



Accessible Design for the Blind

CURRICULUM VITAE

Alan C. Scott

CONTACT INFORMATION

e-mail: ascott@accessforblind.org

EDUCATION

2003-2008 Boston College, Ph.D., Cognitive Psychology
1996-2000 University of Wisconsin – Madison, B.S., Psychology

RESEARCH AND ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT AND EXPERIENCE

2021-Present President, Accessible Design for the Blind

2015-2022 Associate Professor of Psychology (tenured), Elon University
2009-2015 Assistant Professor of Psychology, Elon University

2014-2021 Chair, Department of Psychology, Elon University

2009-2021 Research Consultant, Accessible Design for the Blind

2008-2009 Postdoctoral Research Associate with Dr. Billie Louise Bentzen, Boston College / Accessible Design for the Blind

2003-2008 Doctoral research with Dr. Randolph Easton, Boston College

AWARDS (Partial List)

2022: Best Paper Award, Transportation Research Board – Pedestrian Committee:
A guidance surface to help vision disabled pedestrians locate crosswalks and align to cross.
2016: Selection for the ACHIEVE Leadership Development Program, Elon University (2016-2017)
2012: Best Paper Award, Transportation Research Board – Pedestrian Committee:
Perception of pedestrian traffic signals by pedestrians with varying levels of vision.
2010: Hultquist Award, Elon University

FUNDED PROJECTS

Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration, *Intersections-Related Accessibility Research for Blind or Low-Vision Pedestrians*. Subcontract to Accessible Design for the Blind from Leidos, Inc, 2024-2027.
Transit Cooperative Research Program, Project TCRP B-51, *Floating Transit Stops and Passengers with Vision Disabilities*. Subcontract to Accessible Design for the Blind from Kittelson & Associates, Inc., 2024-2026.

National Cooperative Highway Research Program, Project NCHRP 17-112, *Enhancing Highway Safety Manual Guidance on Pedestrian and Bicyclist Countermeasures*. Subcontract to Accessible Design for the Blind from Texas A&M Transportation Institute, 2024-2026.

Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration, *Evaluation of Crosswalks with Surface Treatments Phase II*. Subcontract to Accessible Design for the Blind from Leidos, Inc, 2023-2026.

Transit Cooperative Research Program, Project TCRP B-50, *Accessible Public Bus and Rail Passenger Information for Riders with Vision Disabilities*. Subcontract to Accessible Design for the Blind from Texas A&M Transportation Institute, 2022-2025.

Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration, *Informational Report on Accessibility at Innovative New and Quick-Build Pedestrian and Bicycle Designs*. Subcontract to Accessible Design for the Blind from Kittelson & Associates, 2021-2023.

Transit Cooperative Research Program, Project TCRP B-46, *Tactile Walking Surface Indicators to Aid Wayfinding for Visually Impaired Travelers in Multimodal Travel*. Subcontract to Accessible Design for the Blind from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, 2019-2024.

San Francisco Public Works, *Detectable Separation between Sidewalk and Cycle Track Study*. Contract with Arup North America, Ltd., 2019.

National Institute on Disability and Independent Living Rehabilitation Research, Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Community Living, *Effect of Guidance Surfaces on Travelers with Vision and Mobility Impairments*. Subcontract to Accessible Design for the Blind from Western Michigan University, 2016-2019.

National Cooperative Highway Research Program, Project NCHRP 3-78b, *Guidelines for the Application of Crossing Solutions at Roundabouts and Channelized Turn Lanes to Assist Pedestrians with Vision Disabilities*. Subcontract to Accessible Design for the Blind from North Carolina State University, 2013-2016.

National Eye Institute, National Institutes of Health, *Blind Pedestrians' Access to Complex Intersections*. Subcontract to Boston College from Western Michigan University, 2007-2012.

National Science Foundation. *Individualized Guidance for the Blind*. Subcontract to Boston College from Talking Lights, Inc., 2008-2009.

National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research, *Fundamental Issues in Wayfinding Technology*. Subcontract to Accessible Design for the Blind from Smith-Kettlewell Eye Research Institute, 2006-2009.

