

SOCIETY OF AUSTRALASIAN SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGISTS

NEWSLETTER

Volume 4, No. 2, October 1998

Editorial

Welcome to the first edition of the SASP Newsletter under the new editorial team comprising Ngaire Donaghue, Mike Innes and Iain Walker based in the School of Psychology, Murdoch University in Perth. Geographically we are a long distance from the bulk of the membership of the Society. We three, however, believe that we are well imbued with the spirit, the ethos and the goals of the society and we can make a substantial contribution to the future development of the membership by facilitating the communication processes and networks within the membership. I hope that all members will feel able to use the Newsletter as a means of communicating their views about where we are heading, where we should be heading and what we should be doing to minimise discrepancies between what we do and what we should do.

We are willing to consider copy from any member of the Society pertaining to the state of social, especially Australasian social, psychology. By including the bit between the commas, of course we may have opened an issue in itself-see the debate in the European Association about "European" social psychology. But that is part of the nature of the debate. We want substantive pieces about what people are doing, reviews, comments, declarations etc. Humour is welcomed and there is always a place in such a Newsletter for the lubricant of a healthy society, namely gossip. Mild forms of slander will be tolerated but the editors will wish to take editorial action when required.

We will not normally publish lists of forthcoming publications; that function is best served by the electronic bulletin (which is a highly under-utilised service of the Society, or so it appears to us). News items such as visitors, movements of members to other positions, forthcoming conferences, workshops etc. will continue to be the centrepiece of our function.

As part of our perceived role in the fulfillment of the roles of the society we are going over the next few months to initiate some actions which we hope will be of interest to social psychologists generally. We want to look at two aspects of the development of social psychology in Australasia. The first is the views of those members and past members of what and who were important for the discipline in times past. We want to interview members about their professional history, their views of the discipline, where it has come from and where it is going. There is, apparently, a videotape of what Kurt Lewin, looking down from wherever he is, would think of the discipline he had a big role to play in its foundation. A similar exercise in the local content would be interesting.

The second is related to the first. Who can remember the influence upon their thinking of a particular book or article that really profoundly changed their way of thinking about the discipline? Was it Smith, Bruner and White's 1956 book on Opinions and Personality, or Miller, Galanter and Pribram's volume on Plans and the Organisation of Behavior? We are going to see if we can invite people to think about such issues and write short pieces about the book and why it should be seen as important. We would value your feedback on these two possibilities and, if you think they are worth pursuing, giving us ideas of people and books, and people to write about the books.

Those are our ideas at present. For the moment, we present the first issue under the new team. We hope that this will be merely a tasty soupcon of what is to come.

Ngaire Donaghue ndonaghu@socs.murdoch.edu.au

Mike Innes minnes@socs.murdoch.edu.au

From the committee

President's Report

As the Chinese curse goes (or is supposed to go), "May you live in interesting times." This has been one of those years, with university funding changing (and not for the better), politics going somewhat astray (or worse, if you still read the newspapers), and prejudice and discrimination right out front where you can see them. I guess there is always a silver lining, and this year there is a lot of work out there for social psychologists of all theoretical and methodological orientations. In this brief report, I will only touch on the SASP activities so far this year and planned for next year, as they are all described in detail elsewhere in this newsletter (or I hope they are).

First, many thanks to Garth Fletcher, Lucy Johnstone, and all their helpers at the University of Canterbury for hosting a great Christchurch conference. From the impressive opening reception to the final paper, the conference was well worth attending, as its size and diversity attest. Garth gets the negotiator of the year award for his efforts to get the Powhiri to work, in spite of the spikiness of a number of different sides. And it was worth it, especially as this was a cross-cultural first for many of the Australians there. Beyond that, their choice of keynote speakers who are not social psychologists but who could help to bridge the gaps between their fields and ours was an innovation that worked very well. I really appreciated all the effort they went to, and their act will be hard to follow - although it goes without saying that the Brisbanites will go out of their way to try at SASP 99 (not to mention the Western Australians, where the conference will be in 2000). Many congratulations.

