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Editorial

Dear Members,

First of all I need to tell you that I feel extremely honored to be the new secretary of the EASP and I hope that I shall be able to represent you the way you wish. The least I can do is to promise you that I shall try hard for it. It is with great pleasure (and I have to say with some anxiety) that I take over from Russell Spears the editorship of the Bulletin (thank God Sibylle is around!). The Bulletin, more than a newsletter, has been the place of lively discussions and I hope that it will continue to host these discussions in the future. The Bulletin is yours, experienced readers and writers. I hope that you will use it and that you will help me, the novice, to keep it a “must read”! My job is, with Sibylle’s help, to bring together the content of the bulletin and, with my editorial, to guide you through it. This issue is quite heavy with a lot of news from members (cf. new publications by members) and reports from grant holders and meeting organizers. Their experience is very valuable for all of us. New meetings are planned so I would like to draw your attention to these events and their deadlines and in particular to the Summer Institute organized by SPSP whose deadline for applications is forthcoming. In addition, we are pleased to see new members joining the association. Please advise prospective members to read the criteria for membership and fill the necessary forms at the website.

This Bulletin is mostly dedicated to our General Meeting in Opatija. The present issue includes the report of the organizers, as well as short reports of junior and senior colleagues who had the kindness to share their impressions with us. Most importantly, I would like to draw your attention to the President’s report presented by Fritz Strack at the General Meeting where you will find important information about the Association. The General Meeting is perhaps

the “crown” of the EASP events and activities since it gives members the opportunity to meet every three years in a major scientific celebration of the discipline. Please feel free to comment about this lively and challenging event.

Finally, regarding the content of this issue, I would like to draw your attention to two more announcements: Firstly, Anne Maass and Russell Spears, the new editors of the EJSP, present their team. They start their job with our best wishes for success at their important task for social psychology. Secondly, the Executive Committee has discussed the mail server policy of the EASP and I urge you to read the relevant announcement.

It is with great sadness that we heard the loss of Carl W. Backman, Alan Mile and Clare Cassidy. Our community is much poorer. Our thoughts go to their families, friends and colleagues. Please read the small tributes to their life.

As you have probably noticed, this issue resembles the previous ones and the heavy content testifies to the vitality of our Association. We are going to build on the legacy we’ve got but, as Fritz Strack says in his report, we are open to suggestions about the Bulletin. Nonetheless, we are introducing a novelty. In the last Executive Committee meeting it was decided that from now on the Bulletin will include a “President’s Corner” where the President of the Association will present important issues and address strategic questions. It was felt that in this way members will be better in touch with the matters that the Executive Committee deals with and we all hope that you will adopt this column.

I leave you to discover the news of our association!

*Xenia Chrysochoou
Athens, October 2008*

President's Corner

What's in a Name?

Following some interesting debate in previous issues of the Bulletin, a large majority of full members agreed, at our General Meeting in Opatija, to change the name of our society into the *European Association of Social Psychology*.

Now changing a name appears easier said than done – we need to change our website, and the URL, we need to change the logo because the famous “E” is no longer there and, less visible but no less critical, we need to change the legal incorporation of our society. The members of the Executive Committee have been working hard to make these changes happen and from January 2009 onwards our society will have a new logo, a new website, and it will be properly incorporated.

When going over the legal and judicial aspects involved in our name change it struck me that the original incorporation of EAESP took place only a few steps away from the desk where I'm currently preparing these changes. In 1970, Jaap Rabbie, professor of social psychology at Utrecht University, submitted the statutes of the “Europese Vereniging voor Experimentele Sociale Psychologie” to the Dutch Secretary of State who was acting on behalf of the Dutch Queen Juliana. On October 29, 1970 official approval was obtained and the EAESP became a legal entity. Now, almost 40 years later and here in Utrecht just two blocks away from where Jaap Rabbie lives, I'm revising the statutes to be soon approved by Juliana's daughter, Queen Beatrix. A name change is no small matter (at least not in terms of the paperwork involved...), but the fact that it is all prepared so close to where our Association began

should give all of us some confidence that continuity is in no way compromised.

I must admit that preparing the paperwork involved in our name change is not the most pleasurable activity. But it should be done properly. Fritz Strack's report elsewhere in this Bulletin shows that our Association has grown tremendously since its official inception and as much as we may like it, we cannot solely rely on informal and implicit understandings. However, once this over the Executive Committee can focus on its core business, such as facilitating the organization of small and medium size meetings, helping young researchers to travel and conduct independent studies, connecting to and collaborating with other professional societies in social psychology and adjacent fields and, most importantly perhaps, organizing the next General Meeting in 2011.

In future issues of the EBSP I will use some space to keep you updated about what the Executive Committee is doing, about the main decisions we take and the issues we ponder. There will be times where we need your input, ideas and concerns and I hope that you will not only continue to read the Bulletin but also help us making informed decisions that serve our membership and help us to promote European excellence in social psychology. Do not hesitate to submit to our bulletin or otherwise approach any of us with your ideas and suggestions.

Carsten de Dreu
Utrecht, October 20 2008

New Publications by Members

Being Human: Relationships and You: A Social Psychological Analysis

Knud S. Larsen, Reidar Ommundsen & Kees van der Veer (2008)

ISBN 978-90 5170 994 0

Rozenberg, ca. 514 pag., €49,50, NUR 770

<http://www.rozenbergps.com/index.php?frame=boek.php&item=922>

Abstract from the back cover:

This book represents a new look at social psychology and relationships for the discerning reader and university student. The title argues that the very nature of being human is defined by our relationships with others. Written in easy to follow logical progression the volume covers all major topical areas of social psychology. A common project between American and European social psychologists the interpretations of the research takes a critical stance toward dysfunction in modern societies and consequences of war and repression.

Social Psychology

current issue 3/2008 available for free download

To commemorate the 50th anniversary of the publication of Fritz Heider's 1958 book "The Psychology of Interpersonal Relations", the journal Social Psychology has released a Special Issue "50 years of attribution research" (Issue 3/2008) edited by Udo Rudolph and Rainer Reisenzein.

As a promotional measure, Hogrefe & Huber Publishers are making the full text of this special issue of Social Psychology freely available online at:

www.psychcontent.com/content/1864-9335

The contributions to the Special Issue comprise articles dealing with the history of attribution research, as well as papers that report illustrative current research on classic and novel topics documenting the continuing interest in attribution.

Table of Contents of the Special Issue

- Udo Rudolph and Rainer Reisenzein: 50 Years of Attribution Research (Editorial)
- Rainer Reisenzein and Udo Rudolph: The Discovery of Common-Sense Psychology (Introduction to the Special Issue)
- Wolfgang Schönplflug: Fritz Heider, My Academic Teacher and His Academic Teachers: Heider's "Seminar in Interpersonal Relations" and Comments on his European Background
- Rainer Reisenzein and Irina Mchitarjan: "The Teacher who had the Greatest Influence on my Thinking": Tracing Meinong's Influence on Heider
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- Birgit Schyns and Tiffany Hansbrough: Why the Brewery Ran Out of Beer - The Attribution of Mistakes in a Leadership Context

Gerd Bohner
Editor-in-Chief, Social Psychology
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A new website resource for researchers and students

www.bbcprisonstudy.org



Seven years after it was conducted — and with considerable help from colleagues across the Association — the website for the BBC Prison Study is finally up and running.

The website tells the story of the study and its exploration of the dynamics of intergroup inequality within a simulated prison setting. However, more than that, it uses the events within the study as a way of introducing and exploring many key concepts and topics in social psychology: social identity, intergroup conflict,

leadership, authoritarianism, well-being, organizational behaviour and much else besides. In addition to providing resources for academics, we have aimed to make this a lively and enjoyable way of getting students interested in these issues.

In addition to details of the study, the website has a number of layers, which delve beneath the unfolding events to address a range of underlying issues. Amongst other things, these (a) answer frequently asked questions about the study, (b) present a series of exercises and activities, and (c) provide a series of resources such as in depth explorations of key ideas, a glossary of psychological terms and access to relevant publications. There is also a series of video clips which bring the study and the ideas alive. These are both embedded within the account of the study and also accessible through a movie map. This feature makes it abundantly clear how much help we had in the design and construction of the site.

The website has already aroused considerable interest — having received some 20,000 visits from all over the world in its first 10 days. Yet, just as we relied on colleagues to produce the website, we also hope that the site can develop further through your cooperation. We have had several good ideas for additional features which should enhance its value as a teaching resource and we plan to incorporate these over time, as well, if people were interested, as translations into different languages.

There are facilities for commenting through the site itself or you can contact either of us directly: **sdr@st-andrews.ac.uk** or **a.haslam@exeter.ac.uk**. We hope the site will prove useful to you and that you will help us make it even more useful to others.

Stephen Reicher and Alex Haslam

Future EAESP Meetings - Calendar

June 11-15, 2009, Kloster Bronnbach, Wertheim, Germany

Small Group Meeting on Cognitive Consistency as an Integrative Concept in Social Cognition

Organisers: Fritz Strack & Bertram Gawronski

Contact: Bertram Gawronski (bgawrons@uwo.ca)

June 21-24, 2009, Tübingen, Germany

Small Group Meeting on Self-Regulation Approaches to Group Processes

Organisers: Kai J. Jonas, Kai Sassenberg, & Daan Scheepers

Contact: Karin Kaldewey (k.kaldewey@iwm-kmrc.de)

July 3-6, 2009, Groningen, The Netherlands

Medium Size Meeting on Collective Action and Social Change: Toward Integration and Innovation

Organisers: Martijn van Zomeren, Andrew Livingstone, Nicole Tausch & Aarti Iyer

Contact: Nicole Tausch (tauschn@cf.ac.uk)

September 7-10, 2009, Jerusalem, Israel

Small Group Meeting on Resolving Conflicts and Building Peace: Socio-Psychological Dynamics

Organisers: Daniel Bar-Tal, Christopher Cohrs, Eran Halperin, Evanthia Lyons, Dario Spini

Contact: Eran Halperin (eranh75@hotmail.com)

Future EASP Meetings

Small Group Meeting

On Self-Regulation Approaches to Group Processes

June 21-24, 2009, Tübingen, Germany

Organisers: Kai J. Jonas, Kai Sassenberg, & Daan Scheepers

Contact: Karin Kaldewey (k.kaldewey@iwm-kmrc.de)

Kai J. Jonas (k.j.jonas@uva.nl)

The integration of self-regulation theories to group processes is a relatively young and growing field of research, and it is the aim with this Small Group Meeting to document the state of the research and to further its impact. In doing so we seek to establish a more "social" view on self-regulation by focussing on the intersection of basic (intra-personal) cognitive and motivational principles and inter-personal, intra-group, and inter-group phenomena like negotiation, leadership, decision-making, stereotyping, and discrimination. Therefore, the current meeting aims to bring together research on group processes and self-regulation, recurring to a similar set of theories and foster the exchange among them.

In particular, we seek to instigate an exchange of: (a) researchers that are working on self-regulation in other domains of social psychology that can impact on the inter- and intragroup self regulation perspective, (b) scholars with a background in group research that are interested in applying self-regulation approaches and (c) finally, those who have already conducted self-regulation research on both group phenomena.

The format of the meeting is single session, with a strong focus on discussion to be reflected in the schedule. We believe that this meeting should provide a fruitful means to bring existing research accounts together. We are asking for indication of interest and/or submissions from both junior and senior researchers.

We are planning to host the meeting from the 21st of June (arrival in the evening) to the 24th of June (departure in the morning) at a cozy conference location close to Tübingen, Germany. Tübingen can be reached easily by train and is close to Stuttgart Airport with excellent connections to all major European cities, as well as direct flights to the US.

If you are interested in participating, please send an email including the title of your presentation, an abstract (max. 250 words) and your contact details to Karin Kaldewey (k.kaldewey@iwm-kmrc.de) before **15th of February 2009**. For further information please contact Kai J. Jonas (k.j.jonas@uva.nl).

Medium Size Meeting

On Collective Action and Social Change: Toward Integration and Innovation

July 3-6, 2009, Groningen, The Netherlands

Organisers: Martijn van Zomeren (University of Groningen)
Andrew Livingstone and Nicole Tausch (Cardiff University)
Aarti Iyer (University of Queensland)

Contact: Nicole Tausch (tauschn@cf.ac.uk)

The dynamics of collective action and social change in hierarchical societies have long been of interest to social psychologists. As is evident from an upcoming volume of the *Journal of Social Issues* (Iyer & Van Zomeren, 2009), theory and research on collective action has moved steadily over the last decade to *integrate* diverse psychological processes such as group identity, efficacy, emotion, empowerment, politicisation, and (moral) group norms. As such, the literature offers integrated insights into how low-status group members cope with the collective disadvantages they face.

Nevertheless, recent work has also focused on *innovation* and explored a number of novel research questions. For example, what are the factors that determine the action strategies of members of high-status or advantaged groups, ranging from solidarity with a disadvantaged group, to overt oppression? What is the role of communication in shaping social change strategies, and what are the implications of this for opinion-based groups, or for the 'radicalization' of moderate group members? What are the conditions under which support for a collective cause shifts from legal to more radical, illegal forms of action? Moreover, could

actions by high-status or advantaged group members designed to reduce inequality actually perpetuate it?

To address these issues we invite proposals for a Medium-Sized Group Meeting that will bring together researchers who are interested in integration and innovation in the field of social change and collective action. The meeting will have up to 50 participants, and we particularly encourage junior and postgraduate researchers to apply.

Applicants should submit a 250-word abstract to tauschn@cf.ac.uk before 5pm GMT on **Friday, January 30th, 2009**. Please include your name, affiliation, contact information, and EASP membership status.

Small Group Meeting

**On Resolving Societal Conflicts and Building Peace:
Socio-Psychological Dynamics**

September 7-10, 2009, Jerusalem, Israel

Organisers: Daniel Bar-Tal, Christopher Cohrs, Eran Halperin, Evanthia Lyons, Dario Spini
Contact: Eran Halperin (eranh75@hotmail.com)

One of the most important challenges faced by the international community is how to resolve intractable and long-standing inter-group conflicts peacefully and then maintain the evolved peace. Solutions to such conflicts are often reached through processes of negotiation, mediation and arbitration between leaders, but their lasting success largely depends on the degree of support they

command from the peoples involved in the conflict. The support of society members in turn depends on major changes in the societal repertoire which through the years of conflict was dominated by societal beliefs, attitudes and emotions that perpetuated continuation of the conflict. These changes are especially important if the societies decide to embark on the road of peace building via reconciliation processes.

The small meeting will be preoccupied with the following questions: What are the psychological conditions and processes that deescalate intractable conflict and move it towards its peaceful resolution? Or how can the socio-psychological repertoire that fuelled the continuation of the conflict be changed? How is peaceful resolution achieved? What are the socio-psychological processes and outcomes of reconciliation and how can they be facilitated?

In recent years there has been a growing interest among social psychologists in providing answers to these questions. This has led to the emergence of new perspectives and the publication of some innovative studies in the field. This Small Group Meeting aims to provide a forum where established and junior researchers will present recent empirical studies and social psychological theoretical statements that will comprise the basis for discussions of the current state of the art in this area and the direction(s) that future social psychological research should take to contribute to a useful and better understanding of inter-group conflict resolution and peace building.

The meeting will take place in Israel, close to Jerusalem, which provides an appropriate context for our deliberations given its history of conflict and attempts for peace building. The participants will have the opportunity to join an organised tour in the conflict zone-Jerusalem, listen to a lecture from practitioners, as well as to hear presentations that focus on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

The meeting will have a maximum of 27 participants. The accommodations (two participants in a room), events, a tour, and all the meals will be covered from the evening of Sept 7 until the morning of Sept 10. However participants will be asked cover to their travel to the venue of the meeting and pay 100 Euros fee to help to cover all the expenses.

Original papers are invited from both established and more junior researchers. We particularly welcome original conceptual papers based on empirical data that can advance our understanding of the psychological dynamics that contribute to the peaceful resolution of real societal conflicts and reconciliation. We also welcome original theoretical papers focusing on the integration of interdisciplinary knowledge which illuminates new understanding of inter-group conflict resolution and peace building.

