

# Janet F. Werker

## *Curriculum Vitae*

### **Contact Info**

University of British Columbia  
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### **Education**

UBC	PhD	Psychology	07/1979 -11/1982	Dr. Richard Tees
UBC	MA	Psychology	09/1976 - 06/1979	Dr. Richard Tees
Harvard University	BA cum laude	Psychology & Social Relations	09/1972 - 06/1974	Drs. Sheldon White & John Whiting

### **Employment**

University of British Columbia	Full Professor	Psychology	Since 1994
University of British Columbia	Associate Professor	Psychology	1989–1994
University of British Columbia	Assistant Professor	Psychology	1986–1989
Dalhousie University	Assistant Professor	Psychology	1982–1986

### **Awards & Distinctions**

- Killam Prize in the Social Sciences, Canada Council for the Arts, 2018
- Officer of the Order of Canada, Since 2017
- Pickering Award for Outstanding Contribution to Developmental Psychology in Canada, 2017
- University Killam Professor, University of British Columbia, Since 2016
- Gold Medal Impact Award, Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council, 2015
- Fellow, American Academy of Arts and Sciences, Since 2014
- Fellow, Cognitive Science Society, Since 2013
- Ann L. Brown Prize in Developmental Psychology, University of Iowa, November 2010
- Ida Cordelia Beam Distinguished Visiting Professor, DeLTA Center, University of Iowa, April 2010
- Honourary Member, DeLTA Center, University of Iowa, Since 2010
- Fellow, Association for Psychological Science, Since 2009
- Maryland-Blackwell Lectures, University of Maryland, November 2008
- Distinguished Visitor, Catholic University of Santiago, Chile, December 2007
- Jacob Biely Research Prize, University of British Columbia, 2007
- Fellow, American Association for the Advancement of Science, Since 2006
- Senior Fellow, Canadian Institute for Advanced Research (CIFAR), Since 2004
- Tier 1 Canada Research Chair, Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council, Since 2001
- Fellow, Royal Society of Canada, Since 2001
- Distinguished Visiting Scientist, Max Planck Institute for Psycholinguistics, Nijmegen, The Netherlands, March 2001
- Fellow, Canadian Psychological Association, Since 1996
- Killam Research Prize, University of British Columbia, 1991
- Killam Leave Fellowship, University of British Columbia, 1990-1991
- Alumni Prize for Research in the Social Sciences, University of British Columbia, 1990

## **Research Interests**

My research focuses on understanding the roots of language acquisition, by studying speech perception in infancy, the mechanisms by which native speech sound categories are acquired, and how speech perception supports early word learning and other facets of language acquisition. The work is positioned within a cascading critical/sensitive period perspective, which involves broad collaboration. In my lab we study infants from hours after birth up to toddler-hood using behavioral, electrophysiological (ERP), and non-invasive optical neural imaging using near-infrared spectroscopy (NIRS). We study infants growing up in different language environments, infants growing up bilingual, and infants with, or at risk for, developmental disabilities. Adult studies focus on speech perception and lexical processing of both spoken language and visual speech, and involve behavioral and neuroimaging studies. Increasingly, our focus is much more contextualized, studying speech perception development as a multisensory, multimodal activity embedded in a social-cultural context. This research would not have been possible without the exceptional graduate students (24 to date) and postdoctoral fellows (29 including those current) I have supervised.

## **Special Accomplishments**

I am very involved in the Canadian Institute for Advanced Research (CIFAR) as both a Fellow in the Child Brain Development Program and the Advisory Committee Chair of the Brain Mind and Consciousness Program. At UBC, I founded and co-direct the interdisciplinary *Language Sciences Initiative* and am a member of the President's Strategic Planning Steering Committee, and Co-Chair of the Working Group on Collaboration.

I am proud to have been featured in the 2017 book *Ingenious*, co-authored by David Johnston, the Governor General of Canada from 2012 until September, 2017, which “explores what goes on in the mind of an innovator... to improve the lot of their neighbours, their fellow citizens, and their species.”, and to have been described as one of the “Great Canadian Thinkers in Social Sciences and Humanities” in the 2017 Naylor report, *Canada's Fundamental Science Review*.