National Cooperative Highway Research Program, Project NCHRP 3-78, *Crossing Solutions at Roundabouts and Channelized Turn Lanes for Pedestrians with Vision Disabilities*. Subcontract to Accessible Design for the Blind from North Carolina State University, 2005-2010.

National Cooperative Highway Research Program, Project No. 3-62. *Guidelines for Accessible Pedestrian Signals*. Subcontract to Accessible Design for the Blind from The University of North Carolina Highway Safety Research Center, 2001-2013.

National Eye Institute, National Institutes of Health. *Blind Pedestrians' Access to Complex Intersections*. Subcontract to Boston College from Western Michigan University, 2000-2007.

PUBLICATIONS & OTHER PROFESSIONAL SCHOLARSHIP

Publications in Peer-Reviewed Journals

- Scott, A. C., Myers, L., Schroeder, B., Worth O'Brien, S., Kent, M., Mello, M., & Bentzen, B.L. (2024). Making quick-build sidewalk extensions accessible to pedestrians with vision disabilities. *Transportation Research Record: Journal of the Transportation Research Board*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/03611981241275539>
- Bentzen, B. L., Scott, A. C., Barlow, J. M., Wall Emerson, R., & Graham, J. (2022). Guidance surface to help vision-disabled pedestrians locate crosswalks and align to cross. *Transportation Research Record: Journal of the Transportation Research Board*, 2676(10), 645-655. <https://doi.org/10.1177/03611981221090934>
- Received a 2022 Best Paper Award, Transportation Research Board – Pedestrian Committee

- Bentzen, B. L., Scott, A. C., & Myers, L. (2020). Delineator for separated bicycle lanes at sidewalk level. *Transportation Research Record: Journal of the Transportation Research Board*, 2674(7), 398-409. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0361198120922991>
- Bentzen, B. L., Scott, A. C., Wall-Emerson, R., & Barlow, J. M. (2020). Effect of tactile walking surface indicators on travelers with mobility disabilities. *Transportation Research Record: Journal of the Transportation Research Board*, 2674(7), 410-419. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0361198120922995>
- Bentzen, B. L., Barlow, J. M., Scott, A. C., Guth D. A., Long, R., & Graham, J. (2017). Wayfinding problems for blind pedestrians at noncorner crosswalks: Novel solution. *Transportation Research Record: Journal of the Transportation Research Board*, 2661(1), 120-125. <https://doi.org/10.3141/2661-14>
- Scott, A. C., Bentzen, B. L., Barlow, J. M., Guth D. A., & Graham, J. (2014). Far-side audible beaconing of accessible pedestrian signals: Is it confusing? *Transportation Research Record: Journal of the Transportation Research Board*, 2464(1), 135-143. <https://doi.org/10.3141/2464-17>
- Barlow, J. M., Scott, A. C., Bentzen, B. L., Guth, D. A., & Graham, J. (2013). Effectiveness of audible and tactile heading cues at complex intersections for pedestrians who are blind. *Transportation Research Record: Journal of the Transportation Research Board*, 2393(1), 147-154. <https://doi.org/10.3141/2393-17>
- Scott, A. C., Swenson, L. J., Bentzen, B. L., & Barlow, J. M. (2013). Countdown-only pedestrian change interval displays: Effect on signal recognition by pedestrians with reduced visual acuity. *Transportation Research Record: Journal of the Transportation Research Board*, 2384(1), 10-17. <https://doi.org/10.3141/2384-02>
- Scott, A. C., Atkins, K. N., Bentzen, B. L., & Barlow, J. M. (2012). Perception of pedestrian traffic signals by pedestrians with varying levels of vision. *Transportation Research Record: Journal of the Transportation Research Board*, 2299(1), 57-64. <https://doi.org/10.3141/2299-07>
 - Received a 2012 Best Paper Award, Transportation Research Board – Pedestrian Committee
- Tiemann, T. K., Scott, A. C., & Atkins, K. N. (2012). Sidewalks, streets, and walkability. *Spaces and Flows: An International Journal of Urban and ExtraUrban Studies*, 2(3), 41-50. <https://doi.org/10.18848/2154-8676/CGP/v02i03/53650>
- Scott, A. C., Barlow, J. M., Guth, D. A., Bentzen, B. L., Cunningham, C. M., & Long, R. (2011). Nonvisual cues for aligning to cross streets. *Journal of Visual Impairment and Blindness*, 105(10), 648-661. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0145482X1110501011>
- Scott, A. C., Barlow, J. M., Guth, D. A., Bentzen, B. L., Cunningham, C. M., & Long, R. (2011). Walking between the lines: Nonvisual cues for maintaining heading during street crossings. *Journal of Visual Impairment and Blindness*, 105(10), 662-674. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0145482X1110501012>
- Barlow, J. M., Scott, A. C., & Bentzen, B. L. (2009). Audible beaconing with accessible pedestrian signals. *AER Journal: Research and Practice in Visual Impairment and Blindness*, 2(4), 149-158. <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC2901122/>
- Scott, A. C., Barlow, J. M., Bentzen, B. L., Bond, T. L. Y., & Gubbe, D. (2008). Accessible pedestrian signals at complex intersections: Effects on blind pedestrians. *Transportation Research Record: Journal of the Transportation Research Board*, 2073(1), 94-103. <https://doi.org/10.3141/2073-11>
- Bentzen, B. L., Scott, A. C., & Barlow, J. M. (2006). Accessible pedestrian signals: Effect of device features. *Transportation Research Record: Journal of the Transportation Research Board*, 1982(1), 30-37. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0361198106198200105>