Those interested in participating should submit 1) a cover page with their name, institutional affiliation, contact details and membership status in EASP, 2) an abstract of 150 words and 3) a longer summary (500 words) of their contribution by **April 30 2009** to Eran Halperin (eranh75@hotmailcom).

Reports of Previous Meetings

Small Group Meeting on Emotions, Social Identity, and Intergroup Conflict

June 6-9, 2008, Landgoed Ekenstein, Appingedam, The Netherlands
Organizers: Sabine Otten, Ernestine Gordijn, Elanor Kamans & Margriet Braun (University of Groningen)

This small group meeting was a three-day event inspired by the 15th anniversary of the Intergroup Emotions Theory (Smith, 1993). The IET states that *group-based* appraisals and emotions are important for how people respond in situations where their group membership is salient. There were 27 participants from all over the world: Germany, England, Norway, Belgium, Italy, Australia, America, Hungary and the Netherlands. With 5 poster presentations and 17 talks we had an interesting and full program.

The talks and posters covered a wide range of topics but were all linked to the theme: emotions, social identity and intergroup conflict. The program started with an overview by Elliot Smith of his work on intergroup emotions. His talk showed that intergroup emotions are real (and not just responses to experimental demands), are truly group level and motivate and direct several types of group relevant behavior. Several authors then gave presentations from different angles about their recent findings in research on intergroup emotions.

On the first day Job Van der Schalk presented his work on mimicry of group based emotions. He showed research in which he used facial EMG data investigating the role of group membership in emotional contagion. Later on Angela Maitner talked about how social identification impacts the perspective through which

individuals perceive the world and how this perspective influences individuals' emotional experiences. Margriet Braun also showed how group membership determines how people see the world. In her talk about the role of ambiguity in intergroup conflict, she showed that in the case of ambiguous behavior ingroup members are given the benefit of the doubt (ingroup favoritism), but are worse off when behavior is unambiguous (black-sheep effect). Eva Fülöp talked about how historical events influence intergroup relations and emotions

A couple of speakers presented work on how threat appraisals shape emotional responses. Elanor Kamans and Toon Kuppens both presented work based on the Cotrell & Neuberg Model (2006). Kamans showed how different kinds of threat lead to different emotional reactions. Kuppens showed how categorization influences which threats are perceived and which emotions are experienced. Andrew Livingstone talked about how threat appraisals and appraisals of illegitimacy influence identity protection orientations.

Another popular theme was mistreatment by the ingroup. Thomas Morton talked about the effects of using humanity as a social category. His work shows that groups can use notions of humanity to absolve themselves of responsibility for past harm by seeing their actions as "only human". Nicolay Gausel talked about when shame can be pro-social, namely when people don't feel exposed. Roland Imhoff showed how guilt can contribute to more positive attitudes and reparation behavior. Sven Zebel also talked about intergroup emotions to mistreatments. He distinguished between past mistreatments by the ingroup and mistreatments that are still going on. He showed that in the case of ongoing mistreatment the more people are self-invested in the group, the more they make appraisals of dissimilarity which leads to less guilt and anger.

Emma Thomas talked about how we can get groups to show more commitment to the promotion of development and international cooperation to "Make Poverty History". Her work shows that this can be done by group based interaction in opinion based groups. Aarti Iyer also talked about collective action. More precisely she talked about how men and woman deal with gender inequality. She showed that when it comes to collective actions advantaged and disadvantaged groups "use" different pathways, with distinct identity concerns and emotional responses.

Russell Spears talked about group-based schadenfreude and compared this with other pleasurable emotions like pride and joy. Colin Leach wondered why the focus in intergroup emotion research is so much on the negative emotions. He proposed a shift in intergroup emotion research and urged us to focus on pride and morality. Martijn van Zomeren eventually gave a talk in which he presented a meta-analysis on group-based emotion and in which the functionality of emotions played a central role.

Because of the great weather we were able to have the poster session in the large garden of Landgoed Ekenstein. There was over an hour of time available for the posters, which appeared to be a good condition for lively discussions. Besides the participants of the small group meeting, two peacocks were also interested in the research shown on the posters...

Of course there was also time for a social event: a cooking workshop. We were divided into 5 groups and each group prepared a course for the dinner. Can you imagine 27 social psychologists working in groups in a kitchen? We would have been a great research population because intergroup processes were quickly visible: competition, the need for positive distinctiveness and ingroup bias! Fortunately this all led to an excellent five-course dinner.

The meeting took place on a lovely estate on the Dutch country side. But who thought that the countryside is a quiet place..... Some of the participants will never forget to bring earplugs again! Cock-crowling at three, five and seven o'clock in the morning woke them on Friday, Saturday and Sunday... Nevertheless we had a very interesting and fruitful meeting on Intergroup Emotion Theory.

**Small Group Meeting on Dehumanization:
Determinants and Consequences of Perceiving Others
less than Humans**

At Kazimierz Dolny, Poland, June 6-9, 2008

Organisers: M. Kofta, J.-P. Leyens, E. Castano, M. Bilewicz

From June 6 to June 9, 2008, a group of over 40 researchers from Europe, the United States and Australia came together to discuss the state-of-the-art in dehumanization research.

The conference provided an invaluable opportunity of bringing together scholars who investigate different aspects of dehumanization – examining harsher or milder forms, either at the level of traits or emotions, using different types of methods and approaches. Recent developments and findings were presented by both junior and senior researchers, offering lots of room for stimulating debate and intellectual exchange. The lively and engaging discussions following the presentations took place in a warm atmosphere, integrating different outlooks and perspectives.

The Small Group Meeting started with the “New Ideas” pre-conference held at the University of Warsaw, with keynote talks by outstanding scholars, among whom were Emanuele Castano, Nick Haslam, Jacques-Philippe Leyens, Andrzej Nowak, Susan Opatow,

Tom Pyszczynski, and Bogdan Wojciszke. After the inspiring “kick off”, the conference confederates left for Kazimierz Dolny, where the Small Group Meeting was scheduled. The bus-ride, though lengthy, provided us with an ideal chance to connect with the other conference participants. However, after a long day of travelling, everybody felt relieved when we finally reached our destination, a picturesque small village near the Vistula River. The Small Group Meeting then officially started with a late, but delicious dinner at a local restaurant famous for its tasty traditional Jewish-Polish food.

To address and discuss different facets of dehumanization, a total of eight sessions were scheduled, each consisting of two to four oral presentations per session. In addition, participants had the opportunity of presenting their work at a poster session that marked the end of the second day of the conference. Extensive lunch breaks invited for strolls around the town or along the river, providing a chance to network, to inspire collaborations or simply, to enjoy the sunny weather! The evenings were equally enjoyable, as the garden was the perfect setting to relax, enabling us to shift the focus from social “science” to the mere “social” aspect of the conference. Mirosław Kofta complemented the amiable atmosphere by entertaining us with his brilliant piano improvisations.

However, now that you know that the group quite enjoyed the social part of the meeting, let us turn the focus to the - equally exciting – scientific program of the conference: After a warm welcome by the organizers, we started the academic program with the first session on Saturday morning, learning more about the nature of dehumanization processes. In the first talk, Paul Bain proposed a non-essentialist account of subtle dehumanization. This was followed by Stephen Loughnan’s presentation on “attribute-based” versus “metaphor-based” dehumanization. Within the former approach, others are perceived as lacking attributes that represent the human essence, whereas within the latter approach,

others are likened to non-humans, such as animals or machines. Chiara Storari examined animalistic dehumanization more closely, suggesting that groups can be animalized by positive terms, which aren't the simple opposition to uniquely human characteristics. The second session revolved around stereotyping, objectification and dehumanization, with Jeroen Vaes introducing us to the aspect of humanness in group stereotypes, drawing on the Stereotype Content Model. Flavia Albarello investigated the role of dehumanization in leading to linguistic discrimination, both subtle and more direct, in terms of insults. In the last talk before lunch, Aurore Krebeck presented her work on the influence of stereotype content on the expression of inhumanization, tackling the question of whether context mediates the effect of threat on inhumanization.

The third session after the lunch break addressed the interplay between dehumanization and morality. Susan Opatow offered us her insights regarding the dynamics of both inclusionary and exclusionary change, mapping Moral Exclusion theory on historical data pertaining to African-American well-being during the American post-civil war periods of Reconstruction and "Jim Crow". Subsequently, Brock Bastian outlined his research with an emphasis on three aspects of morality in person perception, namely, moral blame, moral praise and moral patiency. Taking into account the Iranian context, Tom Pyszczynski presented work on Terror Management Theory, examining the effects of death salience on support for terrorism and vice versa. In the last talk of the session, Anja Zimmermann addressed the relation between the four components of dehumanization (humanity and animality of in- vs. outgroup) and outgroup-focused outcome variables related to terror threat preventions, also taking into account the mediating role of moral responsibility.

The importance of morality in dehumanization was discussed further in the fourth and final session of the day. In his talk, Bernard Leidner explored the mechanisms underlying the denial of human nature traits and investigated the role of ingroup glorification as a moderator. Furthermore, he tackled the question of whether this form of dehumanization might be an intergroup phenomenon that is independent of meaningful ingroup – outgroup distinctions and that functions in terms of a moral disengagement strategy.

Sabina Cehajic's research investigated the effects of perceived ingroup responsibility on victim derogation and empathy for the victim both in the Chilean context and among Bosnian Serbs and Muslims. For both cultural contexts, Sabina found that the results perception of high ingroup responsibility led to decreased attribution of secondary emotions to the victim group, whereas no effect was found on the dimension of primary emotions. The attribution of secondary emotions to the victim group was a significant predictor for self-reported empathy for the victim group.

Next, Patrycia Slawuta presented her work on "Shared culture, collective guilt and (de) humanization of a victimized outgroup". She reported findings highlighting the importance of perceived cultural closeness, particularly when it comes to experiencing collective guilt and humanizing the victimized outgroup. Emanuele Castano closed the day with his presentation on the language of moral disengagement, showing that both the group membership of the perpetrator and their and self-reported ingroup glorification affected the way in which participants summarized a text that described torture and killings either committed by the in- or outgroup. Analyses on the produced texts revealed that high ingroup glorifiers particularly minimized the events and refrained from assuming responsibility when members of their own group were the perpetrators.

Day 2 of the conference started with a session on the overall theme of infrahumanization and intergroup relations. Julie Collange' posed the question of whether infra-humanization might have a protective function for individual ingroup members. It doesn't! In the second talk, Mariana Miranda investigated the role of group status in infrahumanization, focusing on samples of white, black and gipsy adolescents. The research examined what these groups would regard as uniquely human and then analyzed the differential ascriptions of these facets to the different groups. As the final speaker of the session, Miroslav Kofta addressed the relationship between ingroup bias and infrahumanization, showing in two minimal-group studies that the tendency to be more positive toward ingroupers than outgroupers is a process which is distinct from infra-humanization. After brief refreshments and coffee, we continued with the sixth session. Giulio Boccatto presented his current research using a digital morphing technique to merge human with ape faces. These faces were constructed such as to represent ambiguous types and were implemented in a reaction-time task. Participants were asked to categorize the merged pictures as human vs. nonhuman and were told that these either represented ingroup or outgroup members. As predicted, two experiments showed that people apparently exclude examples that do not distinguish clearly human from the ingroup, whereas these ambiguous stimuli are accepted as potential members of an outgroup. Thus, the ingroup is perceived as more human, and its humanity is actively protected. In the subsequent talk, Thomasz Baran focused on three factors that affect our tendency to infra-humanize members of an outgroup, namely, categorization, cooperation and competition. This was followed by Afrodita Marcu's analysis of socio-cognitive and ideological aspects of the dehumanization of others based on data from Romania and Britain. The session closed with Friederike Eyssel, presenting research addressing the moderating role of psychological closeness in infrahumanization, investigating the perception of robots, dogs, social categories and humans.

The afternoon session was initiated with a talk by Shantal Marshall that looked into how our representation of human evolution impacts the extent to which we are sensitive to racial inequality. She found that after reading about human evolution, participants were less interested in learning about racial inequality and were also less emotionally moved and concerned for the disadvantaged group. This effect seemed to be specific to racial inequality. Tendayi Viki was the last speaker in the afternoon, sharing with us his findings on infrahumanization and attitudes toward the ill-treatment and social exclusion of Muslims. The poster session that followed allowed for more discussion and exchange in front of the many informative posters of the presenters.

Day 3 of the conference was dedicated to core issues in the domain of dehumanization research. Firstly, Nick Haslam offered an overview on forms of dehumanization, by proposing two distinct senses of humanness that contrasts humans from different types of nonhumans, leading to different behavioural consequences. Jacques-Philippe Leyens closed the academic program by providing not only a reflection of the crucial issues raised during our meeting, but also by sharing his insights regarding necessary and sufficient conditions of infrahumanization.

Heartfelt thanks to EAESP and the excellent organizing committee for making this Small Group Meeting possible! It was an invaluable experience to share knowledge and ideas with a group of not only great researchers, but plainly, just great people!

Friederike Eyssel, Bielefeld, Germany

15th General Meeting of the EAESP

June 10-14, 2008, Opatija, Croatia

Organisers: Dinka Corkalo Biruski & Dean Ajdukovic**Past President's report¹**

Dear colleagues and friends,

It is hard to believe that three years have passed since we have met last time in Würzburg. Time flies and another Executive Committee will step down and pass the torch on to a – at least in part – new group of members to represent the association. For my outgoing colleagues and myself, it was a great privilege to serve the association as editor of the European Journal, as treasurer, as organizer of a General Meeting and for the last three years as its president.

And in this capacity, I would like to inform you about what has happened since 2005. Let me tell you that I have predominantly good news. And this is not so much because the Executive Committee has done a good job – which I think it has – but because “social psychology in Europe” is simply a success story. And remarkably, this is not only obvious by what has happened IN Europe but also by what European Social Psychologists have contributed to activities beyond the shores of our continent. A report about the state of social psychology in Europe would not be complete if it were not to acknowledge the increasing role that European social psychologists play abroad, and particularly in

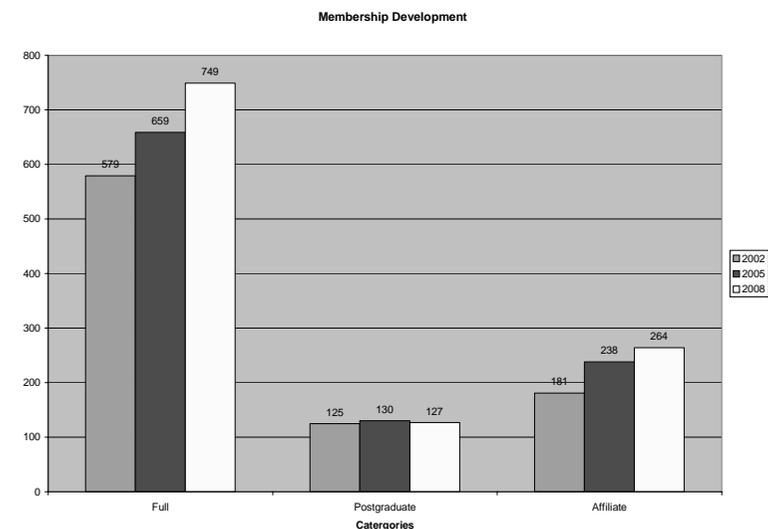
¹ this is slightly edited version of the past President's report given by Fritz Strack at the Business Meeting in Opatija

North America. Not only as authors, but also as members of the editorial teams of the leading international journals. And as much as this may blur the distinction between European and non-European social psychology, I believe it is a wonderful development in the right direction.

Membership

Of course, the greatest asset of our society is its membership. Your contributions, ideas, activities made the European Association of Experimental Social Psychology what it is today. Therefore, the state and development of our memberships comes first in my report.