## **Continuing Education & Community Outreach** (Last 5 years)

- Gysi, S. (2018, May 30). *Babies' brains are equipped to handle more than one language*. Interview with Dr. Janet F. Werker on monolingual and bilingual language acquisition for the Blog on Learning and Development (BOLD), an interdisciplinary initiative for parents. BOLD is supported by the Jacobs Foundation and dedicated to spreading the word about how children and young people develop and learn. [<https://bold.expert/babies-brains-are-equipped-to-handle-more-than-one-language>]
- Werker, J.F. (2018, May 27). *Language acquisition begins long before the first word*. Invited guest speaker at the Annual General Meeting of KidCareCanada, Vancouver, BC, Canada.
- Werker, J.F. (2017, November 17). *The Language of Success: Innovation in Early Child Development*. Invited guest speaker at Joyce Murray's MP Breakfast Connections Series, Vancouver, BC, Canada.
- Werker, J.F. (2017, April 28). *Perceptual Foundations of Language Acquisition in Monolingual- and Bilingual-learning Infants*. Lecture and guided tour of the Infant Studies Centre. Pre-Conference: Supporting Practice, Advocacy, Research, and Knowledge (SPARK): The Early Years, Early Childhood Education Program and the Institute for Early Childhood Education and Research, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada.
- Werker, J.F. (2017, March 3). *Baby Talk*. [Introduction]. Public viewing at Vancity Theatre of the documentary *Babies* with an introduction by Dr. Janet F. Werker, part of the “Movies for Mommies” event series in Vancouver, BC, Canada.

- Werker, J.F. (2017, March 3). Guided tour of the Infant Studies Centre for Aboriginal students from École Mission Senior Secondary School (Mission, BC, Canada), University of British Columbia, Vancouver, BC, Canada.
- Werker, J.F. (2017, January 23). *Baby Talk: How language learning begins before birth*. Public viewing at Vancity Theatre of the documentary *Babies* followed by a Q&A session with the audience lead by Dr. Janet F. Werker (UBC) and colleague Dr. Byers-Heinlen (Concordia University), Vancouver, BC, Canada. Presented by UBC's VPRI Office and Office of the Provost & VP Academic in partnership with the Peter Wall Institute for Advanced Studies and Alumni UBC.
- Werker, J.F. (2016, May 12). *Bilingual Babies*. Public lecture at Telus World of Science; Sponsored by the University of British Columbia's Faculty of Arts and Department of Psychology in recognition of Dr. Werker's SSHRC Gold Medal Award, Vancouver, BC, Canada.
- Werker, J.F. (2015, March 9-14). Led journal club and informal discussions, and delivered lecture *Becoming a Native Listener: Biological Constraints and Experimental Influences*. James S. McDonnell funded Latin American School for Education, Cognition, and Neural Sciences, San Pedro de Atacama, Chile. [Lecture is also listed in the *Invited Presentations* section.]