Scott, A. C., Myers, L., Barlow, J. M., & Bentzen, B. L. (2005). Accessible pedestrian signals: The effect of pushbutton location and audible “walk” indications on pedestrian behavior. *Transportation Research Record: Journal of the Transportation Research Board*, 1939(1), 69-76. <https://doi.org/10.3141/1939-09>

Technical and Research Reports

O’Brien, S. W., West, A., Lan, B., Scott, A., Bentzen, B., Myers, L., Graham, J., Schroeder, B., Rodegerdts, L., Ryus, P., Brown, S., & Walker, M. (2025). *Tactile Wayfinding in Transportation Settings for Travelers Who Are Blind or Visually Impaired: Volume 1: Conduct of Research*. TCRP Research Report 248. National Academies of Sciences, Transportation Research Board, Washington, DC. <https://doi.org/10.17226/27777>

O’Brien, S. W., West, A., Lan, B., Scott, A., Bentzen, B., Myers, L., Graham, J., Schroeder, B., Rodegerdts, L., Ryus, P., Brown, S., & Walker, M. (2025). *Tactile Wayfinding in Transportation Settings for Travelers Who Are Blind or Visually Impaired: Volume 2: Guide*. TCRP Research Report 248. National Academies of Sciences, Transportation Research Board, Washington, DC. <https://doi.org/10.17226/28910>

Bentzen, B. L., Scott, A. C., & Myers, L. (2019). *Better Market Street: Detectable Separation between Sidewalk and Cycle Track Study*. Final report and recommendations delivered to Arup Inc. (project manager) and San Francisco Public Works (research sponsor).

Bentzen, B. L., Barlow, J. M., & Scott, A. C. (2012). *Human Factors Evaluation of the Effect of Migma Pedestrian Detection System on Pedestrians who are Visually Impaired* (SBIR: Phase II Final Report – Prepared for FHWA). Small Business Innovation Research Program – Large Scale Field Tests of MigmaMidblock®.

Harkey, D. L., Carter, D. L., Barlow, J. M., Bentzen, B. L., Myers, L., & Scott, A. C. (2007). *Guidelines for Accessible Pedestrian Signals* (NCHRP Web-Only Document 117B). Retrieved from the Transportation Research Board of the National Academies website: http://onlinepubs.trb.org/onlinepubs/nchrp/nchrp_w117b.pdf

Other Publications

Scott, A. C., Bentzen, B. L., & Myers, L. (2024). *Speech Messages for Use when Traffic Signals are in Flashing Mode and at Pedestrian Activated Warning Devices Without a Walk Indication: Final Report of Research*. Self-published research report. https://accessforblind.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/FINAL-Report_Messages-for-RRFBs-and-Traffic-Signals-in-Flashing-Mode_24-12-27.pdf

PRESENTATIONS – [A partial list. Presenting author(s) is/are indicated with an asterisk (*)]

Professional Conferences

Schroeder, B.*, O’Brien, S.*, & Scott, A. C.* (2025, February). Walk a mile in someone else’s shoes: Accessibility principles, wayfinding, and safety. Presentation at the NCDOT Research and Innovation Symposium, Raleigh, NC.