As you may remember the last General Meeting was the occasion when we welcomed our 1000th member. Today it would be member number 1140, which means another 11% increase in only three years.



As in previous years, this increase is mainly due to a jump in the full members and a moderate increase in postgraduate members, which suggests that despite the intended transition from postgraduate to full membership, there is a net increase in the postgraduate members, which allows to be optimistic for the future. This also makes clear that the investment of the association in subsidizing and supporting our young colleagues is not only justified because it helps promote their work and career, it also pays off in the number of full and fully contributing members.

As always, let's take a look where our members come from. Not surprisingly, it is the Netherlands, the UK and Germany, in this order. Looking at the increase over the past three years, it is interesting that the Netherlands have remained constant while Britain and Germany have increased their member by 21% and 15%. I don't know if there is a kind of satiation the country with the world's largest number of social psychologist per capita. Looking at remarkable increases in countries with so far less members, we find that the greatest proportional raise was in Sweden where the membership doubled from 5 to 10, followed by Switzerland with an increase of 52%, Italy with 33%, Portugal 28%, Poland 20% and France 18%.

Looking too much at the nationalities is something is not in the European spirit. But we should be aware that social psychology flourishes not equally on our continent and that even on a high level, but particularly on the low levels, there is room for improvement. Specifically, we hope that beyond Poland, we will be able to welcome more members from Eastern European countries and expect that having the General Meeting for the first time in an Southeastern European country will attract people to our field and our association. At this point again our sincere thanks to Dinka and Dean as the principle organizers and to everybody who has contributed to the spectacular success of this meeting,

The treasurer will soon tell you exactly, how we have spent your money but I want have the privilege to report about the activities that our association has unfolded since the last meeting in Würzburg.

Meetings

Let me start with the meetings that we have initiated. Of course, the big and perhaps most important event is the Summer School that was held in 2006 in Padova. As before, this was a tremendous success, for which we want to thank Luciano Arcuri, Anne Mass and their team who did a wonderful job in organizing the meeting and in creating this uniquely stimulating and convivial atmosphere for more than 60 doctoral students. As we all know, the European summer schools are landmark events for our young colleagues, events that are not only remembered until their retirement, but that are also a unique opportunities colleagues to create networks that allow informal exchanges and stimulations that may last for an entire career.

I am pleased to announce that the next summer school will be held in Cardiff this August, competently organized by Russell Spears and his team. As an innovative feature, the European Social Cognition Network (ESCON) is contributing a substantial amount and thereby sponsoring an additional workshop on Social Cognition. Things are already shaping up nicely and our sincere thanks go to Russell and his colleagues in Wales.

In this respect, I would like to remind you that the summer school activities involve an exchange with SPSP that organizes Summer Institute of Social Psychology (SISP). Specifically, five American students who are selected by SPSP participate in our summer school and, in return the same number of European students (selected by us) are invited to be part of the American Summer Institute. This

exchange is really working very well and there are always many more applicants than can be admitted.

Beyond the Summer School, there are the scientific meetings that the European Association has sponsored (2005-2007) 10 Small Group Meetings with about 30 participants each and 8 Medium-Size and Joint Meetings with SPSSI attended by about 50-60 colleagues. Compared to the preceding period, this was a bit of a decrease in Small Group Meetings and an increase in Medium-Size meetings.

Grants

Another important means of support are the various grants. And here, we have decided to implement some changes.

As you may remember, we have the following three categories of grants:

- postgraduate and postdoctoral travel grant
- postdoctoral 'seedcorn' research grant
- regional activity grant

Up to the office period of this executive committee, the maximum support for travel was €1.350,- and for seedcorn grants €2250,-. The present Executive Committee has decided to implement some changes. We felt that it justified to somewhat reduce the individual support and thereby respond to the increased demands within the budget, particularly for travel grants. Therefore, we reduced the travel grants to €800,- and the seedcorn grants to €2.000,- which allows us to award 20 travel grants and four seedcorn grants per year. To further facilitate our financial planning, we have also introduced and announced four deadlines for grant applications and a more formal evaluation of the seedcorn grants.

In recent years, it has become more and more successful, with an increasing amount of applications by postgraduate and full members from around seven countries.

Grants 2005
 travel grants: 9 (+ 5 SPSP summer school participants) = 14
 regional support: 2
 seedcorn grants: 5

Grants 2006:
 travel grants: 18
 regional support: 1
 seedcorn grants: 3

Grants 2007:
 travel grants: 17 (+ 5 SPSP summer school participants) = 21
 regional support: 0
 seedcorn grants: 7

Here, thanks go to Patrizia Catellani and Miguel Moya for supervising the grant process during the three year term.

International Cooperation

I have already mentioned the very successful summer school exchange with SPSP. Beyond that, and also in collaboration with SPSP, we offer "International Teaching Fellowships » which, however, has not met any demand during the last four years.

Our cooperation with SPSSI (Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues) consists of supporting a conference per year that is of joint interest for the two societies, to be held alternating in North America and Europe. We agreed with SPSSI that each society

should contribute \$ 3500 per conference and that the deadlines for the meeting applications should be synchronized.

In the 2005-2008 period the following joint conferences were funded:

- 1) *Multiple Perspectives on Real World Helping and Social Action*, June 2006, Long Beach, CA, USA.
- 2) *International Perspectives on Immigration. Immigrants and Hosts: Perceptions, Interactions, and Transformations*, May/June 2007, Toronto, Canada (this meeting was in honor of Ken Dion, a former Associate Editor of EJSP).
- 3) *Intergroup contact: Recent Advancements in Basic and Applied Research*, August 2008, Marburg, Germany.

European Initiatives

As to the Association's activities within the framework of the European Union, at least two things are worth mentioning.

First, the Executive Committee decided to try and obtain a Marie-Curie Grant of the European Science Foundation. The proposal, written by Eddy Van Avermaet and approved by the Committee, aimed at getting support towards the organisation of two summerschools and towards the organisation of a series of conferences. It was intended to reduce the burden of finding sufficient resources to cover the costs of summer schools from the shoulders of potential organizers and, as a consequence to find more people willing to organize summer schools.

This initiative was also meant to ease the appropriation of funds for mid-size meetings. Unfortunately the ESF decided not to support the proposal. We tried a second time, taking into account the

comments on the first application, but again we were not successful.

We learned afterwards that, given the strong competition for these Marie-Curie Grants (only 10% of the applications are funded), ESF decided not to support organizations which by themselves seem strong enough to support these kinds of initiatives.

The second European activity was to strengthen our ties with EU-level lobbying groups that try and have an impact on the structure and decision policies of the European Research Council (ERC), the EC decided to join the 'Initiative for Science in Europe' group (ISE). The group focuses on protecting basic science from political influence, on protecting the ERC budget from intrusions of some of the EU Framework programmes, and on protecting applicants for ERC grants from the burden of EU red tape.

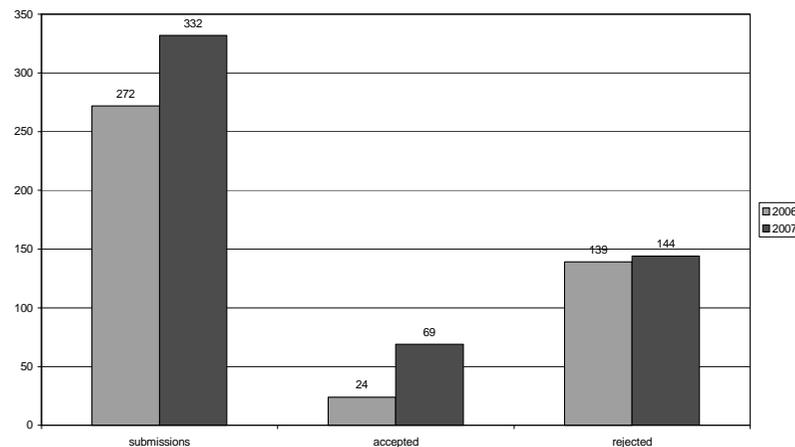
All in all, the EC feels that it has done its best in attempting to touch base with various EU-level activities. No doubt, it remains the challenge for the next EC to reap more returns and to have a greater impact at this level.

Publications

Let me now talk about another important scientific and also financial pillar of our association, namely its publications.

Most important, of course, the **European Journal of Social Psychology** which has been flourishing under the excellent editorship of Leonel Garcia-Marques and his team with a dramatically increasing number of submissions by 22%.

Submissions to EJSP January 2006 to December 2007



Looking at the numbers for 2008, there will most likely be another increase. That's great news showing that our journal is considered to be one of the top outlets for outstanding research in social psychology.

As you may know, the term of the editorship is now three years, so that each Executive Committee has to appoint a new editor. And I am proud to announce our new editors. And there is an innovation such that we shall appoint two chief editors who will divide the main responsibility equally across the two years. And their names are Anne Mass and Russell Spears!

The second excellent news about the journal is that Wiley has merged with Blackwell, who are in charge of the European Journal. We had the chance to meet with two Blackwell representatives last Fall and our feeling was that a new era had started. In particular, we felt that the Blackwell people, given their unique expertise with journals that are owned by academic societies were able to adopt

our perspective and react very sensibly to our needs. For example, they promised and delivered a detailed and transparent financial statement as well as detailed forecasts for the coming years about the implications of which you will hear from our treasurer.

Equally important, perhaps, is the clear perspective they had for the journal and the services they offered to the editors and the society. As a consequence, we are receiving a yearly report on the journal that includes all the figures needed to evaluate its economic and academic performance. Also, Blackwell organizes seminars for editors and offers special information packages that gives them advice on how to deal with new or unusual situations, like suspected plagiarism and the like.

Now, let me talk a little bit about how the journal and its more commercial development during the last years. Perhaps most important is the irreversible fact that the electronic access has increased and will further increase in the future at the expense of the printed version. In 2007, more than 2000 institutions had electronic access to the European Journal and the number of downloaded articles has by 15% from 2006 to 2007. Typically, the electronic subscription to the European Journal occurs within consortia that are bought by the university libraries. Within the Wiley consortium called InterScience, we seem to have an excellent standing. Specifically, the total number of downloads for the European Journal was 51% higher than the average downloads the other psychology titles. The electronic accessibility is, of course, cost effective, and we used this as a chance to save money by providing the journal to our postgraduate members only in electronic form.

We might also mention that the internal layout of the journal was redesigned to allow for additional articles per issue and to further reduce costs, printing has moved to Singapore.

As far as the impact is concerned, there was an all time peak in 2005 (1.6), which was somewhat reduced in 2006 (1.3), but still in the solid range between 1 and 1.5 citations per article.

Given these new developments, I think we are justified to be quite optimistic about the future of the European Journal and wish our new editors who will take over at the end of the year the best of luck.

The outlet meant to communicate theoretical developments based on empirical research is, of course, the **European Review of Social psychology**. Here, as in the last 19 years before, sincere thanks go to Wolfgang Stroebe and Miles Hewstone. Wolfgang and Miles have done an admirable job in spreading important conceptual ideas and helping our colleagues to communicate their thoughts. 19 volumes have meanwhile been published and distributed. That's great, but here comes the draw back : the subscribers are almost exclusively our members. This is not bad by itself, but books are meant to be sold on the market, and in this case, the market are the libraries. And here we have a problem : while we had – in 2007 – 1050 copies delivered to our members, we had only 46 institutional subscriptions. This must change and therefore, I would really urge to encourage your library to subscribe to the European Review. From our side, we have requested Psychology Press to get the European Review listed with ISI, which is often a formal criterion for libraries. Based on our informal assessments, we do believe the number of citations are quite respectable and certainly above the limit for being included into the Social Science Citation Index. However, the process takes some time, but the publisher has been promised a decision in 2008. For the sake of completeness, I might add that the Review has now its own website, subscribers can download the full articles and there is an alerting service available.

Finally, there are the **European Monographs** in Social Psychology, published by Psychology Press, under the competent editorship of

Rupert Brown. The series has continuously published high quality research monographs that represent the best programmatic social psychology in Europe. Since its re-launch in 1993, nine titles have been published. The most recent volume (2008) is Helga Dittmar's book titled *Consumer Culture, Identity and Well-being: the search for the "Good Life" and the "Body Perfect" »*. Several other volumes have been contracted for the Series and these will appear over the next few years. Rupert has explicitly asked me to encourage members to informally discuss with him ideas for a book proposals before submitting them to the publishers.

The **European Bulletin** is doing fine under the editorship of our secretary Russell Spears. Complementing our **website**, it is a central instrument of communication for of our Association in that draws people's attention to events and ongoing developments in our society. Along with the website that is skilfully administered by Sibylle Classen I think the EC succeeded in staying in close touch with you, but we and our successors are, of course, open to suggestions and improvements.

It is a necessary instrument that comes as a most useful complement to the web site. Russell and Sibylle have been working hard to provide us with valuable information regarding the activities of our Association.

Challenges for the Future

As you may agree with me, the EAESP is in very good shape and the developments that have taken place during the last three years, particularly concerning the new type of understanding with the publishers of the European Journal give us reason to look optimistically into the future. We are steadily growing, our finances are solid and last but not least, Social Psychology is flourishing in Europe and beyond.

Let me take the opportunity to look into the future and to ruminate a little about the role of our society. Basically, I see three topics.

First, the European Union. It is obvious that research funding will be increasingly allocated at EU institutions where its Research Council assumes an increasingly important role. It is the proclaimed goal to have researchers compete with each other for funds on the European level, and this is likely to become a standard procedure in the future. But also on other levels, the role of the EU as a supporter of scientific activities will increase. We have already made our experiences with applications for financial support and we should continue to keep a close eye on the developments in Brussels. This will be an important project for the next ECs.

Second: Eastern European countries. There is room for improvement. The most important thing we can do is to improve our visibility and to offer our services. Particularly the travel grants for young scientists, the regional support grants and free electronic access to the journal and the review are means that should help those who want to establish social psychology at their universities. Last term, we have organized a meeting with interested colleagues from the East and this time, we succeeded in finding colleagues from a Eastern European country to organize the General Meeting. We believe and hope that this event will be a beacon in the entire region and will stimulate the growth of our field. I am particularly pleased to see that topics that have been a special concern on the Balkans and that have lead to important research initiatives were prominently represented in this conference. This should also be understood as a signal to our colleagues in Eastern Europe, demonstrating that we also can provide platforms for scientific exchanges on issues of more regional significance, that may eventually prove to have fundamental implications for the field as a whole.

My final point, and those who know me will not be surprised, is the universality of our field. As I was pleased and proud to report about the international eminence of social psychology “made in Europe” and about our members’ positions as authors, award winners and editors of international journals, it seems obvious that the times have passed when European social psychology needed to be protected from nonEuropean influences. Today, we have all reasons to be confident that our contributions are at equal standing with those from other countries, including those from North America. At the same time, we are full members, often even fellows of their academic societies, and I am mentioning APS, SPSP, SPSSI and SESP as examples.

And in this context, I am convinced that our distinction between “full” European and “affiliate” nonEuropean members is not only discriminating, it is also anachronistic. Our statutes say that “the purpose and objects of the Association are the promotion and development of social psychology within Europe”, and I believe that every qualified colleague who subscribes to this goal should be able to become a full member of our society, regardless of gender, age, ethnic background, nationality or country of residence. Abolishing this discrimination could be a timely signal of confidence from which the European Association can only profit, and I hope the next EC will take a step in this direction.

Before I close my report, please let me thank again all of those who have contributed to the success of the EAESP during the last three years: the members of our EC, the editors of our journals, the organizers of meetings and conferences, in particularly this excellent General Meeting, and to all of you for your support on many dimensions. But one expression of thanks requires special mentioning of a person without whom our society would not be what it is. This person is really the heart, mind and memory of our society, without her (yes, it’s a “she”), we would be lost. Let me assure, this person is the force behind most activities of our society

and she and the spirit behind many. Of course, you have already guessed about who I am talking: it is our one and only Sibylle Classen who deserves our enthusiastic thanks for all she has done not only during the past three years but far beyond.

And before I leave, let me thank you, the members again for this wonderful and rewarding opportunity to serve the EAESP.

