

PAOLA SESSA, PhD

Curriculum Vitae

Personal Information

Name: Paola Sessa
Contact Address: Università degli Studi di Padova
Dipartimento di Psicologia dello Sviluppo e della Socializzazione
(Department of Developmental and Social Psychology)
Via Venezia 8, 35131, Padova (PD), Italy
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Current Position

September 2015 – present **Associate Professor** of Affective and Social Neuroscience
Università degli Studi di Padova
Dipartimento di Psicologia dello Sviluppo e della Socializzazione
Via Venezia 8, 35131, Padova (PD), Italy

Main research interests:

- Neural correlates of empathy, emotion recognition and face processing
- Embodied Simulation of others' emotions
- Conscious perception of others' emotions
- Neural correlates of visual working memory representations

Academic Experience

December 2008 – 2015 **Assistant Professor**
Dipartimento di Psicologia dello Sviluppo e della Socializzazione
(Department of Developmental and Social Psychology)
University of Padova, Italy

January – July 2003 **Teaching and Research Associate**
Department of Psychology
University of Montreal, Quebec, Canada
Supervisor: Prof. Pierre Jolicœur

Education

- 2005–2008 **Postdoctoral fellow**
 Supervisor: Prof. Roberto Dell’Acqua
 Dipartimento di Psicologia dello Sviluppo e della Socializzazione
 University of Padova, Italy
- April 2005 **PhD** in Cognitive Science
 Supervisor: Prof. Roberto Dell’Acqua
 Dipartimento di Psicologia dello Sviluppo e della Socializzazione
 University of Padova, Italy
 Score: Excellent
- November 2001 **Master Degree** in Psychology (Experimental Psychology Program)
 University of Padova, Italy
 Final Mark: 110/110 cum laude
- July 1995 **High school diploma**
 Liceo Scientifico “Leonardo”, Giarre (CT), Italy
 Final Mark: 60/60

Merits and Awards

- 2006 National Award for Young Researchers sponsored by Italian Association of Psychology, Rovereto (TN).
- 2008 Invited talk at the International Congress of Psychology (ICP), Berlin. Title of the symposium: “Cognitive neuroscience of attention and visual short-term memory”.
- Young Researcher Project award sponsored by the Dipartimento di Psicologia dello Sviluppo e della Socializzazione, Università di Padova. Title of the Project: “Neural measures of holistic processing in the Same Race Memory Advantage and its relation with implicit racial prejudice.”
- 2014 Invited talk at the International Conference on Cognitive Neuroscience (ICON), Brisbane, Australia. Title of the symposium: “Sensorimotor foundations of understanding and interacting with others”.

Publications and Conferences

Author of about 35 publications in peer-reviewed journals, of which 14 as first or corresponding author. Most of them were published in leading international journals: Social, Cognitive and

Affective Neuroscience, Scientific Reports, Journal of Cognitive Neuroscience, Neuropsychologia, Psychophysiology.

Theses

1. **Sessa, P.** (2001). *Unconscious Cognition e modeling matematico: analisi di una proposta teorica*. Master's Degree Thesis. Supervisor: Prof. Remo Job; Co-supervisor: Prof. Roberto Dell'Acqua. University of Padova.
2. **Sessa, P.** (2004). *Unraveling a blink of the mind: Attentional blink, selective attention and attentional capture*. PhD Thesis. Supervisor: Prof. Roberto Dell'Acqua. University of Padova.