Scott, A. C.*, Myers, L., & Bentzen, B. L. (2024, July). *Evaluating tactile walking surface indicators in real-world environments*. Presentation at the Association for Education and Rehabilitation of the Blind and Visually Impaired (AER) International Conference, Charlotte, NC.

Scott, A. C.*, & Myers, L. (2023, November). *Domes, bars, and trapezoids: What are the streets trying to tell you?* Presentation at the Southwest Orientation and Mobility Association (SWOMA) Conference, Online.

Myers, L.*, & Scott, A. C. (2023, November). *Navigating the changing urban landscape (floating bus stops, leading pedestrian intervals, APS beaconing) and the need for advocacy*. Presentation at the Southwest Orientation and Mobility Association (SWOMA) Conference, Online.

- Bentzen, B. L.* & Scott, A. C.* (2023, January). *Tactile walking surface indicators (TWSIs): What? Why? Where?* Poster presented at the 102nd Annual Meeting of the Transportation Research Board, Washington, D.C.
- Hewitt, T.*, Tanenhaus, R.*, & Scott, A. C.* (2022, September). *Designing for non-visual navigation*. Symposium at the National Association of City Transportation Officials (NACTO) Designing Cities conference, Boston, MA.
- Graham, J.*, Myers, L., Scott, A. C.*, & Bentzen, B. L. (2022, July). *Tactile walking surface indicators: What, Where, Why, and How*. Presentation at the Association for Education and Rehabilitation of the Blind and Visually Impaired (AER) International Conference, St. Louis, MO.
- Bentzen, B. L., Graham, J.*, Myers, L., & Scott, A. C.* (2022, July). *Audible beaconing APS aid wayfinding at complex street crossings*. Podium presentation at the Association for Education and Rehabilitation of the Blind and Visually Impaired (AER) International Conference, St. Louis, MO.
- Bentzen, B. L., Scott, A. C., Barlow, J. M., Wall Emerson, R., & Graham, J. (2022, January). *A guidance surface to help vision disabled pedestrians locate crosswalks and align to cross*. Paper accepted for presentation at the 101st Annual Meeting of the Transportation Research Board, Washington, D.C. [Not presented due to COVID-19 pandemic.]
- Bentzen, B. L.*, Scott, A. C., & Myers, L.* (2020, January). *Delineator for separated bicycle lanes at sidewalk level*. Poster presented at the 99th Annual Meeting of the Transportation Research Board, Washington, D.C.
- Bentzen, B. L.*, Scott, A. C.*, Wall-Emerson, R., & Barlow, J. M. (2020, January). *Effect of tactile walking surface indicators on travelers with mobility disabilities*. Poster presented at the 99th Annual Meeting of the Transportation Research Board, Washington, D.C.
- Bentzen, B. L.*, Barlow, J. M., Scott, A. C., Guth D. A., Long, R., & Graham, J. (2017, January). *Wayfinding problems for blind pedestrians at non-corner crosswalks: A novel solution*. Paper presented at the 96th Annual Meeting of the Transportation Research Board, Washington, D.C.
- Scott, A. C.*, Bentzen, B. L., & Barlow, J. M., (2015, July). *Finding crosswalks and aligning to cross: A cue that increases efficiency*. Podium presentation at the 15th International Mobility Conference, Montreal, Canada.
- Scott, A. C.*, Bentzen, B. L., Barlow, J. M., Guth D. A., & Graham, J. (2015, February). *Audible beacons at complex intersections: Are they an effective and unambiguous wayfinding cue for pedestrians who are blind?* Podium presentation at the North Carolina Cognition Conference, Elon, NC.
- Scott, A. C.*, Bentzen, B. L., Barlow, J. M., Guth D. A., & Graham, J. (2014, January). *Far-side beaconing for accessible pedestrian signals: Is it confusing?* Paper presented at the 93rd Annual Meeting of the Transportation Research Board, Washington, D.C.
- Scott, A. C.*, Swenson, L. J.*, Bentzen, B. L., & Barlow, J. M. (2013, January). *The effect of countdown-only pedestrian change interval displays on signal recognition by pedestrians with reduced visual acuity*. Paper presented at the 92nd Annual Meeting of the Transportation Research Board, Washington, D.C.
- Barlow, J. M.*, Scott, A. C., Bentzen, B. L., Guth, D. A., & Graham, J. (2013, January). *The effectiveness of audible and tactile heading cues for pedestrians who are blind at complex intersections*. Paper presented at the 92nd Annual Meeting of the Transportation Research Board, Washington, D.C.
- Barlow, J. M.*, Bentzen, B. L., Scott, A. C., Guth, D. A., Long, R., & Graham, J. (2012, July). *Wayfinding and directional guidance for street crossing*. Podium presentation at the Association for Education and Rehabilitation of the Blind and Visually Impaired (AER) International Conference, Bellevue, WA.