Fritz Strack
President 2005-2008

**General Meeting from the view of the Organizer:
A short note of encouragement for the next round**

We all are back home. The General Meeting is over. And vacation for most of us who organized it or attended is also over. We have had enough time to consolidate our impressions, and cherish sweet memories. Now it's time to reflect and weight all good and not-so-good things (luckily, there is an optimism of memory phenomenon) about the 15th General Meeting of the EA(E)SP.

How did we end up organizing the General Meeting? The first step should have been a decision to do it. However, it wasn't a real decision, at least not the one made after hours and hours of thinking about pros and cons. Back in early spring 2005 in Budapest when the meeting of Eastern European psychologist and EAESP EC members was held, everything seemed so natural. We were having dinner somewhere in downtown in Budapest, after spending the whole day discussing similarities and differences of western and eastern social psychology traditions. The mood was energizing and full of cooperative spirit. The issue about the place for the next General Meeting come up and somehow there was a consensus that

the next meeting should be organized in one of the Eastern European country. It seemed so perfect to suggest Croatia. And I suggested Dubrovnik. I remember Russel was thrilled. A week latter I learned that Dubrovnik could not receive as many as one thousand people for the conference. I was so disappointed. I was already seeing the General Meeting going somewhere else. And then Dean came up with a life-saving idea – he mentioned Opatija and the star (for the next General Meeting) was born!

The rest is history, however the whole point of this text is to share this history with you. I already told you at the General Meeting's Award Session that Croatians simply adore history (this is why I like so much to study nationalism and conflict – it is how I can claim to do psychology while I actually deal with history).

There are several steps one should carry out when deciding to organize such a big conference. The first one is to *choose the right place*. Once upon a time there was a meeting in Budapest... Ups, I already told you this story!

The second important thing is to *choose the right team!* I was extremely lucky that Dean Ajdukovic, the chair of the social psychology division was also the head of our Department at that time, so we could share the same enthusiasm about organizing this wonderful review of European social psychology. I simply have to mention once more people whom I owe everything for helping me in organizing this event – social psychologists Zeljka Kamenov, Margareta Jelic and Aleksandra Huic. There are many more people behind the scene, and first of all the dedicated group of people from the Society for Psychological Assistance. We owe them that things went smoothly at the conference. And our young and committed students made their effort to make this event more successful.

I also think that a crucial point was a close and *cooperative collaboration among the Executive Committee of the Association,*

Organizing and Program Committees. We have really enjoyed working with Fritz Strack, the past president of the EAESP, who was very helpful and who willingly shared his experiences as the organizer of the Meeting in Wuertzburg. The whole EAESP Executive Committee was also very encouraging and supportive. Above all there was – Sibylle, the guardian angel of the Association and a person whom I could have turned to whenever I had doubts, difficulties or confusions. We worked with her very smoothly and this is an important point – the General Meeting is a business of the whole Association and it's necessary to assure support, time and energy of the executives. It means a lot of e-mails going in and out of your inbox; however there is no other way. I personally have learned a lot about importance of information sharing. An idea to have the meeting of the Program Committee and the local organizers at the place where the conference will happen was a very good one and I strongly believe it should be maintained. It makes a job of the Program Committee much easier. However one should not neglect that this meeting was an excellent opportunity for the two committees to come together, get to know each other and make important decisions that influenced the whole upcoming event and the atmosphere there. Jens Foerster was a cooperative and organized partner and we resolved our disagreements along the way and with ease.

There are few points we made differently from what they were used to be. We started the conference not only with the welcome reception but also with a small *opening ceremony*. I firmly believe we should keep this and make it a tradition. The opening ceremony is a nice opportunity for the organizers to introduce themselves, welcome the guests, and set the atmosphere for what follows – meeting friends and colleagues at the reception and afterwards at the conference sessions.

We also had the *conference dinner* a day earlier than it was a routine at the General Meeting. Although we did it for a practical

reason (we could not find an attractive place on the last conference day since other events were going on), it's worthwhile to think about doing it again. Our main fear was that maybe the next day sessions would not be attended so well, however it turned out we feared for no reason. What we have not done and the next organizers might consider as a good idea is to have a small *closing ceremony* after all the sessions are over.

European Association for Social Psychology has become big organization and it is growing more and more. At this year's General Meeting there were 955 participants from 34 countries, mostly from Europe, but also from other countries all over the world! There were 544 members participating and you can do the math on how many non-members also found out that they should have been there and contributed to the program. It's a nice success and we should certainly keep it this way. Unfortunately we could not attract very many people from the region to participate, although the social psychologists have done lot of work here for the last ten years. How to attract *more participants from less known social psychology departments* is a task we should think about for the future meeting.

At the end, when the lights went off, I can say I am glad and honored that we had the chance to organize the 15th General Meeting. I think it was an important opportunity for Croatian social psychology and an important step for the Association to get closer and make a bridge to the professional audience in this part of Europe. Although we did our best to make the Meeting successful I know it was not faultless. However I hope that mistakes could be used as important experiences to learn from. What I hope even more is that the participants will smile with joy and warm memories when remembering the 15th General Meeting.

Dinka Corkalo Biruski

Reports from Participants

“Bringing 900 social psychologists to Opatija...”

...may sound like a challenge, but the 15th General Meeting was successful and decently organised. Both the scientific programme and the local organising committee should be congratulated for the overall organisation and smooth running of this important event. This was my second EAESP (now EASP) general meeting; this was also the first - official - general meeting to take place at the Mediterranean coast. From this point of view, Opatija was a somewhat exotic choice for many delegates. A friendly town, with a long history as a seaside resort, Opatija is enjoyable and easy to get around. Despite being partly overshadowed by the EURO 2008 football cup, this year's general meeting was well attended, although my impression is that participation of younger members (students and postdocs) was reduced, compared to the previous meeting, which may be partly related to the higher transport costs and longer connections involved.

The opening talks narrated in more detail all the long and complex processes, scientific and logistic, that took place behind the scenes, and culminated in such rich and stimulating programme. The rewarding cocktail reception was an excellent opportunity to catch up with friends and collaborators, and taste local delicacies next to the pool.

Marking the formal commencement of the scientific programme, our very own Tony Manstead delivered the Henri Tajfel lecture on the *Social dimension of emotion*, for his lifetime contribution to the field. Over the next four days, over 400 papers were delivered in symposia and thematic sessions at the two main venues of the conference. With 11 parallel sessions and symposia, there were

almost always overlaps of interesting talks; but this is only to be expected at a conference the size of the EASP General Meeting.

On this front, perhaps the concentration of all activities in only one venue (similar to the Würzburg meeting) would have helped attendance of more talks, as it would have allowed quick transition between talks. With an approximate 10 minute transition time between Hotel Ambassador and the Grand Hotel, it was not always practical for delegates to swap venues in the middle of a thematic session or symposium. Moreover, with lunch being provided in only one of the conference venues, near-lunch talks in the Ambassador were sometimes sacrificed in favour of the lunch trip to the Grand Hotel. Provisions for vegetarians could also have been better. My main comment, however, is about the poster session. More than 200 posters were presented over two days, in respective poster sessions in the Ambassador Hotel. In the first session –in which I participated– the chosen room was overcrowded, not having enough space for the number of posters involved; subsequently many of us found ourselves blocked by the moving crowds, and thus not able to present our material. This was quite disappointing given the amount of time and effort put into communicating our findings to our colleagues from around the globe.

I would like suggest ways of possible improvement, so that we could avoid a similar incident in the future. Several colleagues I talked to seem to have found the following potentially useful:

- 1) Clearly, the selection of an appropriate space for the number of posters. The organising committee usually knows well in advance how many posters are expected. Adequate space should be allowed for the poster board and at least two people standing in front of it.
- 2) Participants should be encouraged to put their posters up much earlier than the actual poster session; e.g. in the morning, or even the day before, if at all possible. Conference delegates

should be encouraged to visit the poster area at their leisure, before the actual poster session. This would have the following advantages:

- avoid the last minute rush of 100+ people putting their posters up at the same time;
- prevent the rush of hundreds of delegates concurrently walking around in limited space.
- give conference delegates ample time to browse around (e.g. during coffee breaks, lunch breaks, while waiting for a talk and so on) and choose the posters they are interested in;
- give poster presenters the chance to look at other posters which are presented in the same poster session (it is impossible to look at colleagues' posters while presenting your own)

3) Poster presenters could then be standing by their poster during the formal "poster session", and delegates could return to their posters of interest for a discussion. This would allow for a much more efficient management of the session, resulting in better presentation of our work, and reduction of aimless traffic.

I would like to make clear that I am in no doubt that the local organisers did their very best to cater for all our needs. At all times, there were assistants around for guidance and answering questions. The conference dinner was certainly the liveliest conference dinner I have ever attended! And, on a personal note, I would like to extend my personal thanks to the local organisers for an excellent job in tracing my delayed luggage (and poster!) and bringing it all the way from Zagreb to my hotel in Opatija –and keeping me up to date in the process. My comments are only meant to be suggestions for improvement to future organisers; my overall conference experience remains very positive. May we see many more, bigger and better general meetings in the future!

Dimitrios Xenias, Cardiff University, UK

The Half Empty and the Half Full Glass of the Meeting: Personal View

The professional conferences of every association have first of all personal value, and therefore I am eagerly waiting three years to take part in the meetings of the European Association of Social Psychology. In these meetings I meet friends, update my knowledge and learn about the new directions of research in social psychology.

But the meeting in Opatija began for me with the left foot. First, a group that deeply believes that social psychology lost its touch through the last decades with the real world submitted a proposal for a symposium about "Real life social conflict and reconciliation" but it was rejected. Instead, a few of the presentations were dispersed in various thematic paper sessions. Then, I discovered that since the Israeli universities were on strike for 3 months I'd be able to come for only 3 days because of my teaching responsibilities. To my bad luck I found that the presentation was scheduled on the first day of the meeting before my arrival. My request to reallocate the presentation was met with rejection which put my whole trip into question. I could not understand why in other meetings such as of the International Society for Political Psychology or even the World Congress of Psychology, with its 10,000 participants, the program chairs were willing to take into consideration serious limitations of the participants in the preparation of the program, but in the European Association the attitude was so inflexible and negative. **I think that the organization first of all exists to serve its members.**

In spite of these setbacks I decided to arrive to the meeting. It was a good decision as the full empty glass eventually overcame the half empty one. The meeting was very enjoyable and provided learning opportunities; first, meeting friends and colleagues that we hardly see during the three years between the meetings is tremendous pleasure and joy. But then I discovered that the meeting is filled up

with young social psychologists and the older generations became a rarity. Hundreds of young scientists packed the rooms turning the meeting into a vibrant and energetic event. Many groups of doctoral and postdoctoral participants from different countries such as Germany, Italy, Britain, Poland, or Holland serve as evidence that social psychology has a future and is not only considered as relevant and important discipline that advances knowledge about human beings but also feeds much of this knowledge to other disciplines and professions.

Moreover I found that many of them carry research which is relevant to real life problems, which is performed with participants beyond the college students, and with various research methods. Thus, in addition to the traditional large scale topics of social psychology, such as discrimination, group identification and social identity, acculturation, intergroup contact, justice, system justification, ethnocentrism, racism, or intergroup threats, I found relatively new topics that extensively absorb the public debates in the world –as for example terrorism, immigration, reconciliation after intergroup conflict, economic behavior, human rights violations, environmental behavior, collective violence, humanitarian behavior and more. It means that social psychology in slow process is leaving the ivory tower to become more relevant and meaningful to the problems that preoccupy citizens of the world. Nevertheless, topics that stand at the center of public attention, such as peace making, growing gaps between poor and rich, poverty, democratization, or globalization wait for more social psychological illumination. This is so because every large scale problem requires understanding from different perspectives, including a socio-psychological one, and the founding fathers of social psychology promised that we will be making these contributions.

Daniel Bar-Tal (School of Education, Tel Aviv Universit, Israel)

A view from afar

Conferences promise attractive locations, the pleasures of social interaction, and intellectual stimulation. Coming from the UK, the first is easy. A blue sea, a glimpse of sunshine, a bar with a view: heaven! The pleasures of interaction can be harder: anxieties about greeting people you recognise but guess won't recognise you, weird interactions with people who either think you are someone else or would rather be talking to someone else (and so on) can be awkward. Yet, there are friends to meet and new friends to make (and in Opatija, there was dancing to be done).

Delivering the third – the intellectual stimulation – is the hardest. Yet, there is nothing more exciting than having taken-for-granted assumptions thrown into relief, given a shake and new perspectives (and questions) opened up. This is not always to be found in our journals: academic publishing (understandably) requires a narrowing of focus and the specification of researchable questions (which can then be answered). It can be a little easier to find at conferences, and at Opatija a number of sessions were fantastic in this regard. I particularly liked a symposium on 'barriers to social change' (convened by Tamar Saguy and Nicole Tausch) contrasting the processes associated with prejudice-reduction with those necessary for collective action. The result was a radical reframing of the outcomes of inter-group contact and an exploration of how these could undermine minority group members' commitments to collective action. This was developed in a wide-ranging and politically-engaged discussion that had the room buzzing. Yet, if this was my personal highlight there were other sessions that encouraged discussion and a broader reflection on our assumptions and their social and political implications. And such debates did not involve empty hand-waving, armchair theorising, or excessive navel-gazing. Rather they were focused, informed by theory and evidence, and explored connections with a broader social scientific literature.

Yet, even at conferences, achieving discussion can be difficult. To some degree the format to conference presentations is constraining and echoes that of a journal. Maybe other formats (e.g., roundtable debates) could facilitate more lively engagement with broader issues? However, there is another issue too. The vitality of debate is also a function of the breadth of the participating constituency. Although our discipline's theoretical and methodological diversity is a real resource, this breadth is not always reflected in the constituency physically drawn to the General Meeting, and personally, I think this means we are all the poorer. Undoubtedly, widening participation is difficult (and the dynamics involved worthy of investigation: there are issues of group identities, constructions of category boundaries and prototypes, power, and more besides). However, as any discipline's health depends on the vitality to its debates, such dynamics deserve attention.

I enjoyed Opatija enormously: a great location, good fun, and a sense of debate. However, the latter made me reflect on just how little real debate and dialogue there often is in academia, how good it can be, and how I miss it.

Nick Hopkins (Dundee, Scotland)

As a relatively new member of the European Association of Experimental Social Psychology, the general meeting held in Opatija in June 2008 was my second experience in such a conference. It was a very interesting scientific gathering, which reunited both young and more experienced researchers, both European and American scientists, both "giants" and promising new talents of Social Psychology. Furthermore, the variety of the scientific program allowed one to find interesting contributions in any field of research.

Opatija was a very nice location, though difficult to reach for many people. All the conference rooms were big enough and well-equipped. However, the location assigned to the poster sessions was not adequate. It was too small and, as such, too crowded, making it very difficult for everybody to actually look at the posters and talk to the authors.

Unfortunately, the conference was held in two different conference centres. This created some inconveniences for those who wanted to attend talks included in different panels located away from one another. Given the large number of parallel sessions, this aspect should have been taken into consideration in organizing the event. This aspect also created problems during the coffee and lunch breaks, making it sometimes difficult to get in contact with colleagues.

Finally, the lunch box was very poor. Many people complained about it and decided to leave the conference centres in order to get a proper meal. With reference to this minor aspect, my experience at the General Meeting in Wurzburg (2005) was very different. On that occasion we had a very rich buffet, which allowed all participants to remain at the conference centre while having their lunch, facilitating contacts, and engaging in scientific conversations.

Overall, the conference held in Opatija was a satisfactory experience and, so far, the General Meetings organised by the EAESP have always been worthwhile.

Federica Durante (Milano-Bicocca, Italy)

EASP general meetings are always anticipated with great interest. Organised every three years, the meetings offer a great opportunity for academics and scholars from around the world, although primarily from Europe, to get together, present their research and of course socialize. The 15th EAESP general meeting took place in Opatija, Croatia between the 10th and 14th of June. With more than 1000 submissions, it was a big and very well attended conference. It is worth noting that a large number of prestigious scholars from Europe and overseas as well as younger researchers and students were enthusiastically contributing to the conference.

