

The ESRC Network for Integrated Behavioural Science is a partnership among the Universities of Nottingham, Warwick, and East Anglia. Visit us online at <http://www.behavioural-science.ac.uk>

Recruitment to NIBS 2.0

Recruitment of 3 Post Doc Researchers is underway. There will be one post at each partner institution (Warwick, Nottingham and UEA). Although our Post Docs will contribute to work across the Network, they will have a focus on NIBS themes being led by the institution at which they are based.

UEA hope to fill their post from April and are interviewing this month, whereas Nottingham and Warwick anticipate having someone in post from September. The closing date for the [Nottingham post](#) is 26 Feb and for the [Warwick post](#) 25 Feb.

Nottingham-based Post Doc, Joerg Weber, continues at NIBS until September 2019.

Funding Research (small award scheme)

The first round of our 'small award scheme' closed on 12 January, and the next round will close on 18 May. Full details including who is eligible and how to apply, is available on [our website](#). If you have a rare opportunity that can't wait until the next funding round, you may submit your application early. Please include an explanation as to why it can't wait and, if Management Group agree, they will consider your application 'out of cycle'.

End of Grant Report

Management Group has been working hard to produce our 'end of grant' report which relates to our previous round of ESRC funding (for the period December 2012 to September 2017). This report was shared with the ESRC in January and captures a summary of all the work undertaken and the impact the Network has achieved.

In the report, Professor Starmer explains how we have delivered world-class research outputs in relation to each of the four themes in the Case for Support. This includes outstanding performance in research publications, with over 150 journal articles, many published in the most highly-rated journals of our disciplines.

In line with our impact strategy, we collaborated with a variety of non-academic organisations and delivered a range of demonstrable non-academic impacts, including organising and sponsoring high profile conferences and workshops, some of which specifically targeted policymakers, business and the third sector.

One of the key aims of NIBS1 was to develop, promote and foster interdisciplinary collaboration across the Network. Not only did we encourage this through our workshops and 'small grant' scheme but we also developed our international linkages through our exchange and events programmes to raise the international profile of UK behavioural science.

Also, we have attracted, and contributed to the interdisciplinary training and professional development of a significant group of, very able, early career behavioural scientists. To sum up, we consider phase 1 of the NIBS programme to have been highly successful relative to its ambitious aims and objectives.

PhD Studentships at Nottingham

Nottingham is [seeking 2 PhD students](#) with excellent academic attainment to Masters level in economics or a cognate discipline, and knowledge & enthusiasm for research involving behavioural / experimental economics. Applications close 15 April 2018.

NIBS 1 Research Outputs and Data

You can view the comprehensive list of NIBS1 outputs via the [RCUK Gateway to Research](#) website.

We continue working with the UK Data Service to offer them for deposit data arising from NIBS1. Data which has already been published can be viewed through the [UKDS website](#) 'get data' section – just search using our grant number ES/K002201/1.

Alternatively you can search by key words such as 'name of author' or 'title of publication' to find the data you're looking for.

Making a Decision? Sleep on It

A new paper from researchers in Nottingham and Amsterdam has concluded that it's usually better to adopt the old adage, "sleep on it" before making a decision.

"If we take a break for a few nights this allows us to gain a fresh perspective," explains former NIBS Post Doc, Dr Dennie van Dolder whose paper was published in [Nature Human Behaviour](#).

The new method draws on the 'Wisdom of Crowds' principle, a well-established decision-making technique that has been used to improve the accuracy of economic forecasts, medical treatments and weather forecasting. Read the full [press release here](#).

Is intuition really cooperative?

New research published in [PLOS ONE](#) by Ozan Isler, John Maule and Chris Starmer provides new evidence for *the social heuristics hypothesis*.

Understanding human cooperation is a major scientific challenge. While cooperation is typically explained with reference to individual

preferences, a recent cognitive process view hypothesized that cooperation is regulated by socially acquired heuristics.

Evidence for the social heuristics hypothesis rests on experiments showing that time-pressure promotes cooperation, a result that is often interpreted as demonstrating that intuition promotes cooperation.

This interpretation, however, is highly contested because of two potential confounds. First, in pivotal studies compliance with time-limits is low and, crucially, evidence shows intuitive cooperation only when noncompliant participants are excluded. The inconsistency of test results has led to the currently unresolved controversy regarding whether or not noncompliant subjects should be included in the analysis.

Second, many studies show high levels of social dilemma misunderstanding, leading to speculation that asymmetries in understanding might explain patterns that are otherwise interpreted as intuitive cooperation.

The paper presents evidence from an experiment that employs an improved time-pressure protocol with new features designed to induce high levels of compliance and clear tests of understanding. It resolves the noncompliance issue, shows that misunderstanding does not confound tests of intuitive cooperation, and provides the first independent evidence for intuitive cooperation in a social dilemma using time-pressure.

Two recent papers by Graham Loomes

[Attitudes to uncertainty in a strategic setting](#) by Zhihua Li, Graham Loomes & Ganna Pogrebna, in *Economic Journal*

[Noisy preferences in risky choice: a cautionary note](#) by Sudeep Bhatia & Graham Loomes in *Psychological Review*