Publications

1. Dell'Acqua, R., Pascali, A., Jolicœur, P., & **Sessa, P.** (2003). Four-dot masking produces the attentional blink. *Vision Research*, 43, 1907–1913.
2. **Sessa, P.** (2005). Analisi distribuzionali dei tempi di reazione: Uno strumento avanzato per la valutazione dei modelli cognitivi. *Giornale Italiano di Psicologia*, 32, 555–573.
3. Dell'Acqua, R., Jolicœur, P., **Sessa, P.**, & Turatto, M. (2005). Attentional blink and selection in the tactile domain. *European Journal of Cognitive Psychology*, 18, 537–559.
4. Jolicœur, P., **Sessa, P.**, Dell'Acqua, R., & Robitaille, N. (2006). Attentional control and capture in the attentional blink paradigm: Evidence from human electrophysiology. *European Journal of Cognitive Psychology*, 18, 560–578.
5. Jolicœur, P., **Sessa, P.**, Dell'Acqua, R., & Robitaille, N. (2006). On the control of visual spatial attention: Evidence from human electrophysiology. *Psychological Research*, 70, 414–424.
6. Dell'Acqua, R., **Sessa, P.**, & Pashler, H. (2006). A neuropsychological assessment of dual-task costs in closed-head injury patients using Cohen's effect size estimation method. *Psychological Research*, 70, 553–561.
7. Dell'Acqua, R., **Sessa, P.**, Jolicœur, P., & Robitaille, N. (2006). Spatial attention freezes during the attentional blink. *Psychophysiology*, 43, 394–400.
8. **Sessa, P.**, Luria, R., Verleger, R., & Dell'Acqua, R. (2007). P₃ latency shifts in the attentional blink: Further evidence for second target processing postponement. *Brain Research*, 1137, 131–139.
9. Robitaille, N., Jolicœur, P., Dell'Acqua, R., & **Sessa, P.** (2007). Short-term consolidation of visual patterns interferes with visuo-spatial attention: Converging evidence from human electrophysiology. *Brain Research*, 1185, 158–169.
10. **Sessa, P.**, & Dell'Acqua, R. (2008). Il fenomeno attentional blink. *Giornale Italiano di Psicologia*, 35, 539–560.
11. Luria, R., **Sessa, P.**, Gotler, A., Jolicœur, P., & Dell'Acqua, R. (2010). Visual short-term memory capacity for simple and complex objects. *Journal of Cognitive Neuroscience*, 22, 496–512.
12. Dell'Acqua, R., **Sessa, P.**, Toffanin, P., Luria, R., & Jolicœur, P. (2010). Orienting attention to objects in visual short-term memory. *Neuropsychologia*, 48, 419–428.

13. Dell'Acqua, R., **Sessa, P.**, Peressotti, F., Mulatti, C., Navarrete, E., & Grainger, J. (2010). ERP evidence for ultra-fast semantic processing in the picture-word interference paradigm. *Frontiers in Psychology*, *1*, 177.
14. **Sessa, P.**, Luria, R., Gotler, A., Jolicœur, P., & Dell'Acqua, R. (2011). Inter-hemispheric ERP asymmetries over inferior parietal cortex reveal differential visual working memory maintenance for fearful versus neutral facial identities. *Psychophysiology*, *48*, 187–197.
15. **Sessa, P.**, Tomelleri, S., Luria, R., Castelli, L., Reynolds, M., & Dell'Acqua, R. (2012). Look out for strangers! Sustained neural activity during visual working memory maintenance of other-race faces is modulated by implicit racial prejudice. *Social Cognitive and Affective Neuroscience*, *7*, 314–321.
16. Casiraghi, M., Fortier-Gauthier, U., **Sessa, P.**, Dell'Acqua, R., & Jolicœur, P. (2013). N1pc reversal following repeated eccentric visual stimulation. *Psychophysiology* *50*, 351–364.
17. **Sessa, P.**, Meconi, F., Castelli, L., & Dell'Acqua, R. (2014). Taking one's time in feeling other-race pain: an event-related potential investigation on the time-course of cross-racial empathy. *Social Cognitive and Affective Neuroscience*, *9*, 454–463.
18. Palmieri, A., Calvo, V., Kleinbub, J. R., Meconi, F., Marangoni, M., Barilaro, P., Broggio, A., Sambin, M., & **Sessa, P.** (2014). "Reality" of near-death-experience memories: evidence from a psychodynamic and electrophysiological integrated study. *Frontiers in Human Neuroscience*, *8*.
19. Meconi, F., Luria, R., & **Sessa, P.** (2014). Individual differences in anxiety predict neural measures of visual working memory for untrustworthy faces. *Social cognitive and affective neuroscience*, *9*, 1872–1879.
20. **Sessa, P.**, Meconi, F., & Han, S. (2014). Double dissociation of neural responses supporting perceptual and cognitive components of social cognition: Evidence from processing of others' pain. *Scientific Reports*, *4*, 7424.
21. Meconi, F., Vaes, J., **Sessa, P.** (2015). On the neglected role of stereotypes in empathy toward other-race pain. *Social Neuroscience*, *10*, 1–6.
22. Dell'Acqua, R., Dux, P. E., Wyble, B., Doro, M., **Sessa, P.**, Meconi, F., Jolicœur, P. (2015). The attentional blink impairs detection and delays encoding of visual information: Evidence from human electrophysiology. *Journal of Cognitive Neuroscience*, *27*, 720–735.
23. Navarrete, E., **Sessa, P.**, Peressotti, F., & Dell'Acqua, R. (2015). The distractor frequency effect in the colour-naming Stroop task: An overt naming event-related potential study. *Journal of Cognitive Psychology*, *27*, 277–289.
24. **Sessa, P.** & Meconi, F. (2015). Perceived trustworthiness shapes neural empathic responses toward others' pain. *Neuropsychologia*, *79*, 97–105.
25. **Sessa, P.** & Dalmaso, M. (2016). Race perception and gaze direction differently impair visual working memory for faces: An event-related potential study. *Social Neuroscience*, *11* , 97–107.
26. Vaes, J., Meconi, F., **Sessa, P.**, & Olechowski, M. (2016). Minimal humanity cues induce neural empathic reactions towards non-human entities. *Neuropsychologia*, *89*, 132–140.
27. Schiano Lomoriello, A. & **Sessa, P.** (2017). L'utilizzo della tecnica di hyperscanning nelle neuroscienze sociali - The use of hyperscanning in social neuroscience. *Giornale Italiano di Psicologia*, *44*, 383–406.