- Bentzen, B. L.* , Barlow, J. M., Guth, D. A., Scott, A. C., & Graham, J. (2012, February). *Far-Side beaconing by Accessible Pedestrian Signals: Is it confusing?* Podium presentation at the 14th International Mobility Conference, Palmerston North, New Zealand.
- Guth, D. A.* , Barlow, J. M., Bentzen, B. L., Scott, A. C., Cunningham, C. M., & Long, R. (2012, February). *But do they work? Laboratory studies of nonvisual cues for wayfinding at crosswalks.* Podium presentation at the 14th International Mobility Conference, Palmerston North, New Zealand.
- Scott, A. C.* , Atkins, K. N., Bentzen, B. L., & Barlow, J. M. (2012, January). *Visibility of pedestrian signals by pedestrians with varying levels of vision.* Paper presented at the 91st Annual Meeting of the Transportation Research Board, Washington, D.C.
- Tiemann, T. K.* , Scott, A. C., & Atkins, K. N.* (2011, November). *Sidewalks, streetscapes, and walkability.* Paper presented at Spaces and Flows: An International Conference on Urban and ExtraUrban Studies, Prato, Italy.
- Bentzen, B. L., Myers, L., Scott, A. C.* , & Barlow, J. M. (2011, January). *Evaluating wayfinding technologies for blind or visually impaired people.* Education session conducted at the Assistive Technology Industry Association Conference, Orlando, FL.
- Bentzen, B. L.* , Barlow, J. M., Guth, D., & Scott, A. C.* (2010, October). *Cues for directional guidance during street crossing.* Podium presentation at the North Central Orientation and Mobility Association Conference, Kalamazoo, MI.
- Scott, A. C.* , Bentzen, B. L., & Barlow, J. M. (2009, July). *Visibility of pedestrian signals by pedestrians with varying levels of vision.* Paper presented at the 13th International Mobility Conference, Marburg/Lahn, Germany.
- Bentzen, B. L.* , Barlow, J. M., & Scott, A. C. (2009, July). *Audible beaconing to provide wayfinding Information for street crossings.* Paper presented at the 13th International Mobility Conference, Marburg/Lahn, Germany.
- Myers, L., Scott, A. C.* , Bentzen, B. L., Marston, J. R., & Barlow, J. M. (2009, March). *Evaluating wayfinding technologies – some considerations.* Paper presented at the 24th Annual International Technology and Persons with Disabilities Conference, Los Angeles, CA.
- Scott, A. C., & Easton, R. D. (2007, November). *Haptically-Guided grasping and the perceptual effects of the tactual Sander illusion.* Poster accepted at the 48th Annual Meeting of the Psychonomic Society, Long Beach, CA. [Poster ultimately not presented due to a personal medical matter.]
- Bentzen, B. L.* , Scott, A. C., & Barlow, J. M. (2006, January). *Accessible Pedestrian Signals: Effect of device features.* Paper presented at the 85th Annual Meeting of the Transportation Research Board, Washington D.C.
- Scott, A. C.* , & Easton, R. D. (2005, November). *Differentiable effects of size change on repetition priming in vision and haptics: Persistence up to five hours.* Poster presented at the 46th Annual Meeting of the Psychonomic Society, Toronto, Ontario, Canada.
- Scott, A. C.* , & Easton, R. D. (2004, November). *Visual-haptic cross-modal priming for three-dimensional objects.* Poster presented at the 45th Annual Meeting of the Psychonomic Society, Minneapolis, MN.
- Myers, L.* , Scott, A. C., Bentzen, B. L., & Barlow, J. M. (2004, January). *The effect of pushbutton location on pedestrian behavior.* Paper presented at the 83rd Annual Meeting of the Transportation Research Board, Washington D.C.

