Daniel Bennett

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LECTURER IN MULTISENSORY HUMAN COMPUTER INTERACTION
University of Bristol (UK)

RESEARCH THEMES

Human Computer Interaction
Human Autonomy and Agency
Behavioural Science
Embodied Cognitive Science

EDUCATION

University of Bristol
PhD Computer Science

MSc Computer Science

University of Southampton
MA Philosophy
BA Philosophy

APPOINTMENTS

University of Bristol
Lecturer (Assistant Professor)
April 2024 - Present
Bristol, UK

IT University Copenhagen
Postdoctoral Researcher
Feb 2023 – April 2024
Copenhagen, Denmark

Aalto University
Postdoctoral Researcher
Jan 2022 – Jan 2023
Espoo, Finland

Bristol University
Research Assistant
June 2021 – Sep 2021
University of Bristol

Bristol University
PhD Candidate
Feb 2018 – Nov 2022
Bristol UK

University Hospitals Bristol
Information Systems Manager
Nov 2007 – Feb 2018
Bristol UK

I managed a team of information system analysts and was responsible for the development and maintenance of information systems for financial and governmental reporting. In my last few years at the hospital I created capacity to expand our remit to also serve patient-facing staff. With my team I worked with doctors and nurses to develop reports and visualisations which directly supported patient care.

PUBLICATIONS

First Author

[P1] Autonomous Regulation of Social Media Use: Implications for Self-control, Well-Being, and UX
Under Review: CHI 2025
Daniel Bennett, Elisa Mekler

[P2] Beyond Intrinsic Motivation: The Role of Autonomous Motivation in User Experience
ACM Transactions on Computer-Human Interaction
Daniel Bennett, Elisa Mekler
HTTPS://DOI.ORG/10.1145/3689044

[P3] Jank Accounts: We Should Study 'Broken' Games
CHI Play 2023 Extended Abstracts
Daniel Bennett, Elisa Mekler
HTTPS://DOI.ORG/10.1145/3573382.3616045

[P4] How does HCI Understand Human Agency and Autonomy?
CHI 2023 Full Papers
Daniel Bennett, Oussama Metatla, Anne Roudaut, Elisa Mekler
HTTPS://DOI.ORG/10.1145/3544548.3580651

[P5] Multifractal Mice: Operationalising Dimensions of Readiness-to-hand
CHI 2022 Full Papers
Daniel Bennett, Anne Roudaut, Oussama Metatla
HTTPS://DOI.ORG/10.1145/3491102.3517601

[P6] Emergent Interaction: Complexity, Dynamics, and Enaction in HCI
CHI 2021 Workshops & Symposia
Daniel Bennett, Alan Dix, Parisa Eslambolchilar, Feng Feng, Tom Froese, Vassilis Kostakos, Sebastien Lerique, Niels van Berkel
HTTPS://DOI.ORG/10.31234/OSF.IO/ZD82B

[P7] Neurythmic: A Rhythm Creation Tool Based on Central Pattern Generators
NIME 2018
Dan Bennett, Anne Roudaut, Peter Bennett
HTTPS://BIT.LY/3BJFTAC

Other Papers

[P8] Smiles Summon the Warmth of Spring: A Framework for Thermal and Affective Design Grounded in Classical Chinese Poetry
DIS 2024 Full Papers
Feng Feng, Daniel Bennett, Elisa D. Mekler
HTTPS://DOI.ORG/10.1145/1122445.1122456

[P9] "I'm the leader and I'm going to save the world"
CHI Play 2023 Full Papers
Jan B. Vornhagen, Daniel Bennett, Dooley Murphy, Elisa D. Mekler
HTTPS://DOI.ORG/10.1145/1122445.1122456

[P10] It's Touching: Understanding Touch-Affect Association in Shape-Change
CHI 2022 Full Papers
Feng Feng, Daniel Bennett, Zhi-jun Fan, Oussama Metatla

[P11] Disruptabottle: Encouraging Hydration with an Overflowing Bottle
CHI 2020 Extended
Abstracts
Adam Beddoe, Ro Burgess, Lucian Carp, James Foster, Adam Fox, Leechay Moran,
Peter Bennett, Daniel Bennett

[P12] PauseBoard: A Force-Feedback Keyboard for Unintrusively Encouraging Regular Typing Breaks
CHI 2020 Extended Abstracts
Lewis Bell, Jay Lees, Will Smith, Charlie Harding, Ben Lee, Daniel Bennett