## **Publications**

### **Journal Articles**

- Soderstrom, M. and the Many Babies Consortium (accepted). Testing the Relationship Between Preferences for Infant-Directed Speech and Vocabulary Development: A Multi-Lab Study. *Journal of Child Language*.
- Rotem-Kohavi, N., Williams, L.J., Virji-Babul, N., Bjornson, B.H., Brain, U., Werker, J.F., Grunau, R.E., Miller, S.P., & Oberlander, T. (in press). Alterations in resting state networks following in utero SSRI exposure in the neonatal brain. *Biological Psychiatry: Cognitive Neuroscience and Neuroimaging*.
- Choi, D., Bruderer, A.G., & Werker, J.F. (accepted pre-registration). Sensorimotor influences on speech perception in pre-babbling infants – replication and extension of Bruderer et al. (2015). *Psychonomic Bulletin & Review*.
- Werker, J.F. (2018). Perceptual beginnings to language acquisition. [Target article with peer commentaries]. *Applied Psycholinguistics*, 39(4), 703-728.
- Choi, D., Black, A., & Werker, J.F. (2018). Cascading and multisensory influences on speech perception development. *Mind, Brain, & Education*. Advance online publication.
- Curtin, S., & Werker, J.F. (2018). PRIMIR on Tone [Opinion]. *Frontiers in Psychology* [Special Issue on Lexical Tone Perception in Infants and Young Children: Empirical Studies and Theoretical Perspectives], 9, 1007.
- Danielson, D.K., Bruderer, A.G., Kandhadai, P., Vatikiotis-Bateson, E., & Werker, J.F. (2017) The organization and reorganization of audiovisual speech perception in the first year of life. *Cognitive Development*, 42, 37-48.
- Havy, M., Foroud, A., Fais, L., & Werker, J.F. (2017). The role of auditory and visual speech in word-learning at 18 months and in adulthood. *Child Development*, 88(6), 2043-2059.
- Kandhadai, P., Hall, D.G., & Werker, J.F. (2017). Second label learning in monolingual and bilingual infants. *Developmental Science*, 20(1), e12429.
- Kemp, N., Scott, J., Bernhardt, B.M., Johnson, C.E., Siegel, L.S., & Werker, J.F. (2017). Minimal Pair Word Learning and Vocabulary Size: Links with Later Language Skills. *Applied Psycholinguistics*, 38(2), 289-314.
- May, L., Gervain, J., Carreiras, M., & Werker, J.F. (2017). The specificity of the neural response to speech at birth. *Developmental Science*, e12564.
- Gervain, J., Werker, J.F., Black, A., & Geffen, M.N. (2016). The neural correlates of processing scale-invariant environmental sounds at birth. *Neuroimage*, 133, 144-150.

- Bruderer, A.G., Danielson, D.K., Kandhadai, P., & Werker, J.F. (2015). Sensorimotor influences on speech perception in infancy. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, *112*(44), 13531-13536.
- Gurnot, C., Martin-Subero, J., Mah, J., Weikum, W., Goodman, S., Brain, U., Werker, J.F., Kobar, M., Esteller, M., Oberlander, T., & Hensch, T.K. (2015). Prenatal antidepressant exposure associated with CYP2E1 DNA methylation change in neonates. *Epigenetics*, *10*(5), 361-372.
- Werker, J.F., & Hensch, T.K. (2015). Critical Periods in Speech Perception: New Directions. *Annual Review of Psychology*, *66*, 173-196.
- Gervain, J., Werker, J.F., & Geffen, M.N. (2014). Category-specific processing of scale-invariant sounds in infancy. *PLoS ONE*, *9*(5), e96278.
- Kandhadai, P., Danielson, D.K., & Werker, J.F. (2014). Culture as a binder for bilingual acquisition. *Trends in Neuroscience and Education*, *3*, 24-27.
- Maurer, D., & Werker, J.F. (2014). Perceptual Narrowing During Infancy: A Comparison of Language and Faces. *Developmental Psychobiology*, *56*, 154-178.
- May, L., & Werker, J.F. (2014). Can a Click be a Word?: Infants' Learning of Non-Native Words. *Infancy*, *19*(3), 281-300.
- Yeung, H.H., Chen, L., & Werker, J.F. (2014). Referential labeling can facilitate phonetic learning in infancy. *Child Development*, *85*(3), 1036-1049.
- Zamuner, T., Fais, L., & Werker, J.F. (2014). Infants track word forms in early word-object associations. *Developmental Science*, *17*(4), 481-491.
- Byers-Heinlein, K., Fennell, C.T., & Werker, J.F. (2013). The development of associative word learning in monolingual and bilingual infants. *Bilingualism: Language and Cognition*, *16*(1), 198-205.
- Byers-Heinlein, K., & Werker, J.F. (2013). Lexicon Structure and the Disambiguation of Novel Words: Evidence from Bilingual Infants. *Cognition*, *128*(3), 407-416.
- Gervain, J., Vines, B.W., Chen, L.M., Seo, R.J., Hensch, T.K., Werker, J.F., & Young, A.H. (2013). Valproate reopens critical-period learning of absolute pitch. *Frontiers in Systems Neuroscience*, *7*, 102.
- Gervain, J., & Werker, J.F. (2013). Learning non-adjacent regularities at 0;7. *Journal of Child Language*, *40*(4), 860-872.
- Gervain, J., & Werker, J.F. (2013). Prosody cues word order in 7-month-old bilingual infants. *Nature Communications*, *4*.
- Molavi, B., May, L., Gervain, J., Carreiras, M., Werker, J.F., & Dumont, G.A. (2013). Analyzing the resting state functional connectivity in the human language system using near infrared spectroscopy. *Frontiers in Human Neuroscience*, *7*, 921.
- Scott, M., Yeung, H.H., Gick, B., & Werker, J.F. (2013). Inner speech captures the perception of external speech. *Journal of the Acoustical Society of America*, *133*(4), 286-293.
- Weikum, W.M., Vouloumanos, A., Navarra, J., Soto-Faraco, S., Sebastián-Gallés, N., & Werker, J.F. (2013). Age-related sensitive periods influence visual language discrimination in adults. *Frontiers in Systems Neuroscience*, *7*, 86.
- Yeung, H.H., Chen, K.H., & Werker, J.F. (2013). When does native language input affect phonetic perception? The precocious case of lexical tone. *Journal of Memory and Language*, *68*(2), 123-139.
- Yeung, H.H., & Werker, J.F. (2013). Lip movements affect infant audiovisual speech perception. *Psychological Science*, *24*(5), 603-612.
- Fais, L., Werker, J.F., Brown, C., Leibowich, J., Barbosa, A.V., & Vatikiotis-Bateson, E. (2012). Here's looking at you, baby: What gaze and movement reveal about minimal pair word-object association at 14 months. *Journal of Laboratory Phonology*, *3*, 91-124.
- Gervain, J., Berent, I., & Werker, J. (2012). Binding at birth: The newborn brain detects identity relations and sequential position in speech. *Journal of Cognitive Neuroscience*, *24*(3), 564-574.

