

Donald Blackadder

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Personal details

- Nationality: British
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Useful to include nationality in personal details, if applying for posts abroad

Current employment

- PhD student, School of Psychology, Saint University, sponsored by a BBSRC CASE studentship in conjunction with The Company Ltd (expected to complete August 2005).
- PhD working title: 'The functional significance of activity in dopamine system.'

Working titles are useful if your research has not yet been finalised

Publications

- Second-order stimuli do not always increase overall response rates in second-order schedules of reinforcement, *Name of periodical*, (Date), 174: 430-7.
- Nucleus accumbens neurons exhibit differential activity to conditioned reinforcers and primary reinforcers within a second-order schedule of saccharin reinforcement, *Name of periodical* (under 2nd revision).

Presentations

- Nucleus accumbens neurons respond to the reward-predicting properties of conditioned stimuli rather than their behavioural and attention-switching properties (abstract accepted for the International Psychology Conference 2004).
- Differential activity of nucleus accumbens neurons within a second-order schedule of reinforcement (abstract accepted for the Edinburgh Conference 2004).
- Presented three talks and three posters on my PhD work to the psychology department, University of Clyde.

Skills

- Designing experiments.
- Program scripting in MED-PC to run behavioural testing, and in AWK to analyse data.
- Electrode manufacturing.
- Psychopharmacological testing.
- Neurophysiological testing.
- Histological experimenting.
- Analysing neural behaviour data using Spike (CED, Cambridge) and Neuroexplorer (Plexon Inc).
- Analysing behavioural data using Microsoft Excel and SPSS.
- Reviewing and analysing relevant literature.

Practical or laboratory skills are particularly useful to highlight in some fields

Courses attended

- UK GRAD School (career mentoring), 5-day course, May 2004, Maytown.
- Tutoring and Assessment 1-day course, University of Clyde.
- Training course in neurophysiological testing, The Company Ltd.

Demonstrates range of training and specific licensee qualifications

Education

- Postgraduate Diploma in Vocational Information Technology, University of Skye (2000 - 2001).
- BSc Psychology Hons (2:1), University of Skye (1996 - 2000).
- Scottish Higher Modern Studies, CSYS Chemistry, CSYS Maths (1996).
- Scottish Higher Chemistry, Computing, English, Geography, Maths (all grade A; 1995).

Interests

- Play piano, self-taught on guitar and drums, performed as guitarist/vocalist to several audiences.
- Play most sports, captain of a local football team.
- Interested in current affairs, debating.

Referees

- Dr. Barker, School of Psychology, Saint University, UK, namedperson@university.ac.uk
- Prof. Jade, School of Psychology, University of Skye, UK, namedperson@university.ac.uk
- Dr. Borzak, The Company Ltd, Strathclyde, UK, namedperson@companyltd.co.uk