Webinars

O'Brien, S., Rodegerdts, L., & Scott, A. C. (2024). *Tactile wayfinding: Improving access for people with vision disabilities*. L. Franck, moderator. Webinar of the Transportation Research Board.

Bentzen, B. L., & Scott, A.C. (2024). *Innovations in accessibility*. A. Figueroa, moderator. Webinar of the Pedestrian and Bicycle Information Center.

Bentzen, B. L., Jensen, K. W., Worth O'Brien, S. & Scott, A.C. (2023). *Tactile walking surface indicators to aid wayfinding for pedestrians with vision disabilities*. J. Chrzan, moderator. Webinar for the Association of Pedestrian and Bicycle Professionals monthly webinar series.

Bentzen, B. L., Barlow, J. M., and Scott, A.C. (2019). *Implications of technologies for visually impaired pedestrians*. R. Wall-Emerson, moderator. Webinar organized by the Transportation Research Board standing committees on accessible transportation and mobility and user information systems.

UNIVERSITY AND PROFESSIONAL LEADERSHIP AND SERVICE

Elon University & Department of Psychology

2021	Search Committee for Assistant Professor – Cognitive Psychology
2020 - 2021	Dept. of Psychology Diversity, Inclusion, and Racial Equity Task Force
2014 - 2021	Chair, Department of Psychology
2017 - 2019	Chair, Task Force to examine the feasibility of Elon College and School of Health Sciences curricular collaborations (incl. possible 3+3-type dual-degree options)
2011 - 2019	Disabilities Advisory Committee
2017 - 2018	Search Committee for Accommodation Specialist, Office of Disabilities Resources
2012 - 2018	Faculty Advisor, Elon Psi Chi, International Honor Society in Psychology
2016 - 2017	University Student Leadership Committee
2016	Search Committee for Dean of Health Sciences
2015 - 2016	Psychology Curriculum Review Subcommittee
2015 - 2016	Psychology Five-Year Planning Goal 3 (Enhance Faculty Development) Subcommittee
2015, '16, '17	Preparing Future Faculty – Panelist
2015	Howard Hughes Medical Institute (HHMI) Undergraduate Science Education Grant Proposal Committee
2012 - 2015	Psychology Peer-Reviewed Scholarship Document Subcommittee
2012 - 2015	ADA Transition Plan Steering Committee – Co-Chair of Facilities Subcommittee
2014	Selection Committee – Elon College Distinguished Alumni Awards
2013 - 2014	Search Committee for Assistant Professor – Industrial/Organizational Psychology
2012 - 2013	Search Committee for Assistant Coordinator of Disabilities Services
2012 - 2013	Elon Faculty Leadership Scholar

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Elon University – Assistant (2009-2015) and Associate (2015-2022) Professor

2009-2022	PSY 111 – Introduction to Psychology
	PSY 201 – Research Methods and Statistics in Psychology
	PSY 242 – Cognitive Psychology
	PSY 2970 – Experimental Research Methods and Statistics in Psychology
	PSY 355 – Sensation and Perception
	PSY 491 – Independent Study in Psychology
	PSY 499 – Independent Research in Psychology