- Palmer, S.B., Fais, L., Golinkoff, R.M., & Werker, J.F. (2012). Perceptual narrowing of linguistic sign occurs in the first year of life. *Child Development, 83*(2), 543-553.
- Pena, M., Werker, J.F., & Dehaene-Lambertz, G. (2012). Earlier speech exposure does not accelerate speech acquisition. *Journal of Neuroscience, 32*(33), 11159-11163.
- Pons, F., Biesanz, J.C., Kajikawa, S., Fais, L., Narayan, C.R., Amano, S., & Werker, J.F. (2012). Phonetic category cues in adult-directed speech: evidence from three different languages with distinct vowel characteristics. *Psicológica, 33*, 175-207.
- Sebastián-Gallés, N., Albareda, B., Weikum, W., & Werker, J.F. (2012). A bilingual advantage in visual language discrimination in infancy. *Psychological Science, 23*(9), 994-999.
- Small, S.A., & Werker J.F. (2012). Does the ACC have potential as an index of early speech discrimination ability? A preliminary study in four-month-old infants with normal hearing. *Ear & Hearing, 33*(6), e59-e69.
- Weikum, W.M., Oberlander, T.F., Hensch, T.K., & Werker, J.F. (2012). Prenatal exposure to antidepressants and depressed maternal mood alter trajectory of infant speech perception. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, 109*(2), 17221-17227.
- Werker, J.F., Yeung, H.H., & Yoshida, K. (2012). How do infants become experts at native speech perception? *Current Directions in Psychological Science, 21*(4), 221-226.
- Werker, J.F. (2012). Perceptual Foundations of Bilingual Acquisition in Infancy. *Annals of the New York Academy of Sciences: The Year in Cognitive Neuroscience, 1251*, 50-61.
- Curtin, S., Byers-Heinlein, K., & Werker, J.F. (2011). Bilingual beginnings as a lens for theory development: PRIMIR in focus. *Journal of Phonetics, 39*, 492-504.
- Geffen, M.N., Gervain, J., Werker, J.F., & O Magnasco, M. (2011). Auditory perception of self-similarity in water sounds. *Frontiers in Integrative Neuroscience, 5*:15.
- Gervain, J., Mehler, J., Werker, J.F., Nelson, C.A., Csibra, C., Lloyd-Fox, S., Shukla, M., & Aslin, R.N. (2011). Near-Infrared Spectroscopy: A Report from the McDonnell Infant Methodology Consortium. *Developmental Cognitive Neuroscience, 1*(1), 22-46.
- May, L., Byers-Heinlein, K., Gervain, J., & Werker, J.F. (2011). Language and the newborn brain: does prenatal language experience shape the neonate neural response to speech? *Frontiers in Language Sciences, 2*(222), 1-9. Reprinted in: J. Gervain (Ed.), *Near-Infrared Spectroscopy: Recent Advances in Infant Speech Perception and Language Acquisition Research* (pp. 26-34). Frontiers in Psychology eBook, Frontiers Media, SA, 2015.
- Byers-Heinlein, K., Burns, T.C., & Werker, J.F. (2010). The roots of bilingualism in newborns. *Psychological Science, 21*(3), 343-348.
- Fais, L., Kajikawa, S., Amano, S., & Werker, J.F. (2010). Now you hear it, now you don't: Vowel devoicing in Japanese infant-directed speech. *Journal of Child Language, 37*(2), 319-340.
- Narayan, C., Werker, J.F., & Beddor, P.S. (2010). The interaction between acoustic salience and language experience in developmental speech perception: Evidence from nasal place discrimination. *Developmental Science, 13*(3), 407-420.
- Vouloumanos, A., Hauser, M.D., Werker, J.F., & Martin, A. (2010). The tuning of human neonates' preference for speech. *Child Development, 81*(2), 517-527.
- Yoshida, K.A., Iversen, J.R., Patel, A.D., Mazuka, R., Nito, H., Gervain, J., & Werker, J.F. (2010). The development of perceptual grouping biases in infancy: A Japanese-English cross-linguistic study. *Cognition, 115*(2), 356-561.
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- Byers-Heinlein, K., & Werker, J.F. (2009). Monolingual, bilingual, trilingual: Infants' language experience influences the development of a word learning heuristic. *Developmental Science, 12*(5), 815-823.
- Fais, L., Kajikawa, S., Amano, S., & Werker, J.F. (2009). Infant discrimination of a morphologically relevant word-final contrast. *Infancy, 14*(4), 488-499.

