

CURRICULUM VITAE – DR SONJA C. VERNES

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RESEARCH POSITIONS

2020-current: **UKRI Future Leaders Fellow & PI**
The University of St Andrews, School of Biology

2016-current: **Max Planck Research Group Leader – W2 position**
Neurogenetics of Vocal Communication Group
Max Planck Institute for Psycholinguistics, The Netherlands.

2018-current: **Founding director, Bat1K consortium**
International bat genome sequencing consortium (>250 members)

2017- current: **Donders Institute Principal Investigator**
Donders Institute for Brain, Cognition and Behaviour, The Netherlands.

2012-2016: **Donders Research Fellow**
Donders Institute for Brain, Cognition and Behaviour, The Netherlands.

2012-2015: **Senior Investigator**
Language and Genetics Department,
Max Planck Institute for Psycholinguistics, The Netherlands.

2010-2012: **HFSP Postdoctoral Research Fellow**
Research Institute of Molecular Pathology (IMP), Austria.

2008-2009: **Wellcome Trust VIP Research Fellow**
Wellcome Trust Centre for Human Genetics,
The University of Oxford, United Kingdom.

2004-2009: **Doctor of Philosophy (D.Phil)**
The University of Oxford (University College), United Kingdom.
Thesis title: 'Investigation of the role of FOXP transcription factors in neurodevelopment'

SELECTED ACADEMIC AWARDS, PRIZES AND APPOINTMENTS

2019-2020 Visiting Professorship, University of Turin, Department of Life Sciences and Systems Biology

2018-2022 FENS-KAVLI Network of Excellence Scholar (<http://fenskavlinetwork.org/>)

2019 Selected for AcademiaNet (<http://www.academia-net.org>)

2017 NWO Aspasia Award (Awarded, not taken up)

2015 Levelt Innovation Award, Max Planck Institute for Psycholinguistics

2012 Senior Investigator award, Max Planck Institute for Psycholinguistics

2010 HFSP Postdoctoral Fellowship

2010 Marie Skłodowska-Curie Postdoctoral Fellowship

2010 EMBO Postdoctoral Fellowship (Awarded, not taken up)

2008 Graduate Research Prize (for D.Phil thesis), Nuffield Department of Clinical Medicine, The University of Oxford

2006 G A Paul Graduate Scholar Award, University College, Oxford

2006 & 2008 Travelling Scholarships – The Genetics Society (UK)

2006 & 2007 Old Members Awards – Travel scholarships – University College Oxford

2004 Christopher Welch Scholarship in Biological Sciences (PhD scholarship), The University of Oxford

2004 Clarendon Fund Scholar (PhD scholarship), The University of Oxford

2003 Honours Research Award, Federation of University Women

CURRENT RESEARCH FUNDING

2020-27 Future Leaders Fellowship, UKRI
Awarded ERC Consolidator Grant, European Research Council (ERC)
2016-23 Max Planck Research Group, Max Planck Gesellschaft

PREVIOUS RESEARCH FUNDING (TOTAL ~€1.7 MILLION)

2016-20 Lead Investigator, HFSP Research Grant, Human Frontiers Science Program
2015-19 Interdisciplinary Project Grant, Max Planck Institute for Psycholinguistics
2014-18 RUMC Junior Round Grant, Radboud University Medical Centre
2013-18 Career Integration Grant, Marie Skłodowska-Curie action
2010-13 HFSP Long-Term Fellowship, Human Frontiers Science Program
2010 Marie Curie Intra-European Fellowship, Marie Skłodowska-Curie action
2008 Wellcome Trust VIP Award, Wellcome Trust UK
2006-8 Pilot Study Grant, Autism Speaks (Project manager/co-applicant)

CONSORTIA/RESEARCH GROUPS

Founding Director: Bat1K genome sequencing consortium (www.bat1k.com)
Member: Vertebrate Genome Project (VGP)
 (<https://www.rockefeller.edu/research/vertebrate-genomes-project/>)
Chair VGP-language Working Group, part of the Vertebrate Genome Project
Council member: UK representative to the European reference genome atlas (EGRA)
 consortium (<https://vertebrategenomesproject.org/erga>)
Member: G10K genome sequencing consortium (<https://genome10k.soe.ucsc.edu>)
Lead Investigator: HFSP project grant, composed of 4 international labs investigating vocal
 learning in bats

NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH COLLABORATIONS

Name	Affiliation, Country
Dr G Konopka	UT Southwestern Medical Center, USA
Dr. A Ravignani	VU Brussels, Belgium & Sealcentre Pieterburen, The Netherlands
Prof C. Scharff	Freie University Berlin, Germany
Prof. U. Firzlaff	Technical University Munich (TUM), Germany
Prof. M Yartsev	University of California at Berkeley, USA
Dr. K Kendrick	York University, UK
Prof. A. Pfenning	Carnegie-Mellon University, PA, USA
Prof. E. Teeling	University College Dublin (UCD), Ireland
Prof. L.avalos	Stonybrook University, NY, USA
Prof. D. Ray	University of Texas, USA
Prof. G. Myers	Max Planck Institute Molecular Cell Biology & Genetics, Dresden, Germany
Prof. C. Gilissen	Radboud University, Nijmegen, The Netherlands
Prof. P. Hagoort	Max Planck Institute for Psycholinguistics, Nijmegen, The Netherlands
Prof. M Knörnschild	Museum of Natural History Berlin, Germany

OVERVIEW OF PUBLICATIONS

Total publications:	46
Journal articles:	42
Book chapters:	4
Corresponding/senior authorships	28
First authorships:	11
H-index (google scholar):	23
i10 index (google scholar):	34
Number of Citations (google scholar):	3,534

HIGHLIGHTED PUBLICATIONS - Full list see page 11

- 2021 Rhie et al.
Towards complete and error-free genome assemblies of all vertebrate species.
Available on BioRxiv: doi: <https://doi.org/10.1101/2020.05.22.110833>
(accepted @**Nature**)
- 2020 Jebb D et al. (joint senior/corresponding author)
Six new reference quality bat genomes illuminate the molecular basis and evolution of bat adaptations.
Nature. 583, 578–584. (*Featured on the cover of Nature*)
- 2018 Rodenas-Cuadrado P, Mengede J, Schmid TA, Devanna P, Yartsev M, Firzlaff U, **Vernes SC**.
Mapping the distribution of language related genes FoxP1, FoxP2 and CntnaP2 in the brains of vocal learning bat species.
Journal of Comparative Neurology. 526(8):1235-1266.
- 2018 Devanna P, Chen S, Ho J, Gajewski D, Smith S, Gialluisi A, Francks C, Fisher SE, Newbury D, **Vernes SC**.
Next-gen sequencing identifies non-coding variation disrupting miRNA binding sites in neurological disorders.
Molecular Psychiatry. 23(5):1375–1384
- 2018 Wanke K, Devanna P & **Vernes SC**.
Understanding neurodevelopmental disorders; the promise of regulatory variation in the 3'UTRome.
Biological Psychiatry. 83(7):548-557.
- 2017 **Vernes SC**
What bats have to say about speech and language.
Psychonomic Bulletin & Review (Invited - Special Issue). 24(1):111-117.
- 2015 Rodenas-Cuadrado P, Chen S, Wiegerebe L, Firzlaff U, **Vernes SC**.
A novel approach identifies the first transcriptome networks in bats; a new genetic model for vocal communication.
BMC Genomics. 16:836.
- 2011 **Vernes SC** et al.
Foxp2 regulates gene networks implicated in neurite outgrowth in the developing brain.
PLOS Genetics. 7(7): e1002145.
- 2008 **Vernes SC** et al.
A functional genetic link between distinct developmental language disorders.
New England Journal of Medicine. 359(22):2337-45.

RESEARCH GROUP – CURRENT STAFF AND STUDENTS UNDER SUPERVISION

Staff (N=4):

2021 E. Mollison, Post-doctoral Research Staff
2020 S. Hoerpel, Post-doctoral Research Staff
2017 K. Lavrichenko, Research Staff
2019 M. Mei, Bat1K Communications Officer

PhD students, International Max Planck Research School (N=6):

2019 N. Hoeksema, Radboud University, Nijmegen, NL
2017 I. Alvarez van Tussenbroek, Leiden University, Leiden, NL
2017 J. Mengede, Radboud University, Nijmegen, NL
2016 P. Devanna, Radboud University, Nijmegen, NL
2015 M. Anijs, Radboud University, Nijmegen, NL (currently writing up)
2014 K. Wanke, Radboud University, Nijmegen, NL (currently writing up)