GRANTS

INVITED TALKS

Understanding Human Autonomy in an AI World   Dyson Institute, Imperial College London
How does HCI Understand Human Autonomy   February 2024

Sensorimotor Interaction Group   Max Planck Institute for Informatics, Saarland
Multifractality in Sensorimotor Agency and Sense-of-Ownership   June 2023

Human and Technology Group   TU Chemnitz
Multifractality as a Lens on Interaction Behaviour   Nov 2022

Bristol Interaction Group   University of Bristol
Interactive AI Summer School - Embodiment and Complexity   Sep 2022

Centre for Interdisciplinary Studies in Rhythm, Time and Motion   University of Oslo
Central Pattern Generator Networks for Musical Interaction   Feb 2021

Institute for Empirical Aesthetics   Max Planck Institute, Frankfurt
Complex, Non-linear Approaches to Rhythm and Interaction   Jan 2021

Human-Centred Computing Research Group   University of Cardiff
Multifractality and Adaptation in Human Computer Interaction   Dec 2020

Centre for Interdisciplinary Studies in Rhythm, Time and Motion   University of Oslo
Multifractality and Adaptation in Human Computer Interaction   Nov 2020

Computational Neuroscience Research Group   University of Bristol
Multifractal Patterns in Ready-to-hand Tool Use   July 2019

TEACHING & ACADEMIC DUTIES

Lecturing:
- *Human-Computer Interaction* (2021, 2024): University of Bristol. I co-developed syllabus and teaching materials for this third year undergraduate and Masters Level course during my PhD. These materials have been in continuous use in the intervening years, and I am now teaching the course as unit leader. The material introduces students to theories of HCI from the canonical three "waves" up to modern developments such as computational interaction. The course emphasises the application of these theories to understand interaction scenarios, develop measurements, and develop new designs.
- *Software Engineering* (2021,2024,2025): University of Bristol. This is a core second year unit focusing on process, collaboration, and project management elements of the development process. I teach formative and summative evaluation and coach team coordination.
- *Programming in C* (2019, 2020): University of Bristol. I developed and delivered a series of additional lectures to support this module, 2018-2019 & 2019-2020.
- *Human Computer Interaction* (2019): University of Bristol. Guest lecture on Heuristics and Biases

Supervision:
- *PhD*
  Tegan Roberts-Morgan (Co-supervisor with Oussama Metatla), 2024-ongoing

- *BSc Computer Science* : University of Bristol. Thesis supervision for 4 students, 2025

- *MSc Computer Science* : University of Bristol. Thesis supervision for 7 students 2018-2022, 2025.

Teaching assistance
- *Databases* , *Interaction Design* , *Interactive Devices* , *Introduction to Computer Science*

Administrative and Organisation
- Athena Swan School Lead (2024): I am the School Lead for Bristol School of Computer Science's application for an Athena Swan Bronze award. Athena SWAN is a certification framework for efforts to address gender disparity. The work involves convening meetings, arranging focus groups, collating and analysing data, developing equity strategy, and preparing a large application document.
- Organiser: Visiting Speaker Program, Bristol Interaction Group 2018-2020 including successful internal funding application
- Organiser: HCI Reading Group: Bristol Interaction Group 2018-2019

Program Comittee
Associate Chair, ACM CHI 2025, Games Subcommittee

Journal Reviews
International Journal of Human Computer Studies,
Transactions of the ACM on Human Computer Interaction
Adaptive Behaviour
Language Sciences

Conference Reviews
CHI (2019-2025)
CHI play (2022, 2023)
CSCW (2021)
CHI 2020 Student Games Competition.
NordiCHI (2019-20)
Halfway to the Future (2019)
Audio Mostly (2019)

Training:
Summer School on Complexity Methods in Behavioural Science   Radboud University
A week long course on understanding human behaviour via methodologies from dynamical systems and complexity science. These methods support sensitivity to factors impacting on individuals in context, and they avoid many of the problems associated with applying standard statistical techniques in conditions where interactivity is a factor.

July 2023

Training:
Computational Interaction Summer School 2018   University of Cambridge
ACM SIG CHI Summer school on Computational Interaction: Applying computational techniques to understand and improve interaction: Unsupervised Learning, Bayesian information gain, interface optimisation, probabilistic techniques for text input

August 2018