- Mugitani, R., Pons, F., Fais, L., Werker, J.F., & Amano, S. (2009). Perception of vowel length by Japanese- and English-learning infants. *Developmental Psychology*, *45*(1), 236-247.
- Vouloumanos, A., & Werker, J.F. (2009). Infants' learning of novel words in a stochastic environment. *Developmental Psychology*, *45*(6), 1611-1617.
- Werker, J.F., Byers-Heinlein, K., & Fennell, C. (2009). Bilingual beginnings to learning words. *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society B: Biological Sciences*, *364*(1536), 3649-3663.
- Yeung, H.H., & Werker, J.F. (2009). Learning words' sounds before learning how words sound: 9-month-olds use distinct objects as cues to categorize speech information. *Cognition*, *113*(2), 234-243.
- Yoshida, K.A., Fennell, C.T., Swingle, D., & Werker, J.F. (2009). Fourteen month-old infants learn similar sounding words. *Developmental Science*, *12*(3), 412-418.
- Werker, J.F., & Byers-Heinlein, K. (2008). Bilingualism in infancy: First steps in perception and comprehension of language. *Trends in Cognitive Sciences*, *12*(4), 144-151.
- Bernhardt, B.M., Kemp, N., & Werker, J.F. (2007). Early word-object associations and later language development. *First Language*, *27*(4), 315-328.
- Burns, T.C., Yoshida, K.A., Hill, K., & Werker, J.F. (2007). The development of phonetic representation in bilingual and monolingual infants. *Applied Psycholinguistics*, *28*(3), 455-474.
- Dietrich, C., Swingle, D., & Werker, J.F. (2007). Native language governs interpretation of salient speech sound differences at 18 months. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, USA*, *104*(41), 16027-16031.
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- Vouloumanos, A., & Werker, J.F. (2007). Listening to language at birth: Evidence for a bias for speech in neonates. *Developmental Science*, *10*(2), 159-164.
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- Kajikawa, S., Fais, L., Mugitani, R., Werker, J.F., & Amano, S. (2006). Cross-language sensitivity to phonotactic patterns in infants. *Journal of the Acoustical Society of America*, *120*(4), 2278-2284.
- Shi, R., Cutler, A., Werker, J.F., & Cruickshank, M. (2006). Frequency and form as determinants of functor sensitivity in English-acquiring infants. *Journal of the Acoustical Society of America*, *119*(6), EL61-EL67.
- Shi, R., Werker, J.F., & Cutler, A. (2006). Recognition and representation of function words in English-learning infants. *Infancy*, *10*(2), 187-198.
- Weinstein, S., Werker, J.F., Vouloumanos, A., Woodward, T.S., & Ngan, E.T.C. (2006). Do you hear what I hear? Neural correlates of thought disorder during listening to speech in schizophrenia. *Schizophrenia Research*, *86*(1-3), 130-137.
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- Werker, J.F., & Tees, R.C. (2002). Cross-language speech perception: Evidence for perceptual reorganization during the first year of life. *Infant Behavior and Development, 25*(1), 121-133. (Original work published 1984)
- Innis, S.M., Gilley, J., & Werker, J.F. (2001). Are human milk long-chain polyunsaturated fatty acids growth related to visual and neural development in breast-fed term infants? *Journal of Pediatrics, 139*(4), 532-538.
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### **Book Chapters**