In terms of the organization of the presentations, they were divided into symposia, thematic sessions and posters. Both the amount and the quality of the presentations were impressive. So much so that it was in many occasions difficult to decide which one from the parallel talks to attend! The research presented during the five days of the conference covered a wide range of areas such as social cognition, intergroup relations, group and interpersonal processes, attitudes and emotions. The background of the presented projects reflected diverse theoretical perspectives and methodological approaches. It was very interesting and encouraging to see how social psychological research draws on highly topical issues. New theories about critical topics regarding the self, others and the world were presented. Notably, many scholars emphasised the importance of applying social psychological models in education, industry and social policy.

Apart from the academic side, the conference offered us the opportunity to explore the beautiful town of Opatija, by the Adriatic coast. The impressive architecture, the picturesque villages and the seaside promenade made our stay very pleasant. Unfortunately the weather was not really on our side but most of us chose to ignore it and make the most of our stay.

Another important side of the conference was socializing. Apart from the conference dinner and the regular coffee breaks, there was also a football match that took place. Four very capable and competitive teams took part and the “Dutch and Belgian” team was the proud winner. Having mentioned football, in a slightly more professional league, the conference coincided with the UEFA European Championship. Most, if not all, of the countries that participated in EURO were also represented at the conference. After the end of the talks many people would gather at cafes and hotels to watch the games and cheer for their national teams. Another highlight of the social side of the conference was the bar Hemingway. As one of the few venues that stayed open until late, it was almost an unwritten law that a large number of us would meet there for a drink (or two).

As the 15th EASP conference was successfully held, we all look forward to attending the next one in 2011. Three years seems like a long time from now but it means that we have just enough time to develop even more exciting research projects!

Sofia Stathi, University of Kent, UK

Come June 2008 I was eagerly anticipating my first-time attendance of the EAESP General Meeting due to the wonderful recommendations I received from those who attended this event in the past. I was told this conference is like no other with a very open and friendly atmosphere and the variety and quality of presented work that is bound to impress and inspire not only the postgraduates who are at the very start of their careers, like myself, but also the very experienced researchers. In a week I was convinced that attending and presenting at this conference will become a tradition for me and that this event is definitely something to look forward to in the future.

Having my paper accepted into the conference program and having been awarded the generous EAESP Postgraduate Travel Grant to attend the event, I was all set to go. What I saw when I arrived was a quiet little Opatija set between the scenic hills of Croatia and the blue Mediterranean, which in itself provided a great backdrop for the conference. Unique and so very 'Croatian' local restaurants and attractions as well as the ongoing UEFA Euro 2008 football championship only added distinctive flavour to the event. However, the event's main attraction lay in the conference halls of the three local hotels. The variety of symposia and thematic paper presentations was almost overwhelming. Having to make a decision between the 11 different presentations that happened at the same time proved rather difficult most of the time. Of the talks I have attended a few definitely stand out.

"Barriers to social change" was the first symposium I attended. It covered the topics of prejudice reduction and collective action; intergroup contact and race-related attitudes towards government policies and redistributive judgement in South Africa; possibility of social change through positive intergroup contact in advantaged and disadvantaged groups in Israel; and the role of opinion-based groups in commitment to collective action. Ideas were presented with such clarity, novelty, and enthusiasm that it made this symposium a high standard to meet by all the other presentations I attended afterwards. Being particularly interested in the development of social cognition I was happy to see a symposium devoted to this topic during the conference – "Developmental social-cognitive perspectives on intergroup prejudice". The talk held by Yarrow Dunham on the issues of the implicit social cognition development and Adam Rutland's presentation of two empirical studies on the moderating and mediating effects of social perspective taking, social emotions, and social norms in the onset of prejudice inhibition in childhood I found particularly interesting for their novelty and richness of ideas.

I was also set to present my paper in the first of the two poster sessions. Since it covered the last three years of my PhD research I was keen on discussing it with people in my area. However, the environment of the first poster session was not very inviting for the discussion due to the cramped space we were provided, which often came down to negotiating whose poster would be discussed: yours or the person standing next to you. This left me somewhat disappointed, but also gave me a feeling of achievement from the people I did manage to meet and exchange ideas with during that poster 'challenge'. There is also something to be definitely said about the flexibility and promptness of the organizers of the event. The conditions for the second poster session were much improved.

On the plane back from Zagreb as I was trying to recap the events of the week in my head I was starting to feel slightly overwhelmed. I was pleasantly surprised by the quality and the quantity of talks and symposia at this conference; this is something that is so very easy to get used to. The open environment for the younger and less experienced researchers like myself created during this conference to share our ideas was very encouraging. This conference was a truly satisfying, motivating and inspiring event for me. It was enlightening to meet other researchers in my field and I look forward to continuing the discussions started at conference in the future.

Nadzeya Svirydzhenka (University of Dundee, UK)

It was really an amazing experience to take part in the Opatija General Meeting, even for a participant who (as I) has been an EAESP member since 1983!

The number of participants was impressive, and I guess this yielded an enormous work and some trouble to the courageous Organizers, coordinated by Dinka Corkalo Biruski and Dean Ajducovic. The evolution in EAESP membership is massive. This finding was self-evident even before being confirmed by the exhaustive President's report and I think that, in this case, we were not wrong in considering our heuristic information processing as leading to quite reliable and absolutely true conclusions!

The quiet and elegant Opatija was pacifically invaded in fact by hundreds and hundreds of social psychologists looking for "Kamelijas", "Momozas", "Lavandas", "Magnolias" (i.e., the rooms' names), just like in a treasure hunt carried out by a crowd of passionate botanists.

Opatija itself was a wonderful discovery to me, Opatija so "similar to" and so "different from" the Italian costs of the Adriatic Sea I am acquainted with.

Being presently involved in a project which gathers together Universities of Italy (Bari and Lecce) and of the Balkan Countries, I considered how real and "natural" it is the hope of developing an Adriatic Area wherein some more specific and particular social identities and some more general and inclusive forms of membership can go hand in hand and be simultaneously activated. Having been a member of the EAESP for so long, I felt proud that our Association, all along its history, has contributed to the construction of a rich and articulated Community, gathering together so many human and scientific experiences.

The amazing dimensions of the Meeting became clearly apparent when the "Programme and Abstract Book" was in our hands. At first glance, it was almost shocking! The quantity and diversity of events would have required participants to be provided with a "satellitar navigator" for better organizing their time table and their attendance to different sessions! I think most of us spent much time in studying this book and in organizing one's own personal plot. Once accomplished the initial orienting tasks, however, we could enjoy a lot of good moments and exciting exchanges, in a very friendly and stimulating atmosphere.

As to the research topics, it seems to me that, together with the great and constant interest for some traditional themes such as Intergroup Relations, Identity, Power and Status, Prejudice, and Social Judgment, an increasing attention is being paid, now, to emotions and to the affective dimensions of social experience. Of course, only a deeper and more systematic investigation could give us a reliable picture of the present trends of the EAESP members' scientific concern.

This year, our Association changed its name: the adjective "Experimental" was deemed to be no longer necessary, by considering that the scientific approach and the inspiration at the origin of the EAESP are now widely shared, and strong enough. The increasing participation in what we will call "EASP" from now on, seems to confirm this view. Indeed, from the very beginning of its life, our Association's aim was to avoid the "experiments in the vacuum". I am sure our Association will continue encouraging good experiments and robust social psychological research that be sensitive to social phenomena, as well as it will continue enhancing cultural diversity and global communication. These are, in my view, the most important points: The great success of the 15th General Meeting is a good omen in this line.

Carmencita Serino (University of Bari, Italy)

News about Members

In Memoriam: Carl W. Backman

Carl W. Backman, a long-time member of EAESP, died at his home in Reno, Nevada, on February 16, 2008. He was 84. Carl was born prematurely in Canandaigua, New York, on a family fishing trip in 1923. Raised in Buffalo, New York, he graduated from Oberlin College in Ohio. His college career was interrupted by service in the Army during World War II which, because of high test scores, assigned him to intelligence. He fought in the Philippines, usually sneaking in ahead of major landings to do pre-invasion reconnaissance, instructed to never make prisoners. But when his unit was once instructed to capture enemy soldiers, his experience facing captured Japanese prisoners is among the most powerful examples of the workings of intergroup contact, leaving him a life-long skeptic of war.

Following college, he earned a Ph.D. in sociology at Indiana University and, after a four-year teaching at the University of Arkansas, spent 53 years on the faculty of the University of Nevada, Reno, 11 years of them as emeritus. He was chairman of the sociology department, director of social psychology, a (somewhat reluctant) dean, with this time at UNR only interrupted by two years as program director for Sociology and Social Psychology at the National Science Foundation in Washington, DC.

Carl was a sociologist by training, but his heart that of a social psychologist who did not care about disciplinary boundaries. Early on at UNR, he teamed up with psychologist Paul Secord with whom

he published in the best journals in psychology and sociology for a period of 15 years, focusing on interpersonal relations, the self and group processes. EAESP members who were training during the Sixties and Seventies might have used the duo's popular textbook "Social psychology." The book enjoyed worldwide recognition, saw two editions and was translated in more than twenty languages. It was perhaps the most complete, but also perhaps the last effort to present social psychology as a coherent discipline; a discipline that fell squarely onto the boundary between sociology and psychology, and was equally shared by both. Whereas psychological and sociological social psychology have drifted apart considerably since then, Carl Backman and Paul Secord established a program that is true to their vision of a single social psychology. With the critical contribution of Jerry Ginsburg, they established the "Interdisciplinary Ph.D. Program in Social Psychology" at the University of Nevada, which continues to strive since it graduated its first Ph.D. in 1967. It was also Carl's dedication to a unitary social psychology that eventually attracted him to European social psychology, prompting him to join EAESP.

Though by disposition not at all a radical, Carl knew when it was important for a social psychologist to take a stand. During the Sixties he was a leader in a movement that fought racism in Nevada. He took part in various protest actions on and off campus and refused to hold conferences in the state until the then widespread discriminatory practices in housing were banned by law. His activism earned him a spot on an infamous list of "communists" distributed by a radical state senator—a distinction to be proud of.

Carl had a great influence on his discipline, the university that he served, the department and the Ph.D. program that he helped build, as well as his colleagues, students and friends. Until three years before his death he regularly taught the first-year Ph.D. students

about the history of social psychology—and what it means to be a truly interdisciplinary social psychologist.

Markus Kemmelmeier

In Memoriam: Clare Cassidy

Clare Cassidy, our colleague and our dear friend at St. Andrews University, died on the 16th September this year at the age of 40.

Clare did her Ph.d. at Queen's University Belfast. She then had jobs at Lancaster and Strathclyde Universities before coming to us as a lecturer in 2003. In her all too short career she studied a number of topics: identity and identity change in Northern Ireland, group processes in helping, the effects of discrimination on ethnic minorities, stereotyping and the elderly. However through all these topics, there was a constant thread – one which reflects the very best traditions of our Association.

Clare was always concerned with the perspective and with the well-being of those who are vulnerable, marginal or forgotten in society. Where the tendency is to look at prejudice against minorities, Clare studied how minorities experience prejudice. When the literature concentrates on stereotypes of the elderly, Clare examined how the elderly deal with these stereotypes. Clare was a superb and precise analyst, but she was also passionately engaged in and through her work.

Clare's empathy, her concern and her generosity also made her a wonderful teacher. She always had time for students, she always respected them, and, above all, she made the experience of learning into fun. We have been struck, since Clare's death, by the number

of past students who have written to us saying how Clare touched – and often changed – their lives. She touched and changed our lives as well. She was a fabulous friend. An evening with Clare was always an evening full of laughter. Full of life.

Clare died just as her work was flourishing. She had just won major grants to look at how collective participation affects well-being. She had just completed a set of workshops with academics and senior practitioners examining how helping research can inform social practice and policy. However her influence will live on through those of us in St. Andrews, across the UK and across Europe who had the pleasure of knowing her and working with her. We will also be remembering her through a series of activities including an event in the spring of 2009. We will also be raising funds for an endowed series of annual 'Cassidy lectures' on the topic of 'Psychology and Well-Being'. The details, when finalised, will be available on our website at www.psy.st-andrews.ac.uk/

Steve Reicher

In Memoriam: Alan B. Milne

Alan Milne was born in London, England on the 2nd of April 1954. His English birthplace provided a constant source of entertainment during major sporting events. With Scottish parents, Alan was eligible to play international football for both Scotland and England, a fact he concealed for years (especially in Scotland). That he turned out for neither nation was football's loss and psychology's gain.

Rapidly repatriated north of the border, Alan completed his primary, secondary and tertiary education in Aberdeen, culminating in the receipt of his PhD from the University of Aberdeen in 1981. Following post-doctoral positions at the Universities of St. Andrews and Cardiff, Alan returned to Aberdeen as a lecturer in 1996. A cognitive psychologist by training, but a polymath by nature, Alan's research explored a wide range of topics in experimental psychology, including face processing, social cognition and visual perception. Driven by a desire to understand the nuts and bolts of human cognition, Alan pioneered the use of computer-based methodologies to investigate core psychological questions, particularly in the area of social-cognitive functioning. His impressive list of publications stand as testament to the quality of his theorizing and experimentation.

Yet Alan Milne the outstanding scientist tells only part of the story of this remarkable man. Not only was Alan blessed with an outstanding intellect and penetrating mind, he also possessed a sense of humour that was second to none. Engaging in bouts of verbal jousting with Alan was a hopeless affair. In the land of deadly puns, witty insights, and pithy remarks, he simply had no equal. Interact with him for only a few minutes and it was impossible not to be impressed by his scientific acumen, disarming modesty, and genial charm.

Alan's sudden death on the 25th of April 2008 came as a shock to the friends, colleagues and undergraduates for whom he meant so much. We all miss Alan more than words can say, but feel privileged to have known this very special person.