MSc/BA/HAN students (N=1):

2020 C van Roessel, MSc, Radboud University, Nijmegen, NL

Research student assistants (N=1):

2019 Y. Hong, Radboud University, Nijmegen, NL

PREVIOUS STUDENT SUPERVISION

Graduated PhD students (N=4):

2020 E.Z. Lattenkamp, Radboud University, Nijmegen, NL & LMU, Munich, Germany
2019 J.R. van Rhijn, Radboud University, Nijmegen, NL
2016 M. Becker, Radboud University, Nijmegen, NL
2015 J.W. Ho, The University of Oxford, Oxford, UK

Graduated MSc students (N=11):

2020 A. Botan, MSc, Radboud University, Nijmegen, NL
2019 L. Klein, MSc, Radboud University, Nijmegen, NL
2019 T. Loman, MSc, Radboud University, Nijmegen, NL
2018 P. Andrey, MSc Engineering & Statistics, ENSAE ParisTech, Paris, France
2018 L. van der Loo, MSc, Radboud University, Nijmegen, NL
2018 M. Cepero Malo, MSc, Radboud University, Nijmegen, NL
2017 I. Alvarez van Tussenbroek, Radboud University, Nijmegen, NL
2017 N. Hoeksema, University of Groningen, Groningen, NL
2016 J. Mengede, Radboud University, Nijmegen, NL
2015 M. Anijs, Radboud University, Nijmegen, NL
2012 H.G. Gumus, Radboud University, Nijmegen, NL

Graduated Bachelor/HAN intern students (N=10):

2018 Y. Winmai, HAN Intern, Hogeschool Arnhem en Nijmegen, Nijmegen, NL
2017 C. Griva, BA, University of Strathclyde, UK
2015 S. Kuhl, HAN Intern, Berufskolleg Hilden, Hilden, Germany
2014 D. Gajewski, HAN Intern, Berufskolleg Hilden, Hilden, Germany
2013 S. Chauhan, Köln University, Germany
2013 N. Stadtler, HAN Intern, Berufskolleg Hilden, Hilden, Germany
2010 P. Walsh, BSc, University of Vienna, Austria & NUI Galway, Ireland
2008 A. Page, BSc, University of Oxford, UK
2008 R. Chadra, BSc, University College London, UK
2008 T. Bajorek, B Med Sci, University of Oxford, UK

Student assistants (N=9):

2020 T. Loman, MSc, Radboud University, Nijmegen, NL
2018/19 N. Kolsters, Hogeschool van Arnhem en Nijmegen, Nijmegen, NL
2017/19 K. Foreman, Radboud University, Nijmegen, NL
2018 H. Wardak, Radboud University, Nijmegen, NL
2018 C. Grabitz, Radboud University, Nijmegen, NL

- 2017 M. Cepero Malo, Radboud University, Nijmegen, NL
 2017 A. Zhuparris, Radboud University, Nijmegen, NL
 2016 L. van der Loo, Radboud University, Nijmegen, NL
 2015 S. Cornelis, Radboud University, Nijmegen, NL

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Visiting professorship

- 2019-20: Evolution of Behaviour (Vocal Communication Module)
 Department of Life Sciences and Systems Biology, University of Turin, Italy

Academic courses - acting as course coordinator and lecturer (N=4):

- 2015-18: Eloquent Apes: the astonishing human capacity for language (HAC-B-086)
 Bachelors Honours School, Radboud University, Nijmegen, NL.
 2016-17: Think tank: Animal Research: science, policy and ethics (RHA-M-1617)
 Masters Honours School, Radboud University, Nijmegen, NL.
 2014 Genes and Language
 Netherlands Graduate School of Linguistics (LOT) Summer School, Nijmegen, NL.
 2013 Genes and Language: from molecules to linguistic diversity
 German Society of Linguistics Summer School, Berlin, Germany.