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### **Invited Presentations** (Last 5 years)

- Werker, J.F. (2018, August 9). *From Speech Perception to Language Acquisition: Building on the Legacy of Peter Jusczyk*. The Inaugural Peter Jusczyk Lecture Series, Department of Psychology and Neuroscience, Dalhousie University, Halifax, NS, Canada.
- Werker, J.F. (2018, April 5). *Critical periods in language perception as a form of memory*. Memory Symposium, Collège de France, Paris, France.
- Werker, J.F. (2018, January 4). *Multisensory foundations of speech and language processing in infancy*. The 33rd Annual Mortimer D. Sackler Winter Conference in Developmental Psychobiology, Kohala Coast, Hawaii, USA.
- Werker, J.F. (2017, November 9). *Multisensory influences on infant speech perception*. Invited Address at the Auditory Perception, Cognition, and Action Meeting (APCAM), Vancouver, BC, Canada.
- Werker, J.F. (2017, October 16). *Speech perception and early word learning: Multisensory foundations*. The 2017 Steer Lecture at Purdue University, Department of Speech, Language & Hearing Sciences, West Lafayette, IN, USA.

- Werker, J.F. (2017, June 15). *Perceptual foundations of language acquisition in monolingual- and bilingual-learning infants*. Keynote speaker at the Workshop on Infant Language Development (WILD), Basque Center on Cognition, Brain and Language, Bilbao, Spain.
- Werker, J.F. (2017, May 24). *Perceptual Foundations of Language Acquisition in Infancy*. Invited Speaker at the Grand Rounds of the BC Neuropsychiatry Program, Vancouver General Hospital, Vancouver, BC, Canada.
- Werker, J.F. (2017, May 18). *Language Acquisition in Monolingual & Bilingual Learning Infants*. The 2017 Annual Pickering Public Lecture, Pickering Centre for Human Development, Carleton University, Ottawa, ON, Canada.
- Werker, J.F. (2017, April 22). *Perceptual foundations of language acquisition in monolingual- and bilingual-learning infants*. Keynote Speaker; Symposium on Early Language and the Brain, Brain and Mind Institute, Macau.
- Werker, J.F. (2017, April 21). *Perceptual foundations of language acquisition in monolingual- and bilingual-learning infants*. Distinguished Scholars Lecture in Bilingualism and Human Complexity, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Shatin, HK.
- Werker, J.F. (2017, April 13). *First steps in language acquisition*. Invited presentation to the Board of Governors, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, BC, Canada.
- Werker, J.F. (2017, January 13). *Experience and plasticity in speech perception development*. Invited speaker for the Exploring the Mind Speaker Series, Center for Mind and Brain, University of California, Davis, CA, USA.
- Werker, J.F. (2016, November 18). *Are there Critical Periods in Speech Perception Development?* Annual Macnamara Lecture, McGill University, Montreal, QC, Canada.
- Werker, J.F. (2016, September 19). *Perceptual foundations of language acquisition: Surprising new findings*. Invited Speaker for the Panel on “Child Development: Ears and Brains” at the 33<sup>rd</sup> World Congress of Audiology (WCA), Vancouver, BC, Canada.
- Werker, J.F. (2016, September 17). *Perceptual Foundations of Language Acquisition*. Keynote Speaker; International Mind, Brain and Education Society (IMBES) Conference, Toronto, ON, Canada.
- Werker, J.F. (2016, September 1). *Critical periods in speech perception development*. Instructor in the International School of Neuroscience Workshop: Early Experience and Sensitive Periods in Development, Organized by P.F. Ferrari, N.H. Fox, C.A. Nelson & C.H. Zeanah. The Ettore Majorana Foundation and Centre for Scientific Culture, Erice, Sicily, Italy.
- Werker, J.F. (2016, June 16). *Infant Speech Perception: First Steps in Language Acquisition*. Keynote Speaker; International Clinical Phonetics and Linguistics Association Conference, Halifax, NS, Canada.
- Werker, J.F. (2016, May 28). *The Challenge to Think Deeply, and Truly Developmentally*. Invited Speaker at the Symposium ‘In Honor of Gerald Turkewitz: His Scientific Legacy’, International Conference on Infant Studies (ICIS), New Orleans, LA, USA.
- Werker, J.F. (2016, March 18). *Critical Periods in Speech Perception Development*. Invited Colloquium, UC Berkeley, Institute of Cognitive and Brain Sciences, Berkeley, CA, USA.