*Neil Macrae
Peter McGeorge
Ap Dijksterhuis*

New Members of the Association

The following applications for membership were approved by the Executive Committee at its meeting in October 2008. Names of members providing letters of support are in parentheses:

Full Membership

Dr. Smaranda BOROS
Tilburg, The Netherlands
(N. Ellemers, A. Haslam)

Dr. Federica DURANTE
Milan, Italy
(X. Chryssochoou, D. Capozza)

Dr. Mihaela BOZA
Isai, Romania
(A. Neculau, P. Briñol)

Dr. Mario FERREIRA
Lisbon, Portugal
(L. Garcia-Marques, T. Garcia-Marques)

Dr. Nadine CHAURAND
Grenoble, Switzerland
(M. Brauer, P. Chekroun)

Dr. Daniel FRINGS
London, UK
(A. Rutland, D. Abrams)

Dr. Antonio CHIRUMBOLO
Chieti, Italy
(F. Strack, W. Stroebe)

Dr. Malgorzata GAMIAN-WILK
Wroclaw, Poland
(H. Brycz, K. Lachowicz-Tabaczek)

Dr. Pasquale COLLOCA
Vergato, Italy
(M.-P. Paladino, S. Costarelli)

Dr. Margarida GARRIDO
Lisbon, Portugal
(S. Waldzus, L. Garcia-Marques)

Dr. Sheila CUNNINGHAM
Aberdeen, UK
(N. Macrae, R. van Baaren)

Dr. Christine GOCKEL
Chemnitz, Germany
(L. Werth, J. Degner)

Dr. Ali KAZEMI
Skövde, Sweden
(A. Biel, T. Lindholm)

Dr. Olga KRUSHELNITSKAYA
Moscow, Russia
(M. Sachkova, E. Dubovskaya)

Dr. Abigail MILLINGS
Bristol, UK
(N. Hall, R. Crisp)

Dr. Nadia MONACELLI
Parma, Italy
(M. Sanchez-Mazas, F. Lorenzi-Cioldi)

Dr. Rob NELISSEN, Tilburg
The Netherlands
(D. Stapel, M. Zeelenberg)

Dr. Esther PAPIES
Utrecht, The Netherlands
(H. Aarts, W. Stroebe)

Dr. Kim PETERS
Exeter, UK
(T. Manstead, A. Haslam)

Dr. Afroditi PINA
Kent, UK
(G.T. Viki, M. Dumont)

Dr. Andrea PINTUS
Modena, Italy
(N. Cavazza, D. Giovannini)

Dr. Ana SANTOS
Lisbon, Portugal
(L. Garcia-Marques, T. Garcia-Marques)

Dr. Joanne SMITH
Exeter, UK
(A. Haslam, T.A. Morton)

Dr. Sofia STATHI
Canterbury, UK
(R. Crisp, K. Douglas)

Dr. Loris VEZZALI
Modena, Italy
(D. Giovannini, D. Capozza)

Dr. Dimitrios XENIAS
Cardiff, UK
(G. Maio, B. Parkinson)

Dr. Mariusz ZIEBA
Warsaw, Poland
(J. Trzebinski, M. Drogosz)

Affiliate Membership

Dr. Stefan AGRIGOROEI
Waltham, USA
(C. Badea, B. Dompnier)

Postgraduate Membership

Beatriz ARANDA
Granada, Spain
(F. Expósito, M. Moya)

Francesca BONECHI
Madrid, Spain
(L. Oceja, J.-M. Fernández-Dols)

Maarten BOS
Nijmegen, The Netherlands
(A. Dijksterhuis, R. van Baaren)

Marco BRAMBILLA
Bologna, Italy
(M. Rubini, M. Ravenna)

Laura DANNENBERG
Amsterdam, The Netherlands
(M. Denzler, J. Förster)

Stéphane DOYEN
Brussels, Belgium
(O. Klein, L. Licata)

Beatriz GANDARILLAS
Madrid, Spain
(P. Brinol, P. Carrera)

Hélène JACQUES
Louvain-la-Neuve, Belgium
(S. Demoulin, O. Corneille)

Marianna KOSIC
Doberdo del Lago, Italy
(A. Kasic, G. Csepele)

Sylvie KOURILOVA
Brno, Czech Republic
(M. Hrebickova, P. Macek)

Dieta KUCHENBRANDT
Greifswald, Germany
(R. Spears, M. Bornewasser)

Gert-Jan LELIEVELD
Leiden, The Netherlands
(E. van Dijk, I. van Beest)

Janina MARGUC
Amsterdam, The Netherlands
(G. van Kleef, J. Förster)

Marijn MEIJERS
Tilburg, The Netherlands
(M. Zeelenberg, D. Stapel)

Anca MINESCU
Utrecht, The Netherlands
(K. Phalet, C.W. Leach)

Mariana MIRANDA
Lisbon, Portugal
(T. Garcia-Marques, I. Correia)

Lisa PAGOTTO
Padova, Italy
(A. Voci, D. Capozza)

Joseph PELLETIER
Kent, UK
(D. Abrams, R. Crisp)

Monika PRUSIK
Warsaw, Poland
(M. Lewicka, J. Pietrzak)

Bettina RYF
Zurich, Switzerland
(C. Tanner, K. Jonas)

Rim SAAB
Cardiff, UK
(R. Spears, T. Manstead)

Shaul SHALVI
Amsterdam, The Netherlands
(M. Handgraaf, C. de Dreu)

Hannah SWIFT
Kent, UK
(D. Abrams, R. Crisp)

Evert-Jan VAN DOORN
Amsterdam, The Netherlands
(G. van Kleef, A. Fischer)

Joel VUOLEVI
Amsterdam, The Netherlands
(P.A.M. van Lange, W. van Dijk)

Keon WEST
Oxford, UK
(S. Demoulin, M. Hewstone)

Grants

Ananthi Al Ramiah (postgraduate travel grant)

Janine Bosak (seedcorn grant)

Belle Derks (postdoctoral travel grant)

Evangelos Chaikalis (postgraduate travel grant)

Wojciech Kulesza (seedcorn grant)

Suzanne Oosterwijk (postgraduate travel grant)

Suzanne Pietersma (postgraduate travel grant)

Chiara Storari (postdoctoral travel grant)

Jeroen Stouten (postdoctoral travel grant)

GRANT REPORTS

Benoît Dompnier

(Pierre Mendès France University, France)

postdoctoral travel grant

The postdoctoral travel grant allowed me to visit the Colorado University Stereotyping and Prejudice Laboratory (CUSP) at University of Colorado at Boulder (United States). I am very grateful to EAESP for their financial support and to Charles Judd for giving me the opportunity to work with him.

From January to April 2008, I discovered a new and stimulating research environment. From my arrival, I integrated in the CUSP Lab. Entering in this labgroup was a very fruitful occasion to talk about research, papers and data. During three months, I also assisted to very interesting talks given by leading researchers on various topics (social psychology, intercultural psychology or clinical psychology) and to some postgraduate courses. More particularly, Charles Judd proposed me to follow a course that he

gave with Gary McClelland on data analysis. This course, as well as the time spent to work closely with him allowed me to develop new methodological and statistical competences. Finally, this visit was also an great opportunity to develop a research program that Charles Judd, Dominique Muller and I started few months ago. This project was aimed at studying the systematic relationship between the two fundamental dimensions of social judgment.

Indeed, according to the social psychology literature, two fundamental dimensions organise judgments of personality traits, people or groups (Judd, James-Hawkins, Yzerbyt, & Kashima, 2005). The first dimension, named "warmth", relates to what makes someone likeable or unlikeable, socially and morally attractive or unattractive. The second dimension, named "competence", relates to what makes someone successful or unsuccessful, competence or incompetent. Despite the great consensus on the existence of these two fundamental dimensions, little works had already be done to explore the systematic relations between them. One exception was a research conducted by Judd et al. (2005). As noted by these researchers, a very recurrent inconsistency appears concerning the association between the warmth dimension and the competence dimension. While they are positively related in the judgment of traits and persons (e.g. Rosenberg et al., 1968), these dimensions are negatively related in the judgment of groups or cultures (e.g. Fiske et al., 2002). Judd et al. (2005) explained this phenomenon by the way of a compensatory process. According to this explanation, a positive correlation between the two dimensions would appear when participants have to judge only one target at once (whether it is a person or a group). However, when participants have to judge more than one target at a given time, they would compensate for differences between targets on one dimension by assigning inverse differences between targets on the other.

The aim of this research program was to extend the initial work of Judd et al. (2005). In order to gain a deeper understanding of the relations between warmth and competence, we looked to identify conditions in which the compensatory process described by these authors could not account for the variations in their association. More particularly, according to Judd et al. (2005), warmth and competence should be positively related when participants described only one target (individuals or groups) at a given time. However, we argued that, under some circumstances and/or for some specific targets, such a prediction seemed to be unrealistic. For example. According to Wojciszke (2005), even if competence is always profitable for the person who possess it, it is beneficial to other people only when they cooperate with the competent person. Conversely, a competent person is harmful to others when these persons have to compete with her. As a consequence, the positive or negative effect of competence on others could produce variations in the relation between perceptions of persons on the two dimensions as a function of the type of social relations between targets and the judges. For example, in a cooperative situation, one could expect that the more a partner is perceived as being competent, the more he/she is perceived as being warm. Conversely, in a competitive situation, one could expect that the more an opponent is perceived as being competent, the less he/she is perceived as being warm.

To test this hypothesis, we conducted several pilot studies as well as an experiment in a real interaction situation. In this last study, we asked 160 undergraduates students to participate to a group council task. Participants were run by dyads and several variables were manipulated. The first variable was the type of social relationships between participants within each dyad. Cooperation or competition were manipulated through the induction of a positive (cooperation) or negative (competition) interdependence between the two participants. The second manipulated variable was the participants' knowledge about the other participant on one fundamental dimension (warmth or competence) by using a bogus

implicit personality test. For half of dyads, this bogus personality test was described as measuring people's level of warmth. For the other half, it was described as measuring people's level of competence. Finally, the last manipulated variable concerned the level of the other participant within each dyad on the manipulated dimension. In each dyad, one participant was described by the bogus personality test as being high on the manipulated dimension and the other as being low on the manipulated dimension. At the end of the experiment, participants had to indicate their perception of the other participant on the warmth dimension and on the competence dimension. Generally speaking, results obtained reveal the importance of social relations between targets and judges in the elaboration of social judgment and lead to new research questions on the processes that underlie the systematic relationship between the fundamental dimensions of warmth and competence.

All in all, I think that my visit to University of Colorado at Boulder was a wonderful experience. It was a very inspiring and motivating time. I am sincerely grateful to EAESP for making my trip possible. Thanks also to Charles Judd, Dominique Muller and everyone in the CUSP Lab (Adam Hahn, Michaela Huber, Jennifer Kubota, Bethany Mathews, Jordan Pennefather, Allegra Smith and all the others). Working with them was a real pleasure for me.

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Seedcorn grant

From the early days of social psychology, attitudes have been one of the most central topics of our discipline. While attitude activation and its relationship to behavior have received a tremendous amount of attention, the question where attitudes actually come from, i.e., how they are formed, is still underresearched (Walther, Nagengast, & Trasselli, 2005). Empirical evidence suggests that a vast majority of likes and dislikes are learned rather than innate (Rozin & Millman, 1987). Regarding this process, it has been argued that associative transfer of valence plays a major role in the acquisition of preferences, a process commonly referred to as *evaluative conditioning* (EC; see De Houwer, Thomas, & Baeyens, 2001, for a review). EC is present, when a neutral stimulus (conditioned stimulus; CS) acquires the valence of an affective stimulus (unconditioned stimulus; US) when both CS and US are (repeatedly) paired together. For instance, in a consumer context, a given product (e.g., a new drink) may be displayed in a positive context (e.g., a beautiful beach scene) under the assumption that it will acquire at least some of the positive valence of the contextual cue.

EC was first demonstrated in the verbal conditioning paradigm developed by Staats and Staats (1957, 1958) who showed that person or country names acquired the valence of verbally presented positive or negative stimuli. From then on, EC effects could be reproduced in a great variety of settings and with the use of different stimulus material (e.g., visual, auditory, taste). Despite the impressive number of studies reporting such effects, a significant number of studies failed to produce clear EC effects. De Houwer and colleagues (2001) concluded on the basis of their recent review that these „[...] failures point to the existence of boundary conditions that are not yet fully understood. Identifying and understanding these boundary conditions should be an important aim for future research.” (p. 866).

Since then, a number of follow-up studies have been conducted trying to understand when and why EC does or does not work by varying procedural aspects as well as aspects of the stimulus material. However, the EC literature has never been summarized quantitatively to date. Such a quantitative synthesis is the main purpose of my research project carried out in collaboration with Jan De Houwer (Ghent University), Marco Perugini (University of Milan - Bicocca), Frank Baeyens (University of Leuven), and Geert Crombez (Ghent University) which has been co-funded by a seedcorn grant of our association.

The meta-analysis is currently at the near end of a loong coding stage. So far, 202 independent studies on EC have been located and coded with the help of a custom-made coding sheet and coding manual. At present, missing information necessary to compute effect sizes for some studies is requested from several authors around the globe. Also, a quarter of the studies is currently coded a second time by an independent coder in order to allow for reliability estimates of the codings. Once finalized, this dataset representative of the evaluative conditioning literature will be meta-analyzed following the procedure by Hedges and Olkin (1985). More

specifically, this analysis will address the following three main questions: (1) What is the mean EC effect size across all studies? (2) How much variance is there in EC effect sizes among studies? (3) To what proportion is the variance due to sampling error vs. true (substantial) variance in effect sizes across studies? (4) Given that substantial variance among studies exists (which is to be expected), what boundary conditions or moderators can significantly explain variance in study effects? A selective list of potential moderator variables coded for the present analysis include (a) characteristics of the sample, (b) the type of stimulus material used (visual, auditory, etc.), (c) the time interval between presentation of the US and CS, (d) the specific conditioning procedure used (forward vs. backward conditioning), (e) the number of pairings between CS and US, (f) the type of research design (within-participant or between-participant design), and (g) the role of contingency awareness. We hope that, once finished, this meta-analysis of evaluative conditioning effects will be of considerable significance and utility both for basic researchers devoted to understanding the underlying processes and boundary conditions as well as for researchers from social and consumer psychology interested to use EC in an applied context.

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Seedcorn grant

Physical movements can influence emotion and subsequent cognitions – embodied cognition. Implicitly inducing a ‘smiling’ posture (through activation of the zygomaticus major muscles) has been shown to lead to the perception of target stimuli as funnier (Strack, Martin, & Stepper, 1988). The awarded EAESP seedcorn funding allowed the administration of some preliminary work to support a larger grant application investigating the influence of embodied cognition on *aggression*. The grant was awarded in October, 2007 and the work undertaken at the Institute of Psychological Sciences, University of Leeds across 3 pilot studies described below.

Objectives of the research activities

This pilot research project was designed to support a larger grant application integrating the embodied social cognitive research with that focussing on vision and action (e.g. Tucker and Ellis, 1998). Vision and action work has tended to focus on relatively ‘inert’ everyday objects, e.g. teapots. It is however less clear if the effects of physical movement on cognition and behaviour, also transpire when movement is *aggressive* in nature. The project that this work will support aims to incorporate aspects of cognitive, visual

perceptive and social cognitive research to gain an insight in to the link between aggressive physical movement, cognition, and behaviour in social situations.

Pilot 1

In this Pilot a number of household versus aggressive were photographed in various orientations to be used in a replication and extension (using aggressive objects) of Tucker and Ellis’ (1998) finding that orientating objects in the same direction as that of the perceiver’s response hand leads to response facilitation. Twenty-two graspable household objects were photographed (each capable of being grasped in one hand). Each photographed object was then edited in Photoshop in order to create two pictures, in two horizontal orientations (one to the left and one to the right), resulting in 44 photographs. Additionally, each of the 44 photographs was then edited to be shown in two vertical orientations (upright and inverted), resulting in a total of 88 photographs. The same procedure was repeated with aggressive objects (replica pistols and knives etc) therefore creating 88 photographs of weapons across horizontal and vertical orientations. So, in total 176 photographs were created and were then converted in to bitmap slides (for E-Prime purposes) for use in the main experiment.

Pilot 2

To ensure that the weapons photographed in Pilot 1 were associated with aggression (and that the household objects slides were not) the 44 original photographs (twenty-two household objects and twenty-two aggressive objects) from Pilot 1 were rotated across four fixed orders order using E-Prime. A Likert scale measuring perceived aggression (not at all, 1; very aggressive, 7) was paired with each photograph and administered to 15 participants.

Results showed that all the aggressive object photographs differed significantly from the scale midpoint in the direction of *more* perceived associated aggression $p < .0001$. The household objects all differed from the scale midpoint in the direction of *less* perceived association with aggression $p < .0001$, with the exception of a garden hand fork $t(14) -.92, p = .373$ and a pair of garden *secetuers (cutters)*, $t(14) -.55, p = .589$. **These items were replaced with two items less associated with aggression.**

Pilot 3

Pilot 3 pre-tested aggressive, neutral, and friendly words for a Lexical Decision Task (LDT) to be used as part of the larger grant proposal. This involved testing 30 'aggressive', 30 'neutral', and 30 'friendly' words to ensure they were perceived as typically aggressive, neutral, and friendly respectively. The main experiments in the larger grant themselves will only require 15 'aggressive', 15 'neutral', and 15 'friendly' words, however it was expected that many of the tested words would be redundant following analysis. A Likert scale measuring perceived friendliness/aggression (extremely friendly, 1; extremely aggressive, 7) was administered to 15 participants. Aggressive words all differed from the scale midpoint in the direction of *more* perceived associated aggression $p < .0001$, with the exception of 'contempt' $t(14) .509, p = .619$. Eighteen of the neutral words did not differ from the scale mid point $p > .05$, ensuring that the requirement for 15 neutral words was met. Twelve of the neutral words did differ the mid point, including 'ladybird' $t(14) -4.58, p < .0001$, 'grass' $t(14) -3.29, p = .005$, 'clean' $t(8) -3.89, p = .004$ and 'daisy' $t(14) -5.36, p < .0001$. The friendly words all differed from the scale midpoint in the direction more perceived friendless $p < .0001$ with exception of the word 'ecstasy', $t(14) -1.46, p = .173$. Because fewer of the tested words were redundant than expected, words selected for inclusion in the LDT were additionally based on the highest mean difference from the scale

mid-point, leaving the required 15 'aggressive', 15 'neutral', and 15 'friendly' words.