Academic courses - acting as lecturer (N=7):

- 2015-19 Neurogenomics of Speech, Language and Reading Disorders (NWI-BM061)
 Medical Biology Masters, Radboud University, Nijmegen, NL.
 2017-19 Neurobiology and evolution of language (DGCN43)
 Master of Cognitive Neuroscience, Radboud University, Nijmegen, NL.
 2019 Bats as a model for vocal learning and language
 Trends and Topics in Neurolinguistics, International Radboud Summer School, NL.
 2014-17 The building blocks of language: from molecules to neural circuits
 CSHL course: Genetics and Neurobiology of Language, NY, USA.
 2018-20 Understanding speech and language; from genes to bats and beyond
 CSHL course: Genetics and Neurobiology of Language, NY, USA.
 2016 Molecular Neurogenetic Approaches to Language
 Language in Interaction Summer School, Radboud University, NL
 2015 Language Science Course: Current methods and interdisciplinary perspectives
 International Summer School, Radboud University, Nijmegen, NL.
 2013 The molecular genetics of language
 Linguistics Society of America Summer School, Michigan, USA.

Soft skills courses - acting as course coordinator and lecturer (N=3):

- 2015-16 Communication in Cognitive Neuroscience (SOW-DGCN28)
 Cognitive Neuroscience Masters, Radboud University, Nijmegen, NL.
 2016, 19 Peer review for academics
 International Max Planck Research School (IMPRS), Nijmegen, NL.
 2013-16 Writing an academic CV
 International Max Planck Research School (IMPRS), Nijmegen, NL.

CONFERENCE ORGANISATION

- 8th Annual meeting of the Max Planck Research Group Leaders, May 26th-27th 2020, Online meeting
 7th Annual meeting of the Max Planck Research Group Leaders, April 16th-17th 2019, Munich, Germany
 Unifying Vocal Learning - Lorentz meeting, Sept 9-13th 2019, Leiden, The Netherlands
<https://lorentzcenter.nl/lc/web/2019/1162/info.php3?wsid=1162&venue=Oort>

INVITED AND CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Plenary speaker (N=8)

- 2020 International Conference on the Evolution of Language ('Evolang'), Brussels, Belgium (Postponed)
- 2020 European Conference on Behavioural Biology, Zurich, Switzerland (Postponed)
- 2019 Second international workshop on "Vocal Interactivity in-and-between Humans, Animals and Robots" (VIHAR), London, UK
- 2019 Revolutionizing Next-Generation Sequencing, a VIB Tools & Technologies Conference, Antwerp, Belgium
- 2019 Nordic Long-Read Sequencing meeting, Uppsala, Sweden
- 2019 Plant & Animal Genome Meeting, San Diego, USA.
PacBio workshop: How SMRT Sequencing is Accelerating Plant and Animal Genomics
- 2018 SMRT Scientific Symposium, Leiden, Netherlands
- 2017 Protolang meeting, Barcelona, Spain
- 2015 Annual Meeting of the Society for Neuropediatrics, Basel, Switzerland

Symposium chair and speaker (N=4)

- 2018 Genome10K annual meeting, Rockefeller University, New York, USA
- 2018 Genome10K annual meeting, Rockefeller University, New York, USA
- 2017 Berlin Bat Meeting, Berlin, Germany
- 2016 Society for Neuroscience (SfN) Annual Meeting, San Diego, USA
Mini-symposium: Neurogenetic Insights into Speech and Language: From Birds and Bats

Invited colloquium speaker (N=14)

- 2021 University of Neuchâtel, Swiss National Centre of Competence in Research (NCCR) Evolving Language Center, Switzerland (upcoming)
- 2021 LOOPs seminar series on 'subcortico-cortical loops in sensory processing and perception, Charité - Universitätsmedizin Berlin, Germany (upcoming)
- 2021 Department of Fundamental Neuroscience (DNF), University of Lausanne, Switzerland (upcoming)
- 2018 NeuroCure Cluster of Excellence, Neuroscience Symposium, Charité Universitätsmedizin, Berlin, Germany
- 2018 Cognitive Science Colloquium series, Institut d'Etudes Cognitives, Paris, France
- 2018 University College Dublin (UCD), Dublin, Ireland
- 2017 Centre for Biological Diversity Seminar Series, St Andrews University, UK
- 2017 Biological Diversity Group Discussion Meeting, St Andrews University, St Andrews, UK
- 2016 NeuroBat Lab, UC Berkeley, Berkeley, CA, USA
- 2016 Institute for Biology (IBL), Leiden University, Leiden, NL
- 2015 Utrecht Institute of Linguistics, Utrecht, NL
- 2011 Institute of Neurology and Genetics, Larnaca, Cyprus
- 2007 Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Genetics, Leipzig, Germany
- 2006 Ludwig Institute for Cancer Research, San Diego, USA

Invited conference speaker (N=14)

- 2019 Oxford Autumn School in Neuroscience, The University of Oxford
- 2019 Spring school on language and music cognition, University of Cologne, Germany
- 2018 Fens-Kavli Network of Excellence/Kavli Institute for Brain & Mind joint symposium
- 2018 Bats: A New Model for Healthy Aging, CSHL meeting, NY, USA
- 2018 International Society for Developmental Neuroscience (ISDN) meeting, Nara, Japan
- 2017 Key questions and new methods in the language sciences, Berg en Dal, NL
- 2017 British Neuroscience Association (BNA) meeting, Birmingham, UK
- 2015 Meeting of the Netherlands Society for Behavioural Biology, Soesterberg, NL
- 2015 International Bioacoustics Congress, Murnau, Germany.
- 2015 Human Evolution Towards Language Meeting (Leopoldina-INSa Symposium), Pune, India.
- 2014 Euro Evo-Devo Meeting, Vienna, Austria.
- 2012 ICREA International Symposium, Barcelona, Spain.
- 2012 Castang Foundation Conference, Edinburgh, Scotland, UK.
- 2008 Genes and Behavior Gordon Research Conference, Lucca, Italy.

Conference speaker (N=3)

- 2018 Meeting of German Bat Researchers, Heidesee, Germany
- 2018 Evolang conference, Turin, Poland
- 2017 Meeting of the Dutch Behavioural Society (NVG), Soesterberg, NL

PEER REVIEW

Editorial board member (N=3):

- Scientific Reports (Nature Publishing Group)
- Frontiers in Psychology (Frontiers)
- Journal of Language Evolution (Oxford University Press)

Expert reviewer – Journals (N=33):

General interest journals:

- PNAS (Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences)
- Current Biology
- Proceedings of the Royal Society B: Biological Sciences
- Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society
- eLife
- Science Advances
- Nature Communications
- Scientific reports
- PLOS One
- Biology Letters
- Royal Society Open Biology

Genetics journals:

- PLOS Genetics
- Genome Research
- European Journal of Human Genetics
- Gene
- Molecular Cytogenetics
- Journal of Medical Genetics

Molecular biology journals:

- Molecular Biology and Evolution
- Molecular Autism

Neuroscience journals:

- Trends in Neurosciences
- Genes, Brain and Behaviour
- Annals of Neurology
- Autism Open Access
- Brain Structure and Function
- Neuroimage

Behaviour/Other journals:

- Psychonomic Bulletin and Review
- Comparative Cognition & Behaviour Reviews
- Journal of Language Evolution
- Current Opinion in Behavioural Science
- Behavioural Processes
- Current Zoology
- MIT Press
- Oxford University Press

Expert reviewer – Grant agencies (N=10):

- Action medical research, United Kingdom
- COST (European Cooperation in Science and Technology) Grants
- Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG), Germany
- Estonian Research Council (ERC), Estonia
- European Research Grant (ERC) Starting Grants

Israel Science Foundation (ISF), Israel
Medical Research Council UK (MRC UK), United Kingdom
Medical Research Council (MRC SA), South Africa
Max Planck Research Group Selection panel member, Max Planck Gesellschaft (MPG),
Germany (2017 & 2018)
National Science Centre (NCN), Poland

Expert reviewer – Conferences (N=1):

Evolang: Evolution of Language International Conference

Member of PhD thesis committees (N=4):

2017 -N.H.L. Lam, Radboud University, Nijmegen, NL
2016 -N.F.M. Olde Loohuis, Radboud University, Nijmegen, NL
2015 -E.J.C. van Leeuwen, Radboud University, Nijmegen, NL
2015 -H.S. Webb, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, SA

SOCIETY MEMBERSHIPS

FENS-KAVLI Network of Excellence
NeuroFederatie Dutch Neurofederation, The Netherlands
Federation of European Neuroscience Societies, European Union
The Society for Neuroscience, USA

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

2018 - 2020: Speaker of the MPRG, Human Sciences Section, Max Planck Society

Representative of the Max Planck Research Group Leaders to the humanities section of the Max Planck Society, Human Sciences Section.

2012 - 2021: Dean of Students, Max Planck Institute for Psycholinguistics

The MPI Dean position oversees the welfare of students and coordinates with the IMPRS PhD School in matters of education, training and welfare.

2012-2015: Research Staff Council Chair, Max Planck Institute for Psycholinguistics

This role entailed working with other committees, the administration and the directorate to represent the needs and concerns of the research staff.

SELECTED NEWS & MEDIA OUTREACH

Film, radio and major news outlets:

- 2020 **BBC Radio & online** – Interview regarding Bat1K consortium and “Six new reference quality bat genomes illuminate the molecular basis and evolution of bat adaptations” paper
“Cracking the secrets of how bats survive viruses”
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/science-environment-53494566>
This research article received extensive further media attention – full list can be found here: <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1F7q37Ds-lqnphYkJSx35IQjcd869oGLi4KQsJ4ZBjl/edit>
- New Scientist** – ‘Bats can learn to copy sounds and it may teach us about human speech’
Article: <https://www.newscientist.com/article/2240435-bats-can-learn-to-copy-sounds-and-it-may-teach-us-about-human-speech/>
Podcast: <https://twitter.com/NewScientistPod/status/1251035033684639744>
- Le Monde** – ‘Les secrets de la chauve-souris, « souche à virus » au système immunitaire d’exception’
(translation: The secrets of the bat, a "virus strain" with an exceptional immune system)
https://www.lemonde.fr/sciences/article/2020/04/13/la-chauve-souris-alliee-ou-ennemie_6036465_1650684.html
- 2019 **Le Monde** – ‘Pourquoi l’étude de la chauve-souris, toujours aussi mystérieuse, passionne les scientifiques’
(translation: Why the study of bats, still so mysterious, fascinates scientists)
https://www.lemonde.fr/sciences/article/2019/10/21/la-chauve-souris-un-super-mammifere_6016358_1650684.html
- ARTE documentary** ‘Die eloquenz der tiere’
(translation: The eloquence of animals’)
Director: Jérôme-Cécil Auffret
Documentary aired Dec 2019. Full program:
<https://www.arte.tv/de/videos/072416-001-A/die-eloquenz-der-tiere-1-2/>
- 2018 **BBC Radio 4** Today program interview, “Animal conversations” (06.06.18)
- BBC World Service** interview. “Animal conversations” (06.06.18)
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/w172w4k9jmzm38l>

News features in scientific journals:

- 2020 **Science** – ‘How bats have outsmarted viruses—including coronaviruses—for 65 million years’
<https://www.sciencemag.org/news/2020/07/how-bats-have-outsmarted-viruses-including-coronaviruses-65-million-years>
- 2018 **Nature Methods** – ‘What makes birds and bats the talk of the town’
<https://www.nature.com/articles/s41592-018-0050-y>
- 2017 **PNAS** - ‘Singing in the brain’
<http://www.pnas.org/content/114/36/9490>
- Scientific American** – ‘How Baby Bats Develop Their Dialects’
<https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/how-baby-bats-develop-their-dialects/>
- 2016 **Nature** – ‘Geneticists hope to unlock secrets of bats’ complex sounds’
<https://www.nature.com/news/geneticists-hope-to-unlock-secrets-of-bats-complex-sounds-1.20997>
- Scientific American** – ‘Geneticists hope to unlock secrets of bats’ complex sounds’
<https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/geneticists-hope-to-unlock-secrets-of-bats-rsquo-complex-sounds/>
- Scientific American** – ‘Bat Banter is Surprisingly Nuanced’
<https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/bat-banter-is-surprisingly-nuanced1/>

Online articles and Blog posts:

- 2017 **On Biology** Blog – BioMed Central - 'The bat blueprint'
<https://blogs.biomedcentral.com/on-biology/2017/03/08/the-bat-blueprint-bat1k/>
- Max Planck Gesellschaft** – 'Worth talking about'
<https://www.mpg.de/10757570/language-research-in-the-max-planck-society>
- Science Daily** – 'Defect in non-coding DNA might trigger brain disorders such as severe language impairment'
<https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2017/03/170314081542.htm>
- 2016 **BioMed Central** Blog - 'What can bats teach us about human language, diseases, and tequila'
<http://blogs.biomedcentral.com/bmcseriesblog/2016/04/15/can-bats-teach-us-human-language-diseases-tequila/>
- Kennislink** – 'Batwoman in de taalwetenschap' (Translation: Batwoman in Linguistics)
<https://www.nemokennislink.nl/publicaties/batwoman-in-de-taalwetenschap/>
- 2015 **Spectrum News** (SFARI) - 'Double-dose mutation in language gene points to new syndrome'
<https://spectrumnews.org/news/double-dose-mutation-in-language-gene-points-to-new-syndrome/>
- 2015 **Nederlandse Vereniging voor Gedragsbiologie** - 'In the spotlight' article
http://www.gedragsbiologie.nl/Newsletter/NVG_nieuwsbrief/NVG_24_2.pdf

Scientific commentary papers:

- 2017 **Frontiers in Neuroscience** - 'Talking Convergence: Growing evidence links FOXP2 and Retinoic Acid in shaping speech-related motor circuitry'. Authors: Negwer & Schubert.
Invited commentary highlighting our publication: Devanna et al. 2014
<https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/fnins.2017.00019/full>
- 2014 **Frontiers in Cellular Neuroscience** - 'FOXP2, retinoic acid, and language: a promising direction'. Authors: Benitez-Burraco & Boeckx.
Invited commentary highlighting our publication: Devanna et al. 2014
<http://journal.frontiersin.org/article/10.3389/fncel.2014.00387/full>

Other media:

- 2017 **EU Researcher** magazine – 'New Insights into the genetics of speech'
https://issuu.com/euresearcher/docs/eur12_digital_magazine_spring_2017/21
- 2015 **BioMed Central** - Rodenas-Cuadrado et al, 2015 listed as one of the most influential articles of 2015
<http://www.mpi.nl/departments/neurogen/news/bat-transcriptome-paper-in-list-of-most-influential-articles-of-2015>
- 2015 **Max Planck Institute News** - 'Bat genes could provide fresh clues about the neurobiology of human speech'
<http://www.mpi.nl/departments/language-and-genetics/news/bats-could-provide-clues-about-the-biological-basis-of-human-speech-and-language>

FULL PUBLICATION LIST – SONJA C. VERNES

Link to full text of all publications: <https://www.mpi.nl/people/vernes-sonja/publications>
Google scholar: <https://scholar.google.nl/citations?user=zVddmWYAAAAJ&hl=en>
ORCID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0003-0305-4584>

JOURNAL SPECIAL ISSUE

Editor: Special Issue @ **Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society B.**

Vocal learning in humans and animals

Co-editors: Vincent Janik, Tecumseh Fitch, Peter Slater

Scheduled publication May 2021

JOURNAL ARTICLES – PREPRINTS AND IN REVIEW (N=3):

Moreno Santillan et al.

Large-Scale genome sampling reveals unique immunity and metabolic adaptations in bats

Available on Authorea doi: [10.22541/au.160977727.76870866/v2](https://doi.org/10.22541/au.160977727.76870866/v2)

Under review - Invited submission @ **Molecular Ecology**

Lattenkamp et al.

Learning to call: the vocal development of the pale spear-nosed bat is dependent on auditory feedback

In revision - Invited submission @ **Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society B.**

Scala et al.

CNTNAP2 biallelic variants in paroxysmal hyperkinetic-dyskinetic movement disorder.

Under review @ **Neurology Genetics**

JOURNAL ARTICLES – PEER REVIEWED (TOTAL N=42):

2021 (N=4)

Rhie et al.

Towards complete and error-free genome assemblies of all vertebrate species.

Available on BioRxiv doi: <https://doi.org/10.1101/2020.05.22.110833>

Accepted @ **Nature**

Wilkinson et al.

Genome Methylation Predicts Age and Longevity of Bats.

Available on BioRxiv doi: <https://doi.org/10.1101/2020.09.04.283655>

Accepted @ **Nature Communications**

Hoeksema et al.

Neuroanatomy of the grey seal brain: bringing pinnipeds into the neurobiological study of vocal learning

Available on BioRxiv doi: <https://doi.org/10.1101/2020.12.19.423579>

Accepted @ **Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society B.**

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