- Werker, J.F. (2015, December 11). *Critical Periods in Speech Perception Development*. Invited Speaker, Neuroscience Seminar Series, Institut Neurosciences Cognition, Université Paris Descartes, Paris, France.
- Werker, J.F. (2015, October 10). *Critical Periods in Speech Perception Development*. Invited Plenary at the 9<sup>th</sup> Biennial Meeting of the Cognitive Development Society Meeting, Columbus, OH, USA.
- Werker, J.F. (2015, October 6). *Perceptual foundations of language acquisition*. B-Debate on Brain Health: From Genes to Behavior, Improving our Life. Co-Organized by the International Center for Scientific Debate and the Guttman Institute, Barcelona, Spain.
- Werker, J.F. (2015, August 15). *Visual and motor influences on auditory speech perception in infancy*. Auditory Development: From Cochlea to Cognition, University of Washington, Seattle, WA, USA.

- Werker, J.F. (2015, August 7). *Using Near Infrared Spectroscopy to Probe Language Processing in the Infant Brain*. Guest Speaker at Dr. Fidel Vila-Rodriguez's Non-Invasive Neurostimulation Therapies (NINET) Lab, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, BC, Canada.
- Werker, J.F. (2015, June 6). *Critical periods in speech perception development*. Invited Plenary at the 45<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Jean Piaget Society, Neuroplasticity & Change, Toronto, ON, Canada.
- Werker, J.F. (2015, May 23). *Understanding the foundations of language development by studying the infant brain*. Canadian Association for Neuroscience Public Lecture, 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Canadian Neuroscience Meeting, Vancouver, BC, Canada.
- Werker, J.F. (2015, March 10). *Becoming a Native Listener: Biological Constraints and Experimental Influences*. Latin American School for Education, Cognitive, and Neural Sciences, San Pedro de Atacama, Chile.
- Werker, J.F. (2014, September 16). *Becoming a Native Listener: Biological Constraints and Experiential Influences*. Invited Colloquium, UBC Department of Psychology. Vancouver, BC.
- Werker, J.F. (2014, June 5). *Initial biases and experiential influences on infant speech perception development*. Invited presentation at the 75<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention of the Canadian Psychological Association. Vancouver, BC.
- Werker, J.F. (2014, June 2). *Becoming a Native Listener: First Steps in Language Acquisition*. Invited presentation to the UBC Board of Governors in celebration of Stephen Toope's 8 years as President. Vancouver, BC.
- Werker, J.F. (2014, May 10). *Multisensory Integration in Speech Perception*. Invited target discussion paper presented to: Multisensory Perception Workshop (organized by Mohan Matthen), Network for Sensory Research, University of Toronto. Toronto, ON.
- Werker, J.F. (2014, May 8). *Baby bilinguals: How do babies acquire two first language simultaneously?* Keynote Speaker; Development 2014 Conference, Carlton University, Pickering Centre for Research in Human Development. Ottawa, ON.
- Werker, J.F. (2013, November 29). *Initial biases and experimental influences on infant speech perception development*. The Bilingual Brain: Language and Music, The Neuroscience & Mental Health Program at the Hospital for Sick Children, Peter Gilgan Centre for Research and Learning. Toronto, Ontario.
- Werker, J.F. (2013, November 6). *Initial biases and experiential influences on infant speech perception development*. Keynote Speaker, Elizabeth Bates Memorial Lecture, Neurobiology of Language Conference. San Diego, CA.
- Werker, J.F. (2013, October 22). Workshop on precursors to language development for the Language Development, Identity, and Assessment group, University of Lethbridge. Lethbridge, Alberta.
- Werker, J.F. (2013, October 21). *Initial biases and experiential influences on infant speech perception development*. Invited Colloquium, Society for Neurosciences Traveling Lectureship, University of Lethbridge. Lethbridge, Alberta.
- Werker, J.F., (2013, September 19). *Prenatal exposure changes language attunement in infancy*. BRAINGLOT. Barcelona, Spain.
- Werker, J.F., (2013, September 17). *The effects of experience on infant speech perception*. Basque Centre for Brain, Cognition, and Language, External Speaker Series. San Sebastian – Donostia, Spain.

