NYU) and Floris de Lange (Donders Institute, Netherlands) (grant number 21569, total direct cost = US\$264,080)
14. 2011 – 2013: Research grant from Templeton Foundation “Free will and the Functions of Awareness” PI w/ co-PI Tim Bayne (Oxford University) (grant number 15462-SCI04, total direct cost = US\$269,600)
15. 2009: Human Frontiers Science Program Short Term Fellowship
16. 2007: Ville de Paris fellowship
17. 2005: The William James Prize (from the Association of the Scientific Studies of Consciousness)
18. 2004: Cognitive Neuroscience Society Graduate Student Present Award
19. 2003: Organisation of Human Brain Mapping Travel Award
20. 2003: Brain Research Trust Travel Grant

21. 2001: Rhodes Scholarship (covers full costs of graduate studies at Oxford)
22. 2001: Dean's Honours List, Social Science Faculty, University of Hong Kong
23. 2000: Charles and Lillian Moore Memorial Prize in Philosophy
24. 2000: Hong Kong University Foundation Scholarship
25. 1998: Fung Yiu King Full Local Scholarship for Undergraduate Studies

Former Mentees (currently in faculty / PI positions)

1. Guillermo Solovey, PhD: former postdoc at Columbia, now tenured faculty member at the University of Buenos Aires
2. Dobromir Rahnev, PhD: former graduate student (Columbia), postdoc at UC Berkeley (advisor: Mark D'Esposito), now tenured faculty at Department of Psychology, GeorgiaTech
3. Megan Peters, PhD: former postdoc at UCLA, now tenured faculty at UC Irvine
4. Brian Odegaard, PhD: former postdoc at UCLA, now assistant professor at U of Florida
5. Ai Koizumi, PhD: former postdoc, now independent PI at Sony Computer Science Laboratories, Tokyo
6. Kiyomi Miyoshi, PhD, former postdoc at HKU and UCLA, now assistant professor at Kyoto University
7. Jorge Morales, PhD: former graduate student in philosophy (Columbia), now assistant professor of psychology at Northeastern University (advisor: Chaz Firestone)
8. Aurelio Cortese, PhD: PI, ATR Japan
9. Vincent Taschereau-Dumouchel, PhD: former postdoc, now assistant professor-researcher at Université de Montréal
10. Yujia Peng, PhD: former postdoc, now assistant professor at Peking University
11. Matthias Michel, PhD: assistant professor at MIT
12. Taylor Webb, PhD: assistant professor at Université de Montréal & MILA (to start in 2025)
13. Li Yan McCurdy, PhD, to start as assistant professor at Yale Psychiatry in 2025 Jan

Last updated: Oct 7, 2024

For publications, and citation counts & indexes, please see [google scholar page](#).

[Additional info](#) (including talks given, service to former institutions, etc, from before 2021)