28. Brigadoi, S., Cutini, S., Meconi, F., Castellaro, M., **Sessa, P.**, Marangon, M., Bertoldo, A., Jolicœur, P., & Dell'Acqua, R. (2017). On the role of the inferior intraparietal sulcus in visual working memory for lateralized single-feature objects. *Journal of Cognitive Neuroscience*, 29, 337–351.
29. Meconi, F., Doro, M., Schiano, A., Mastrella, G., & **Sessa, P.** (2018). Neural measures of the role of affective prosody in empathy for pain. *Scientific Reports*, 8 (1), 291.
30. Mastrella, G. & **Sessa, P.** (in press). Riconoscimento di espressioni facciali e processi simulativi - Facial expression recognition and simulative processes. *Giornale Italiano di Psicologia*.

Chapters

1. Jolicœur, P., Dell'Acqua, R., Brisson, B., Robitaille, N., Sauv , K., Leblanc, E., Prime, D., Grimault, S., Marois, R., **Sessa, P.**, Grova, C., Lina, J.-M., & Dubarry, A.-S. (2010). Visual spatial attention and visual short-term memory: Electro-magnetic explorations of the mind. In V. Coltheart (Ed.), *Tutorials in visual cognition* (pp. 143–185). Hove (UK): Psychology Press.
2. Cutini, S., Scarpa, F., **Sessa, P.**, & Dell'Acqua, R. (2011). Le metodiche dirette per lo studio dell'attivit  cerebrale. In A. Zennaro (Ed.), *Lo sviluppo della psicopatologia: Fattori biologici, psicologici e relazionali*. Bologna: Il Mulino.

Conference Presentations

1. **Sessa, P.** (2002). Attenzione e Tatto: un effetto di Attentional Blink puro nella modalit  tattile. Congresso Nazionale AIP, Sezione di Psicologia Sperimentale. Riassunti delle Comunicazioni. Bellaria-Rimini (Italy), 16-18 September 2002, p.40.
2. Pesciarelli, F., **Sessa, P.**, Dell'Acqua R., & Job, R. (2002). Semantic activation during the rapid serial visual presentation of words. 6th AlpeAdria Conference of Psychology. Rovereto (Italy), 3-5 October 2002.
3. Jolicœur, P., **Sessa, P.**, & Dell'Acqua, R. (2003). Does the attentional blink prevent spatial shifts of attention? Cognitive Science Association for Interdisciplinary Learning. Hood River, Oregon (USA), July 31-August 4, 2003.
4. **Sessa, P.** (2003). L'Attentional Blink preclude il movimento e l'ancoraggio dell'attenzione nello spazio? Congresso Nazionale AIP, Sezione di Psicologia Sperimentale. Riassunti delle Comunicazioni. Bari (Italy), 22-25 September 2003, p. 542.
5. **Sessa, P.** (2003). L'Attentional Blink preclude il movimento e l'ancoraggio dell'attenzione nello spazio. Convegno di presentazione dell'attivit  di ricerca dei dottorandi del XVII ciclo della Macroarea 4 (Medicina e Chirurgia-Psicologia). Padova (Italy), 17 October 2003, p. 153.
6. Jolicœur, P., **Sessa, P.**, & Dell'Acqua, R. (2004). Interaction between central and spatial attention: evidence from the N2pc event-related potential in the Attentional Blink paradigm. Process-based and code-based interference in dual tasks. Ohlstadt (Germany), 26-29 February 2004.
7. Jolicœur, P., **Sessa, P.**, Dell'Acqua, R., Brisson, B., Robitaille, N., & Ouimet, C. (2004). The control of visual spatial attention and central attention: Evidence from human electrophysiology. Unique and shared processing limitations in dual-task performance. Workshop organized by Guido Band, Jiska Memelink, and Elkan Aky rek Leiden University

Funded by EPOS Graduate School and the Netherlands Organization for Scientific Research (NWO), Leiden (The Netherlands), 13-15 May 2004.

8. **Sessa, P.** (2004). Elettrofisiologia del rapporto tra attenzione spaziale e attenzione temporale. Congresso Nazionale AIP, Sezione di Psicologia Sperimentale, Siacca, AG (Italy), 18-20 September 2004.
9. **Sessa, P.**, Dell'Acqua, R., & Jolicœur, P. (2005). Evidenze elettrofisiologiche di un sistema unico per l'allocazione delle risorse attentive nei domini spaziale e temporale. Congresso Nazionale AIP, Sezione di Psicologia Sperimentale, Cagliari (Italy), 18-20 September 2005.
10. **Sessa, P.**, Dell'Acqua, R., Ouimet, C., & Jolicœur, P. (2005). On the control of visual spatial attention: Evidence from human electrophysiology. Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Society for Psychophysiological Research. Lisbon (PTG), September 21-24 2005.
11. Jolicœur, P., Brisson, B., Dell'Acqua, R., Eimer, M., Robitaille, N., & **Sessa, P.** (2006). Perceptual and cognitive processes leading to conscious access: Evidence from human electrophysiology in dual-task paradigms. Annual Meeting of the Psychonomic Society. Houston, Texas (USA), 16-19 November 2006.
12. **Sessa, P.**, Dell'Acqua, R., & Jolicœur, P. (2006). At the edge between central and spatial attention: A N2pc study. Simposio in onore di Alan Cowey. Aula Magna dei Dipartimenti di Psicologia, Padova (Italy), 28 February 2006.
13. **Sessa, P.** (2006). Modulazioni della latenza della P₃ durante l'Attentional Blink: Evidenze elettrofisiologiche di un processo seriale". Congresso Nazionale AIP, Sezione di Psicologia Sperimentale, Rovereto, TN (Italy), 13-15 September 2006.
14. Jolicœur, P., Brisson, B., Dell'Acqua, R., Leblanc, E., Prime, D., Robitaille, N., & **Sessa, P.** (2007). Impaired deployment of visual spatial attention during the attentional blink: Evidence from human electrophysiology. Royal Academy of Science of the Netherlands. Amsterdam (The Netherlands), 22-24 August 2007.
15. Luria, R., **Sessa, P.**, Gotler, A., Jolicœur, P., & Dell'Acqua, R. (2007). The limits of VSTM capacity: Does the quality of the stored information play any role? Royal Academy of Science of the Netherlands. Amsterdam (The Netherlands), 22-24 August 2007.
16. Luria, R., **Sessa, P.**, Gotler, A., Jolicœur, P., & Dell'Acqua, R. (2007). Is visual short-term memory capacity defined by the number of objects or by their complexity? Conference of the European Society for Cognitive Psychology. Marseille (France), 28-31 August 2007.
17. Luria, R., **Sessa, P.**, Gotler, A., Jolicœur, P., & Dell'Acqua, R. (2007). Visual short-term memory capacity for simple and complex objects. Invited paper presented at the Visual Working Memory and Attention Lab (Head: Ed Vogel). Eugene (USA), 18 October 2007.
18. **Sessa, P.**, Luria, R., Gotler, A., Jolicœur, & Dell'Acqua, R. (2008). Is visual working memory capacity for facial identities modulated by emotional face processing? Invited talk for the Symposium "Cognitive neuroscience of attention and visual short-term memory" for the International Congress of Psychology. Berlin (Deutschland), 21 July 2008.
19. **Sessa, P.**, Tomelleri, S., Luria, R., Castelli, L., & Dell'Acqua, R. (2009). The race is in the brain: Neural activity predicts individual disposition towards members of a different race. Annual Meeting of the Society for Psychophysiological Research. Berlin (Deutschland), 21-24 October 2009.

20. Dell'Acqua, R., **Sessa, P.**, Toffanin, P., & Jolicœur, P. (2009). Orienting attention to objects in visual short- term memory. Annual Meeting of the Society for Psychophysiological Research. Berlin (Deutschland), 21-24 October 2009.
21. Tomelleri, S., **Sessa, P.**, Luria, R., Castelli, L., & Dell'Acqua, R. (2010). The race is in the brain: Neural activity reveals individual disposition towards members of a different race. CAOS Workshop. Rovereto, TN (Italy), 20-23 May 2010.
22. Meconi, F. & **Sessa, P.** (2011). Taking One's Time in Feeling Other-Race Pain: Neural Activity Reveals Different Empathic Responses to Own-Race and Other-Race Individuals. Annual Meeting of the Society for Psychophysiological Research. Boston (USA), 14-18 September 2011.
23. Meconi, F. & **Sessa, P.** (2011). Taking One's Time in Feeling Other-Race Pain: Neural Activity Reveals Different Empathic Responses to Own-Race and Other-Race Individuals. Annual Meeting of "Neuroetica. Le Neuroscienze incontrano le altre discipline". Padova (Italy), 4-6 May 2011.
24. Navarrete, E., **Sessa, P.**, Mulatti, C., & Dell'Acqua (2011). The Distractor Frequency effect: An overt naming ERP study. European Society for Cognitive Psychology Conference (ESCOP). San Sebastian (Spain), 30 September 2011.
25. Navarrete, E., **Sessa, P.**, Mulatti, C., & Dell'Acqua (2011). L'effetto di frequenza del distrattore nella produzione di parole: un studio Stroop con potenziali evocati. Congresso Nazionale della Associazione Italiana di Psicologia (AIP). Catania (Italy), 15 September 2011.
26. Meconi, F. & **Sessa, P.** (2012). Taking One's Time in Feeling Other-Race Pain: Neural Activity Reveals Different Empathic Responses to Own-Race and Other-Race Individuals. Annual Meeting of Cognitive Neuroscience Society (CNS). Chicago (USA), 31 March-3 April 2012.
27. Meconi, F. & **Sessa, P.** (2012). Can I remember him? It is better if he looks like trustworthy: An ERPs study. Annual Meeting of "Neuroetica. Le Neuroscienze tra spiegazione della vita e cura della mente". Padova (Italy), 9-11 May 2012.
28. Dalmaso, M. & **Sessa, P.** (2012). Visual working memory for other-race faces is modulated by gaze direction. Annual Meeting of the Society for Psychophysiological Research. New Orleans, Louisiana (USA), 19-23 September 2012.
29. Meconi, F., Luria, R., & **Sessa, P.** (2013). Visual working memory representations of trustworthy and untrustworthy faces: An event-related potential investigation. Annual Meeting of the Society for Psychophysiological Research. Florence (Italy), 2-6 October 2013.
30. Dell'Acqua, R., Doro, M., **Sessa, P.**, Meconi, F., Fortier-Gauthier, U., & Jolicœur, P. (2013). Visual saliency pushes around the locus of attentional selection: evidence from occipito-parietal ERP asymmetries. Annual Meeting of the Society for Psychophysiological Research. Florence (Italy), 2-6 October 2013.
31. Navarrete, E., Meconi, F., **Sessa, P.**, & Peressotti, F. (2013). Ballotelli rallenta Messi come sedia rallenta tavolo? Evidenza elettrofisiologica durante la denominazione di volti e oggetti. Congresso Nazionale della Associazione Italiana di Psicologia (AIP). Roma (Italy), 16 September 2013.
32. Meconi, F. & **Sessa, P.** (2014). Perceived untrustworthiness of a face goes beyond its race when it comes to empathizing with others' pain: An event-related potentials study. *International Journal of Psychophysiology* 2 (94), 173.

33. Palmieri, A., Calvo, V., Kleinbub, J. R., Meconi, F., Sambin, M., & **Sessa, P.** (2014). Un metodo di integrazione tra psicologia dinamica e neuroscienze: lo studio delle esperienze ai confini con la morte. Congresso Nazionale della Sezione di Psicologia Clinica Dinamica dell'Associazione Italiana di Psicologia (AIP). Pisa (Italy), 19-21 September 2014.
34. Palmieri, A., Calvo, V., Kleinbub, J. R., Sambin, M., Bianco, S., Broggio, A., Meconi, F., & **Sessa, P.** (2014). Are Near-Death-Experience memories real? Evidence from a psychodynamic and electrophysiological integrated study. Seeing beyond in facing death, Padova (Italy) 25-28 September 2014.
35. Piallini, G., Schiano Lomoriello, A., Meconi, F., De Palo, F., **Sessa, P.**, & Simonelli, A. (2015). Empathic neural responses in drug-addicted mothers: an Event-Related Potential Investigation. Convegno Scientifico Internazionale di Neuroetica e II Congresso della Società italiana di Neuroetica – SIne, Padova (Italy), 13-15 May 2015.
36. Benavides-Varela, S., Basso-Moro, S., Cutini, S., Sessa, P., Simion, F., & Dell'Acqua, R. (2015). Audio-visual dynamics in multiple object processing: Is Attending to Both Modalities a Prerequisite for the Flexibility of Individuation? An N2pc study. Poster presented at the Rovereto Attention Workshop, Rovereto (Italy).
37. Schiano Lomoriello, A, Meconi F., & **Sessa, P.** (2016). The empathic value of emotional prosody: Does the way you express feelings shape neural empathic reactions triggered by concomitant facial expressions and language content? An ERP study. *Psychophysiology*, 53, S85-S85.
38. Brigadoi, S., Cutini, S., Meconi, F., Castellaro, M., **Sessa, P.**, Marangon, M., Bertoldo, A., Miotto, D., Dell'Acqua, R. (2015). The neural substrate of lateralized visual short-term memory representations. Annual meeting of the Organization for Human Brain Mapping, Honolulu, (USA).
39. Basso Moro, S., Brigadoi, S., Benavides-Varela, S., Cutini, S., **Sessa, P.**, Simion, F., & Dell'Acqua, R. (2016). Cross-modal matching of numerosity is subserved by the left parietal cortex in the developing brain. Fourth biennial fNIRS conference, Paris (France).
40. Brigadoi, S., Basso Moro, S., Meconi, F., Benavides-Varela, S., Tampu, I. E., Doro, M., **Sessa, P.**, Simion, F., Cutini, S., Dell'Acqua, R. (2016). A multi-modal fNIRS/EEG investigation of the fronto-parietal network during audio-visual matching. Fourth biennial fNIRS conference, Paris (France).
41. Pick, E., Capizzi, M., Kleinbub, J. R., Marcato, S., Meconi, F., Palmieri, A., Querin, G., **Sessa, P.**, Vallesi, A., & Sorarù, G (2016). Neural correlates of enhanced empathy in X-linked Spinal and Bulbar Muscular Atrophy: a neuropsychological and EEG study. National Congress of the Italian Society of Psychophysiology, Milan (Italy).
42. Schiano Lomoriello, A., Piallini, G., Meconi, F., De Palo, F., Simonelli, A., & **Sessa, P.** (2016). Empathic neural responses in drug-addicted mothers: An event-related potential Investigation. 9th Social & Affective Neuroscience Society (SANS), New York (USA), 28-30 April 2016.
43. Schiano Lomoriello, A., Meconi, F., **Sessa, P.** The empathic value of emotional prosody: does the way you express feelings shape both neural empathic reactions triggered by concomitant facial expressions and language content? An ERP study. 56th Annual Meeting of the Society for Psychophysiological Research (SPR). 21-25 September 2016.
44. Schiano Lomoriello, A., Meconi, F., **Sessa, P.** (2017). The empathic value of emotional prosody: does the way you express feelings shape both neural empathic reactions triggered by