### **Research Grants** (Last 5 years)

CIFAR Catalytic Grant	Babies, bugs, and brains: How the early microbiome influences infant brain and behavior development	\$50,000	2018-2019	J.F. Werker, B. Finlay & L. Trainor (PIs)
CIFAR Catalytic Grant	Exploring critical period timing across ontogeny (Child Brain Development Program; Support	\$50,000	2018-2019	J.F. Werker & T.K. Hensch (PIs)

for Dr. Rebecca Reh, PDF)

Kids Brain Health Network	Towards implementation of EEG and NIRS in the clinic: A national team approach	\$100,000	2018-2020	S. Lippé & A. Gallagher (PIs), J.F. Werker, L. Trainor, et al. (Co-Is)
SSHRC Connection Grant	Envisioning a Language Science of Literacy	\$24,993	2018-2019	J.F. Werker (PI), S.H. Deacon, M. Turin & A.M. Fyshe (Co-Is)
UBC, VP Research & Innovation	Language Sciences: UBC and Beyond (Grant for Catalyzing Research Clusters)	\$200,000	2018	J.F. Werker (PI) B. Gick, S. Fels, S. Muehlmann, B. Norton & L. Boyd (Co-Is)
UBC	University Killam Professorship	\$100,000	2016-2017	J.F. Werker
UBC, VP Research & Innovation	Language Sciences: UBC Transdisciplinary Research Framework (Grant for Catalyzing Research Clusters)	\$60,000	2016-2017	J.F. Werker (PI) B. Gick, S. Fels, S. Muehlmann, B. Norton & L. Boyd (Co-Is)
UBC Faculty of Arts	Research Support Funds, Tier 1 Canada Research Chair	\$160,000	2015-2021	J.F. Werker
SSHRC	Gold Medal Impact Award	\$100,000	2015-2016	J.F. Werker
NSERC	The role of multisensory redundancy in infant speech perception and language acquisition	\$550,000	2015-2020	J.F. Werker
SSHRC	The influence of linguistic and cultural context on first steps in language acquisition	\$347,259	2014-2019	J.F. Werker
CIFAR	Brain, Mind & Consciousness; and Child Brain Development	\$90,000	2015-2018	J.F. Werker
Alva Foundation & CIFAR	Shared Postdoctoral Fellow Support for Dr. Rebecca Reh	\$100,000	2015-2018	J.F. Werker (PI) T.K. Hensch (Co-I)
NIH (US)	Multisensory foundations of speech perception in infancy	\$295,534	2013-2017	J.F. Werker (PI) B. Gick (Co-I)

CIFAR = Canadian Institute for Advanced Research  
NIH = National Institutes of Health  
NSERC = Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada  
SSHRC = Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada