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Professor Sophie Kerttu Scott
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Sophie is Deputy Director and Head of the Speech Communications Group at UCL's Institute of Cognitive Neuroscience. She is a member of the British Psychological Society, the Society for Neuroscience, the cognitive Neuroscience Society and the Experimental Psychology Society. She was elected a Fellow of the Academy of Medical Sciences in 2012 and a Fellow of the British Academy in 2016. Having received her PhD in Cognitive Science at UCL in 1994 before going on to work in Cambridge at the MRC Cognition and Brain Sciences Unit. Sophie's research investigates the neural basis of vocal communication – how our brains process the information in speech and voices and how our brains control the production of our voice. Within this, her research covers the roles of streams of processing in auditory cortex, hemispheric asymmetries and the interaction of speech processing with attentional and working memory factors. Other interests include individual differences in speech perception and plasticity in speech perception, since these are important factors for people with cochlear implants. Sophie is also interested in the expression of emotion in the voice. In particular, her research in recent years has focused on the neuroscience of laughter. Her work on laughter has also toured science fairs and exhibitions as part of the Laughter Lab project. She has been awarded a UCL Provost's Award for Public Engagement.

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