concomitant facial expressions and language content? An ERP study. Second biennial International Convention of Psychological Science (ICPS), Vienna (Austria), 23-25 March 2017.

45. **Sessa, P.**, Meconi F., Schiano Lomoriello, A. (2017). Out of sight out of mind: the physical distance between the observer and someone in pain influences observer's neural empathic reactions. Second biennial International Convention of Psychological Science (ICPS), Vienna (Austria), 23-25 March 2017.
46. Mento, G., Cutini, S., **Sessa, P.**, Chierchia, C., Baggio, M., Dell'Acqua, R., & Scerif, G. (2017). Does temporal orienting impact visual short-term memory? A high spatial resolution EEG study. Proceedings of the International Conference Cognitive Neuroscience of Executive Functions 28th-30th, Padova (Italy), September 2017, p. 56.

Editorial and Review Activities

- Associate Editor of Scientific Reports (since March 2016)
- Review Editor for Frontiers in Psychology (since January 2018)
- Ad hoc Reviewer for 20 International journals:
 - Advances in Cognitive Psychology
 - Biological Psychology
 - Brain Research
 - Cerebral Cortex
 - Cognition and Emotion
 - Cognitive, Affective and Behavioural Neuroscience
 - Cognitive Neuroscience
 - Cortex
 - European Journal of Developmental Psychology
 - Experimental Psychology
 - Frontiers in Psychology
 - Neuroimage
 - Neuropsychologia
 - PlosOne
 - Psychological Research
 - Psychophysiology
 - Scientific Reports
 - Social Cognitive and Affective Neuroscience
 - Social Neuroscience
- Member of the Program Committee of the Meeting of the Society for Psychophysiological Research (2015).

Teaching, Mentoring Activities and Academic Responsibilities

- Teacher of several courses, including Cognitive, Social and Affective Electrophysiology, Social and Affective Neuroscience, General Psychology and Ethics of Psychological Research.
- Supervisor of 2 PhD students at the University of Padova (one PhD student, Federica Meconi, concluded her PhD programme in 2014 and after a post-doctoral position under my supervision won a Marie Skłodowska-Curie individual fellowship; the other PhD student,

Arianna Schiano Lomoriello, is concluding her second year of the PhD program and won the [Society for Psychophysiological Research] Travel Award in 2016).

- Co-supervisor of 3 PhD students, Dr. Mario Dalmaso (2011-2014), Mattia Doro and Marco Lunghi (2014-2018), at the University of Padova.
- Supervisor of a post-doctoral student, Federica Meconi, at the University of Padova (2014-2017).
- Supervisor of over 100 bachelor and Msc-theses at the University of Padova.
- Member of the PhD Program Board in Psychological Sciences, University of Padova (since 2011).
- Member of PhD Thesis Committees (Doctoral Program in Neuroscience at the School of Medicine at the University of Parma; 2016, 2017, 2018).
- Scientific Director of the "Electrophysiology Laboratory" at the Department of Developmental and Social Psychology, University of Padova (since 2013).
- Scientific Coordinator of Directors of laboratories of the Department of Developmental and Social Psychology, University of Padova (2012-2017).
- Member of the Scientific Committee of the interdepartmental Laboratory "Geodesic-High density EEG", Department of Developmental and Social Psychology and Department of General Psychology, University of Padova (2011-2017).
- Member of the Scientific Committee of the Department of Developmental and Social Psychology, University of Padova (since November 2017). The Scientific Committee is responsible for designing and proposing the scientific development lines of the department as well as for overseeing the implementation of the approved activities.
- Member of the "Padua Neuroscience Center" (PNC; previously "Cognitive Neuroscience Center"), Director Prof. Maurizio Corbetta. The PNC is an interdisciplinary community of scientists and scholars at the University of Padova who are engaged in cognitive neuroscience education and research.
- Member of the Organizing Committee: XIV Congresso Nazionale della Sezione di Psicologia Sperimentale dell'AIP. Padova (Italy), 18-20 September 2008.
- Member of the Program Committee: 55th Annual Meeting Society for Psychophysiological Research (SPR). September 30-Oct 04, 2015, Seattle, Washington (United States Of America).