Outcomes of the research

The outcomes of the research activities are twofold. Firstly as an early career experimental social psychologist the work facilitate the applicant to branch out in to new research areas and has provided the foundations for a larger research grant application. These pilot studies will allow reviewers on a subsequently larger grant to see that the applicant has carefully considered the preparation, design and issues involved. Secondly on a more theoretical level the present work will ultimately go towards explaining possible links between aggressive/friendly physical movement, cognition, and behaviour in social situations. I gratefully acknowledge the EAESP's financial support in this.

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Seedcorn grant

Effects of Dissent and Interpersonal Liking on Group Decision Making

When two or more people have divergent opinions, e.g., about which decision alternative to choose, this is referred to as dissent. Laboratory experiments have shown that dissent can enhance decision quality in groups even when none of the group members favored the correct solution before the discussion (Schulz-Hardt, Brodbeck, Mojzisch, Kerschreiter, & Frey, 2006; Klocke, 2007a). Instead of promoting divergent opinions, team building interventions often focus on improving interpersonal relationships between team members. However, empirical evidence on the benefits of such interventions or of interpersonal attraction in general is rather discouraging. Furthermore, empirical results on the interactive effects of variables related to dissent and interpersonal liking on group decision making are inconsistent.

In my research, I integrated the inconsistent results of existing research into a process model (see Figure 1). Based on the assumptions of a limited cognitive capacity and a motive for cognitive consistency, I assume that there are diverse effects of liking on dissent and decision making: On the one hand, liking might inhibit latent dissent (see path A in Figure 1) by quickly changing one's own opinion to that of the other (*Quick Adaptation*) or by selectively expressing opinion-consistent arguments in order to convince the other (*Persuasion*) both of which help reduce the inconsistency of the situation. In addition, liking might inhibit a manifestation of dissent (see path B) because members perceive the other's opinion as more similar to their own (*Underestimating Dissent*) at least when it is not explicitly expressed. Limited cognitive capacity lets people process the other's opinion top-down based on their expectations as long as the opinions are not too inconsistent to expectations. Furthermore, people might be reluctant to express dissent in an explicit way to a likable other (*Self Censoring*). On the other hand, when dissent becomes manifest through explicit statement and perception, liking might trigger a deeper and less biased analysis of the dissenting opinion because it is inconsistent with expectations and inconsistency can motivate

systematic processing (see path C, *Processing Dissent*). This more systematic and less biased processing of information should promote the quality of decisions.

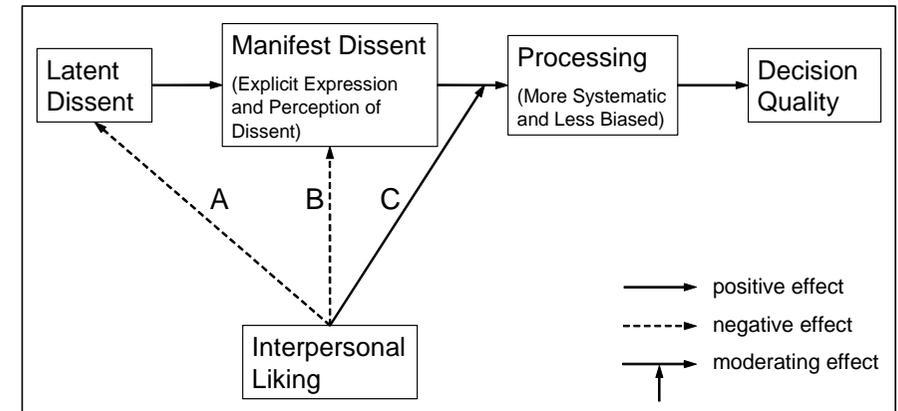


Figure 1: Process model of the diverse effects of liking on dissent and group decision making

Before I received the EAESP *seedcorn grant*, I had found first evidence for parts of the model in a small group experiment. By means of the *seedcorn grant*, I was able to test the model more systematically in two experiments with participants anticipating a joint decision with a discussion partner.

Experiment 1: Underestimating Dissent, Persuasion, and Self Censoring

The aim of the first experiment was to study the processes *Underestimating Dissent*, *Persuasion*, and *Self Censoring*. Ninety-nine participants anticipated to make a decision jointly with a discussion partner about the introduction of tuition fees. The experimental design was a 2 (liking vs. disliking) x 2 (expression of dissent vs. consensus) between-subjects design. Liking was manipulated by means of a videotaped self-introduction of the alleged partner incorporated in a so-called “separate experiment

about first impression". On the videotape, a female student experienced in acting presented herself either in a likable or dislikable manner by manipulating verbal as well as nonverbal behavior known to influence liking. The manipulation check confirmed that the partner was much more liked in the liking condition than in the disliking one and did not significantly differ with respect to the perception of dominance or political orientation. Before the "joint decision with the partner", participants were asked about their expectations and needs with regard to the following discussion. Afterwards, they received an audio statement from the alleged partner. The audio statement was used to manipulate the expression of dissent and was either contrary to (dissent) or in line with (consensus) the initial opinion of the participant. Participants were then asked about their perception of the partner's statement. Finally, they were asked to express their own initial statement for their partner on an audio tape.

As hypothesized, participants expected less dissent when the partner had acted in a likable rather than a dislikable manner. Furthermore, participants actually perceived the same audio statement to be less dissenting when presented by a likable partner (*Underestimating Dissent*, Klocke, 2007b, 2008a). However, a reduced expectation of dissent could not be shown to mediate the underestimation of dissent because the relation between expectation and perception depended on the deviation between expected and expressed opinion. In order to test *Persuasion*, participants' audio statements were content-analyzed to measure argumentation for own opinion. Interestingly, the tendency to argue for one's own opinion depended on the pre-measured consistency motive (see also Klocke, 2008b): Only participants with a high consistency motive argued more strongly in favour of their opinion when they had perceived dissent rather than consensus with a likable partner (Klocke, 2007b). With regard to *Self Censoring*, unexpectedly, participants expressed consensus more

often to a disliked other than to a liked other, probably in order to improve the relationship when anticipating joint decision making (Klocke, 2007b).

Experiment 2: *Underestimating Dissent and Processing Dissent*

The major goal of experiment 2 was to show positive as well as negative effects of liking within one experiment. The task in experiment 2 was changed from a judgmental to an intellectual task. This allowed to measure decision quality as a central criterion of group decision making in order to test *Processing Dissent* and to replicate - with another task - the evidence of *Underestimating Dissent* in experiment 1. Thus, in addition to the negative main effect of liking on the perception of dissent, it was intended to show a positive interaction effect of liking and dissent on processing and decision quality when dissent was explicitly expressed.

One hundred-fifty participants anticipated to make a decision jointly with a discussion partner about the selection of a travel agent out of four candidates. The design was a 2 (liking vs. disliking) x 2 (expression of dissent vs. consensus) x 2 (explicit vs. implicit opinion expression) between-subjects design. The manipulation of liking was the same as in experiment 1. Afterwards, participants received initial information that manipulated their opinion about the qualification of the four candidates. The task was a hidden profile (adapted from Mojzisch, 2003) which had one correct solution initially preferred neither by the participants nor by their discussion partners but which could be identified when the joint information was taken into consideration. Afterwards, participants received an "initial" audio statement of their "partner" which was either in disagreement (dissent) or in agreement (consensus) with their own opinion. In addition, the "partner" either clearly expressed her opinion about the qualification of the four candidates several times along the

information she had received (explicit expression) or she just presented information which might be used to infer her opinion (implicit expression). After listening to the statement, participants were asked about their perception of the partner's opinion and the amount of dissent. Then, they were requested to evaluate the relevance and credibility of a sample of their partner's information to measure biased processing. Finally, they got as much time as they needed to listen to the statement again, to take notes and to decide once more about the qualifications of the four candidates. Systematic processing was measured by aggregating the time participants took for their decision and the number of words and evaluative signs they noted on the paper. The quality of the decision was measured by the reversed rank position of the correct candidate.

As expected, when the partner had expressed a dissenting opinion, participants processed her statement more systematically and less biased than when she had expressed a consensus opinion (Klocke, 2008a). This effect was mediated by a higher perception of dissent. With regard to *Underestimating Dissent*, the results of experiment 1 could be replicated in experiment 2: Participants perceived the same statement to be less dissenting when it was expressed by a likable rather than a dislikable partner (Klocke, 2008a). However, this effect was not reduced when the partner had expressed her opinion in an explicit instead of an implicit manner. The hypothesized three-way interaction of dissent, explicitness and likability on systematic processing or decision quality (*Processing Dissent*) could not be found. Instead and in line with existing research (Mojzisch & Schulz-Hardt, 2008), participants processed the partner's statement less systematically when she had expressed her opinion explicitly than when she had expressed it in an implicit manner by only presenting arguments. Extending existing research, experiment 2 showed that this negative effect of explicit opinion expression was stronger when the partner was likable instead of dislikable (Klocke, 2008a). In addition, expressing opinions

explicitly only impaired decision quality and biased processing when the partner was likable. In contrast, participants processed information most systematically and took the best decisions when the partner was likable and did not express her opinion explicitly but only presented information.

Discussion

Both experiments supported the assumption that interpersonal liking reduces the perception of dissent. Thus, highly cohesive groups might not fully benefit from divergent opinions because members simply do not recognize the amount of dissent (*Underestimating Dissent*). It was not possible, however, to show evidence that the expectation of dissent mediates this effect. My next step, therefore, will be to analyze in more detail the reason why liking reduces the perception of dissent. Whereas the second experiment did not find evidence of a deeper *Processing of Dissent* with likable partners, it showed that liking enhanced the negative effect of an explicit expression of opinion on systematic processing and decision quality. However, it was not possible to identify the mediating process of this interaction effect on the quality of decision. In further research, I will focus on analyzing possible mediating variables, e.g., the amount of interest in the opinion of likable partners or a possible general tendency to imitate the processing style of likable partners.

Thanks

I would like to thank the European Association of Experimental Social Psychology for financially supporting my research. Without this support, it would have been very difficult to motivate people to participate in my experiments: It was impossible to solely rely on psychology students in exchange for course credits as they more often had doubts about the authenticity of their „partner“ or the

„following discussion“. Based on the promising findings of the two described experiments, it will be much easier to apply for a more substantial grant, e.g., at the German Research Foundation (DFG). In particular, I am very grateful to Sibylle Classen for her patience, her kindness and her prompt and unbureaucratic support!

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Seedcorn grant

Functional Features of Evaluative Conditioning – Contingency and Contiguity of US Valence and US Identity and the Role of Awareness

Evaluative conditioning (EC) refers to the phenomenon that a neutral stimulus (CS) is evaluated positively (negatively) after paired presentations with a positive (negative) US (Levey & Martin, 1975; De Houwer, 2007). It is still debated whether EC and classical Pavlovian conditioning (PC) effects arise from the same underlying learning system, or, alternatively, whether EC and PC effects are due to similar but not identical systems of associative learning (De Houwer, Thomas, & Baeyens, 2001; Lovibond & Shanks, 2002; De Houwer, Baeyens, & Field, 2005). Evidence for EC as based on separate learning mechanisms comes from studies demonstrating that EC is resistant to extinction (e.g., Baeyens, Crombez, & Van den Bergh, & Eelen, 1988, De Houwer et al., 2001), as well as from findings that EC can be observed without subjects' awareness of the CS-US contingency (e.g., Hammerl & Fulcher, 2005), while contingency awareness seems to be a necessary condition for PC effects (Lovibond & Shanks, 2002).

The research addressed two issues in evaluative conditioning. First, the role of contingency and contingency awareness (CA) was investigated. It is debated whether awareness is necessary for EC to occur or not, and recent findings demonstrate that EC does depend on CA, and they suggest that previous reports of unaware EC were based on inadequate measures of awareness and/or methods of data

analysis (e.g., Pleyers, Corneille, Luminet, & Yzerbyt, 2007). Using adequate methods, the present research obtained evidence supporting the notion that EC depends on awareness.

More specifically, the present research is the first to distinguish between the identity of the US and its valence. That is, participants might be aware of the identity of the US with which a CS has been paired, or they might just be aware that the CS has been paired with some unknown positive (or negative) US stimulus. It was found that, while EC could be obtained in the absence of identity-awareness, awareness of US valence was a necessary condition. In other words, EC was obtained for CSs for which participants could report the valence of the US with which it was paired, while being unable to correctly report its identity.

In addition to awareness, we also addressed the role of statistical contingency. In a typical EC paradigm, each CS is repeatedly paired with one and the same US, which leads to high levels of memory for US identity (i.e., the single-US case). However, EC is also obtained when a CS is paired with different USs of the same valence (i.e., the multiple-US case). In this case, memory for US identity is reduced because of the higher number of USs to be memorized, but memory for the valence of the USs should not be reduced, or to a lesser extent. This procedural change also affects the statistical contingency between each individual CS-US pair: Contingency is higher in the single-US case and is reduced in the multiple-US case. Thus, if statistical contingency affects EC, we should expect reduced levels of EC in the multiple-US case. In contrast, if awareness plays a major role in EC, we might expect EC for aware CSs and lack of EC for unaware CSs, independent of the statistical contingency. We compared the single-US and the multiple-US conditions in a series of experiments and found evidence for reduced memory for US identity in the multiple-US case, as expected. In addition, memory for US valence was also reduced in some but not all experiments. Similarly, levels of EC

were reduced in the multiple-US condition in some but not all experiments. Importantly, when awareness was controlled, EC effects did not differ between the single-US and the multiple-US condition. This suggests that awareness but not statistical contingency mediated the effects of the manipulation on EC. In sum, the research has contributed to the question whether EC is a distinct form of learning or not by demonstrating that, like other forms of learning, EC likely depends on awareness. Furthermore, the fact that awareness of only the valence of the US is necessary for EC integrates nicely with the growing consensus that the large body of observations that are usually subsumed under the term associative learning may in fact be the result of propositional processes (De Houwer, in press).

In a series of studies (Stahl & Unkelbach, in press), the manipulation described above has been used to obtain a sufficiently large number of CSs for which US valence memory but not US identity memory was available. EC was obtained for valence- but not identity-aware CS on a direct rating measure, but not on an indirect measure, the Extrinsic Affective Simon task (EAST; De Houwer, 2003). Although the latter results suggest that there might be two different processes operating here, the results must be interpreted with caution because, in contrast to the direct rating scale, the EAST measure did not obtain an overall EC effect. Thus, it might be that the lack of an effect for valence- but not identity-aware CSs in the EAST is due to lack of sensitivity of that measure. Follow-up studies using an Affective Priming measure (Fazio, Sanbonmatsu, Powell, & Kardes, 1986) are being conducted to investigate this issue, and to address the relative effects of US identity awareness and US valence awareness on EC. An open question refers to the memory processes underlying the awareness measures. In the present research, contingency awareness was assessed using recognition memory tests. Different cognitive processes have been suggested to operate in these tests, for example, recollection, familiarity, and guessing processes, or

verbatim versus gist memory processes. Although model-based approaches are available to separate those processes (e.g., Stahl & Klauer, 2008), it is difficult to apply these approaches to the study of awareness because of the different levels of analysis that are implied: While model-based approaches rely on data that are aggregated across items (and, sometimes, participants), the classification of awareness must rely on responses to individual CS-US pairs if the problems associated with past research are to be avoided. Future research should explore to which degree the use of hierarchical models may prove to be a way out of this situation. The seedcorn grant has played an important role in establishing the multiple-US paradigm and the effect of EC for valence-aware CSs and investigating its robustness across different procedural variations, such as different CS stimuli, rating scales, and sequences of EC and awareness tests. It has helped starting a line of research that is branching out into at least two different directions, as outlined above. First, follow-up studies are being conducted to extend the conclusions to different indirect evaluative measures and to investigate whether awareness of US identity contributes to EC above and beyond awareness of US valence. Second, it is envisaged to investigate more closely the processes underlying performance on the awareness memory tests. The research made possible by the seedcorn grant has helped to bridge the author's research interests in social, cognitive, and methodological areas of psychology.

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Announcements

EJSP – New Editors

As briefly mentioned in the last issue of the Bulletin we will have new joint *EJSP* editors: Anne Maass and Russell Spears. They will take over the editorship of the *European Journal of Social Psychology* in January 2009. They will be joined by a group of outstanding Associate Editors: Manuela Barreto, Karen Douglas, Kerry Kawakami, Colin Leach, Sonia Roccas, Stefan Schulz-Hardt, Paschal Sheeran and Kees van den Bos. Below are short bio statements:

Anne Maass

Anne Maass, born in Germany but living in Italy, received her MS in Social Psychology from the University of Heidelberg (1978) and her Ph.D. from Florida State University (1982). She has been employed at the University of Kiel (Germany) and subsequently at the University of Padova (Italy), and has taught and conducted research at other universities (Arizona State University, University of Heidelberg, UC at Davis, Griffith University, Free University of Amsterdam). She has been Associate Editor of the *European Journal of Social Psychology* and of *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*. She has served as the National Coordinator of European Social Cognition Network and is member of the Task Force on Language and Discrimination of the International Association of Language and Social Psychology. She has published research (including more than 60 articles in international journals) in diverse areas including minority influence, eyewitness testimony, sexual harassment, prejudice development, and stereotype threat. Her current research interests are mainly concerned with the link between language and social cognition.

Russell Spears

Russell Spears received his BSc in Psychology from the University of Bristol (1981) and his Ph.D. from the University of Exeter (1985). After postdoctoral fellowships at Manchester and Dundee, he worked at the University of Amsterdam (The Netherlands) for 15 years, maintaining a visiting position there until recently, having moved to Cardiff University (Wales) in 2003. He has been Chief Editor of the *British Journal of Social Psychology* and an Associate editor of *Self and Identity*. He is a fellow of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology (Div 8, APA) and was recently awarded an ESRC Professorial Fellowship. He has published on diverse topics in social psychology and communication studies, with a particular focus on social identity processes in intergroup relations. This includes research on stereotyping, intergroup differentiation and discrimination, social influence, power, computer-mediated communication, automatic behaviour in groups, group-based emotions and collective action.

Manuela Barreto

Manuela Barreto obtained her PhD in Social Psychology (2000) from the Free University, Amsterdam, the Netherlands. After her PhD she was first a Postdoctoral researcher, and then an Assistant Professor, and an Associate Professor (tenured) in Social and Organizational Psychology at Leiden University, the Netherlands. She is currently happy to be back in her home country, Portugal, as a Research Fellow at the Centre for Social Research and Intervention, Lisbon. She has been awarded several prizes and prestigious research grants. Her research interests and publications are on the psychology of the disadvantaged, exemplified by her work on identity respect, reactions to prejudice and discrimination, and the psychology of concealed identities.

Karen Douglas

Karen Douglas was born in the United Kingdom but was raised and educated in Australia. She received her BSc (Honours) from the University of Newcastle, NSW in 1994 and her PhD from the Australian National University in 2000. She held a postdoctoral fellowship at Massey University in New Zealand before moving to the United Kingdom to take up a lectureship at Keele University. Since 2005, she has been employed at the University of Kent where she is currently a Senior Lecturer. Karen has published widely in topics related to the social psychology of communication. Her main current research interests are on language use in interpersonal and intergroup communication, persuasive communication, Internet behaviour and beliefs in conspiracy theories. Karen is also currently serving as Associate Editor of the journal *Social Psychology*.

Kerry Kawakami

Kerry Kawakami was born in Canada and received her Masters in Social Psychology from the University of Amsterdam (1989) and her Ph.D. from the University of Toronto (1995). She has been a faculty member at both the Radboud University in Nijmegen, the Netherlands (1995-2002) and at York University in Toronto, Canada (2002-present). Kerry has been on the editorial board of the Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin, the European Journal of Social Psychology, and the Journal of Personality and Social Psychology. Her research has been published in many of the main journals in our field including the Journal of Personality and Social Psychology, Journal of Experimental Psychology, Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin, European Journal of Social Psychology, Psychological Science, and Group Processes and Intergroup Relations. Her main research interests are social cognition and

intergroup biases. Specifically, she examines the automatic activation of associations related to social categories and strategies to reduce these activations.

Colin Wayne Leach

Colin Wayne Leach was born in Manchester England and raised in New York City. He studied at Boston University (B.A., 1989; M.A. 1991) and the University of Michigan (Ph.D. 1995) and has been on the faculty of the University of California-Santa Cruz and the University of Sussex. Colin is currently Associate Professor in the social psychology program at the University of Connecticut. A former Ford and Chancellor's fellow, Colin has been a visiting scholar in Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, and Australia. He has served on the editorial boards of numerous journals, including the European Journal of Social Psychology, Journal of Social Issues, and Journal of Personality and Social Psychology, Social Psychology and Personality Compass.

Colin has published over forty articles and book chapters and co-edited two books: *Immigrant Life in the U.S.: Multi-disciplinary Perspectives* (Routledge, 2003) and *The Social Life of Emotions* (Cambridge, 2004). His work generally examines status, morality, and emotion in individual and group relations. He works across socio-political contexts (e.g., throughout the U.S., Europe, Russia, and Australia) and has a keen interest in method, theory, and meta-theory.

Sonia Roccas

Sonia Roccas received her Ph.D. in social psychology from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and was a post doctoral fellow at Ohio State University. She is currently a faculty member at the

Open University of Israel. Her research focuses on social cognition processes as they relate to social identity and to value priorities. She examines the ways in which people's identities influence their behaviors, emotions, values, and beliefs about themselves and about others.

Stefan Schulz-Hardt

Stefan Schulz-Hardt, born in Germany, received his Diploma (1993) and his Ph.D. (Dr. phil., 1996) at the University of Kiel. He was a PostDoc and received his habilitation grade at Ludwig-Maximilians University Munich (2002). Afterwards, he became a Professor for Social and Financial Psychology at Technical University Dresden (2002), and since 2004 he is a Full Professor for Industrial, Economic and Social Psychology at the University of Goettingen. He has published in various international social and organizational psychology top-journals as, for example, *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*, *Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin*, *Journal of Experimental Social Psychology*, *Organizational Behavior and Human Decision Processes*, and *Academy of Management Review*, and he serves as ad-hoc reviewer for these and other journals as well as for various science founding organizations (DFG, FWF, SNF). His current research interests are group performance, information pooling and group decision making, preference-consistent information search and information processing, escalating commitment, and mental satiation at the workplace.

Paschal Sheeran

Paschal Sheeran completed undergraduate (1984) and Master's degrees (1988) at University College Dublin (Ireland) and a PhD at the University of Sheffield (1997), and has been a lecturer at Sheffield since 1992. He is a member of the National Cancer

Institute's (USA) Health Cognitions Group and has conducted research at other universities in Europe (Maastricht, Konstanz) and North America (Laval, New Mexico State, NYU). Paschal's research is broadly concerned with attitudes, goals, and motivation and with the application of social psychological theories to behaviour change interventions. He has published 80+ refereed articles on various applied topics (e.g., HIV/AIDS, cancer, unemployment, blood donation, depression) and conceptual issues (e.g., intention-behavior relations, affect regulation, implementation intentions).

Kees van den Bos

Kees van den Bos obtained his Ph.D. in 1996 at Leiden University (cum laude) and in the same year he won a dissertation award of the Association of Dutch Social Psychologists and obtained a fellowship from the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences. Since 2001 he is a Professor of Social Psychology at Utrecht University, the Netherlands, and in 2003 he was awarded a VICI innovational research grant from the Dutch national science foundation (NWO). He has been an associate editor of *Social Justice Research*, a consulting editor of the *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*, editor of books and special issues, and ad hoc reviewer of more than 50 international journals. He has been a secretary of the International Society for Justice Research and the Dutch Association of Social Psychologists (ASPO). Van den Bos has published more than 100 publications, including articles in all major social psychology journals (e.g., *JPSP*, *JESP*, *PSPB*, *EJSP*). His current research interests focus on fairness, morality, uncertainty, cultural worldviews, and radical behavior and terrorism. More information can be found at: <http://vandenbos.socialpsychology.org/>.

**SPSP Summer Institute of Social Psychology (SISP) 2009
Call for Applications**

Modelled on the bi-annual EAESP summer schools, which are held in even-numbered years, the Society of Personality and Social Psychology (SPSP) offers comparable two-week intensive summer schools for US/Canadian doctoral students, to be held in the United States in odd-numbered years, beginning in 2003. The first Summer Institute in Social Psychology (SISP) took place in 2003, the fourth SISP will be held in July 2009 in Evanston (near Chicago).

EAESP schools are set up primarily for European students, but the organisers also always accept five US-students, selected and sponsored by SPSP. The SPSP schools are similarly set up primarily for USA/Canadian students, but the organisers will also accept five European students, selected and sponsored by the EAESP.

In the following, please find quoted a SISP Dialogue Article by Eli J. Finkel and Derek D. Rucker (October 16, 2008:)

We are delighted to announce that Northwestern University is hosting the fourth Summer Institute in Social Psychology (SISP) in 2009. Rising second-to-fifth-year graduate students will descend on Northwestern's gorgeous, lake-front campus in Evanston, IL, on Sunday, July 12, and they will remain there until Saturday, July 25. While in Evanston, students will attend one of five intensive courses. Each course will have two instructors and approximately 16 students.

The five courses are:

- (1) Conflict and Negotiation (instructors: Adam Galinsky and Michael Morris)
- (2) Emotions in Group and Intergroup Contexts (instructors: Ernestine Gordijn and Eliot Smith)
- (3) Biological Basis of Social Behavior and Personality (instructors: Iris Mauss and Oliver Schultheiss)
- (4) Prejudice and Stereotyping (instructors: Jack Dovidio and Laurie Rudman)
- (5) Relationship Development and Maintenance (instructors: Eli Finkel and Jeff Simpson).

In addition to these five classes, students will have the opportunity to attend one of three day-long workshops focusing on methodological and statistical issues: (1) Item Response Theory (instructor: Steve Reise), (2) Meta-Analysis (instructor: Blair Johnson), and (3) Ambulatory Assessment (instructor: Matthias Mehl).

The SPSP steering committee—Harry Reis (chair), Sam Gosling, Tiffany Ito, Chick Judd, Carolyn Morf, and Eliot Smith—selected the course topics and instructors. As the local coordinating committee, our jobs are to serve as the SISP admissions committee and to make sure everything runs smoothly for the instructors and the students.

SISP is sponsored by SPSP and the National Science Foundation. The 2009 Institute has received additional funding from three Northwestern University entities: (1) the Kellogg Graduate School of Management, (2) the Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences, and (3) the Graduate School. These generous sponsorships allow us to cover most student expenses, although students must provide their own travel to the Institute and pay a \$200 enrollment fee. Five slots are reserved for European students, who should immediately

contact the Executive Officer Sibylle Classen (sibylle@eaesp.org) for application information. (By rule, students who have already attended the European Association of Social Psychology's summer school are not eligible for SISP.) We especially encourage applications from underrepresented minority populations and from international students outside of Europe. We are optimistic that limited additional funding will be available to assist students in financial need.

The first three SISPs were hosted by the University of Colorado at Boulder (2003), the University of Michigan (2005), and the University of Texas at Austin (2007). All were resounding successes, providing stimulating intellectual and social experiences for the students and the instructors. Given the 2009 course lineup and the loveliness of Evanston (and nearby Chicago) in July, we are confident that the forthcoming SISP will continue to meet the lofty expectations of all involved.

PhD students at European universities are eligible for application to the SISP. An application form can be downloaded from the website (<http://www.eaesp.org/activities/joint/spsp.htm>) Please make sure to send your cv, a short letter of motivation, and the form as attachment to sibylle@eaesp.org and please don't forget to ask your supervisor for a recommendation letter which should be directly e-mailed to Sibylle Classen.

Deadline is December 31, 2008.

Applicants will be notified of acceptance decisions by the end of January.

EAESP is sponsoring the travel for the 5 European students up to a maximum of €600.

Instructor Information – Courses

Jack Dovidio, Yale University. Dr. Dovidio explores issues related to both conscious and unconscious influences on how people think about, feel about, and behave toward others based on group membership.

Eli Finkel, Northwestern University. Dr. Finkel specializes in relationships and examines topics such as forgiveness, partner violence, romantic attraction, and self-regulation in relationships.

Adam Galinsky, Northwestern University. Dr. Galinsky's research focuses on topics such as leadership, negotiations, power, decision-making, and the development of organizational values and culture.

Ernestine Gordijn, University of Groningen. Dr. Gordijn research examines meta-stereotypes on individuals' emotions and cognitions, emotions in intergroup processes, and charismatic leadership.

Iris Mauss, University of Denver. Dr. Mauss focuses on understanding emotion and emotion regulation via a convergence of approaches such as behavior coding, autonomic physiological responses, and brain imaging.

Michael Morris, Columbia University. Dr. Morris' research interests include understanding cross-cultural differences in social judgment as well as better understanding negotiations.

Laurie Rudman, Rutgers University. Dr. Rudman's research focuses on understanding the sources of implicit attitudes, the relationship between implicit and explicit measures, and the factors that alter implicit attitudes and beliefs.

Oliver Schultheiss, University of Michigan. Dr. Schultheiss' research emphasizes understanding issues related to topics such as the psychophysiological indicators of emotion and the brain substrates of implicit motives.

Jeffry Simpson, Minnesota University. Dr. Simpson is known for his work in the areas of attachment processes, human mating, empathic accuracy, idealization in relationships, and social influence in relationships.

Eliot Smith, Indiana University. Dr. Smith's research focuses on topics such as the role of intergroup emotions in prejudice and intergroup relations and connectionist or neural network models in social psychology.

Instructor Information – Workshops

Blair Johnson, University of Connecticut. Dr. Johnson is known for his work on the structure and change of attitudes and stereotypes as well as his contributions to the theory and practice of research synthesis in the form of meta-analysis.

Matthias Mehl, University of Arizona. Dr. Mehl's work focused on topics of naturalistic person-environment interactions; social interactions, coping, and health; and alternative psychological assessment methods.

Steve Reise, University of California, Los Angeles. Dr. Reise's research interests in psychometrics have led him to make advances in areas such as the application of IRT measurement models to personality assessment data.

EASP mailserv

The Executive Committee has recently discussed the EASP mailserv. It was decided, that we continue with our policy to send messages about

- EASP related issues,
- call for papers for special issues,
- job announcements,
- conference announcements,
- requests for input into meta-analyses.

Any member who wants to circulate messages to the membership by the EASP mailserv is welcome to contact Sibylle Classen who will forward your announcement to the membership. However, please keep in mind that, as a rule, we do **not** circulate attachments and do **not** send announcements concerning:

- publications
- address changes
- non-EASP awards

Job announcements will also be placed on the EAESP website (www.eaesp.org -> click on the right hand window – job offers). There you can find all recent job announcements.

Please send your message as Word-document or within the e-mail body to sibylle@eaesp.org

Deadlines for Contributions

Please make sure that applications for meetings and applications for membership are received by the Executive Officer by **March, 15th, 2009** latest. Applications for grants and for the International Teaching Fellowship Scheme can be received by the deadlines end of March, June, September, and December. The deadline for the next issue of the Bulletin is **March, 15th, 2009**.

The next Executive Committee Meeting will take place April 3-5, 2009.

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