Grants

All projects listed below have undergone peer-review evaluation by national and international experts.

2008

Young Researcher Project award.

Funding Institution: Dipartimento di Psicologia dello Sviluppo e della Socializzazione (Università di Padova).

Title of the Project: "Neural measures of holistic processing in the Same Race Memory Advantage and its relation with implicit racial prejudice."

Role: Principal Investigator.

Funding amount: € 3.500.

Projects of national interest (Progetti di Ricerca di Interesse Nazionale - PRIN).

Funding Institution: Italian Ministry of Education, Universities and Research (MIUR)

Title of the Project: "Indagine elettrofisiologica e spettroscopica sull'interazione funzionale e neurale tra attenzione spaziale e memoria di lavoro visiva" ("EEG and fNIRS investigation on the functional and neural interplay between spatial attention and visual working memory").

Role: Member of the Research Unit.

Funding amount: € 152.300.

2010

Post-doc funding scheme.

Funding Institution: Italian Ministry of Education, Universities and Research (MIUR).

Title of the Project: "Correlati emodinamici della memoria di lavoro indagati tramite spettroscopia funzionale nel vicino-infrarosso (fNIRS)" ("Hemodynamic correlates of working memory by means of fNIRS").

Role: Member of the Research Unit.

Funding amount: € 30.000.

2011

Strategic Grant NEURAT (STPD11B8HM).

Funding Institution: Italian Ministry of Education, Universities and Research (MIUR).

Title of the project: "The Cognitive Neuroscience of Attention in Perception and Cognition".

Role: Member of the Research Unit.

Funding amount: € 201.500.

2013

Post-doc funding scheme.

Funding Institution: Italian Ministry of Education, Universities and Research (MIUR).

Title of the Project: "Dissecting empathy: Neural measures for a more comprehensive model of empathy".

Role: Principal Investigator.

Funding amount: € 47.000.

2015

Research Equipment Grant (Finanziamento "Grandi Attrezzature").

Funding Institution: Italian Ministry of Education, Universities and Research (MIUR).

Title of the Project: "EEG hyperscanning: the two-brain approach in social and affective neuroscience".

Role: Principal Investigator.

Funding amount: € 160.000.

2016

Post-doc funding scheme.

Funding Institution: Italian Ministry of Education, Universities and Research (MIUR).

Title of the Project: "Parental brain and early interactions: empathic reactivity in pregnancy and quality of mother-child relation in mothers with history of substance abuse and in non-clinical mothers during the first year of child's life".

Role: Member of the Research Unit.

Funding amount: € 43.186.

Memberships of Scientific Societies

Affective Neuroscience Society (SANS)

Association for Psychological Science (APS)

Associazione Italiana di Psicologia (AIP, sezioni Sperimentale e Sociale)

Cognitive Neuroscience Society (CNS)

European Society for Cognitive and Affective Neuroscience (ESCAN)

Società Italiana di Neuroetica (SINe)

Società Italiana di Psicofisiologia (SIPF)

Society for Psychophysiological Research (SPR)

International Collaborations

Prof. Shihui Han, Peking University, Beijing, China

Prof. Pierre Jolicœur, University of Montreal, Montreal, Quebec, Canada

Dr. Ivana Konvalinka, University of Denmark, Denmark

Dr. Roy Luria, Tel Aviv University, Tel Aviv, Israel

Prof. Lauri Parkkonen, Aalto University, Finland

Prof. Rolf Verleger, University of Lübeck, Lübeck, Germany

Career Breaks

May 2011–October 2011: Maternity Leave

October 2015–March 2016: Maternity Leave