On another topic, many thanks to Margaret Foddy for all she has done for SASP. Her term as past president has finished, but she is continuing to lend a hand, especially in making links with other associations and groups, where she and president-elect Graham Vaughan are starting some interesting initiatives. I feel sure that her profile in SASP will stay high. Thanks also to Mike Hogg and Julie Duck for their work as editors of the newsletter, and to the Murdoch team - Ngaire Donaghue Mike Innes, and Iain Walker - for taking up the cudgels with this issue. The newsletter has now settled in as a very good read. Let me remind postgraduate student members that there is a call for nominations in this issue for your representative on the SASP executive. The rest of the executive (president-elect, secretary, treasurer) will be elected next year, so you will be hearing more from Graham Vaughan, Ruth Scott, and Julie Duck in the meantime.

Finally, there is a call for applications for SASP project funding in this issue. This is an initiative we decided to take at this year's AGM in Christchurch. It is aimed especially but not exclusively towards the interests of postgraduate student members. Please let me know if you have any questions about this, and get us your applications before the December 1st deadline. As you will read in this issue, planning for the SASP postgraduate pre-conference in Brisbane next year is well underway.

On to the rest of the interesting year. Prejudice and intolerance are looming large as national issues, and they will be key issues for SASP too.

Cindy Gallois

President, SASP

Academic Board, Brian Wilson Chancellory

The University of Queensland

St. Lucia, Qld, 4072

c.gallois@mailbox.uq.edu.au

Secretary's Report

To date, despite the reminder via email, 62 of the 226 active SASP members have NOT renewed their membership for 1998/9. This is a final last warning. Check the label on this newsletter's envelope. If there is no asterisk (*) this means our records indicate you are in arrears. In a couple of months a new WWW version of the SASP directory will appear. At that time, all entries will be updated and those still unpaid, will be deleted. If you have lost your form, let me know and I'll get another to you. Dues are (A)\$25 for all except post graduate students; for them it's A\$15. Forms and cheques, payable to SASP, should be sent to:

Dr. Julie Duck, Department of Psychology, University of Queensland,, Brisbane, QLD 4072 Australia

If you wish to pay by credit card, fill in the required information at the bottom of the directory/dues form.

The 1999 edition of the SASP directory will be available at the Brisbane conference and will be posted out to all SASP members not attending the conference, plus to libraries throughout the region (courtesy Brian Crabbe). At the last AGM, some members expressed concern about wasting trees by printing and distributing the hard copy to everyone when it was available on WWW. As a majority seemed to wish to still receive it, I have decided to make it available to all, UNLESS I am notified by the end of the year, that you do NOT want a hard copy. Let me know by email or snail mail:

Ruth Scott, SASP secretary

Division of Psychology

Australian National University

Canberra, ACT 0200

ruth.scott@anu.edu.au

Treasurer's Report

My report is that there's nothing much to report except perhaps that the introduction of the credit card payment facility seems to be a winner for the membership if not for me as treasurer.....

Dr. Julie Duck

Department of Psychology

University of Queensland,

Brisbane, QLD 4072

Australia

julied@psy.uq.edu.au

Postgraduate Representative's Report

The first postgraduate pre-conference workshop took place in Christchurch this year. It was a great start to what will hopefully be an ongoing tradition. The welcome reception provided a wonderful opportunity for catching up with familiar faces, as well as getting to know some of the newer members. The first presenter for the workshop was Joe Forgas (from UNSW) who spoke to us about the development and progression of his career. In addition to offering some helpful advice, he openly shared about his experiences. It was very encouraging to be reminded from someone who has achieved so much that he also had once been a postgraduate, and had faced the same decisions and

uncertainties that are common experiences for us. Mike Smithson (from ANU) offered some helpful strategies and suggestions for data analysis during the afternoon statistics workshop. During the day we also spent time in small groups discussing the pros and cons of being a postgraduate at our various universities. We were able to take 'home' from this discussion a number of ideas concerning practices that others find particularly useful. In addition, it provided the opportunity to make suggestions for issues that could possibly be addressed in future workshops. Special thanks must go to Deborah Terry, and the Executive, Garth Fletcher, and both the presenters for the time and effort they put into ensuring the success of the workshop.

Onto another matter - it's time to make your nominations for the new postgraduate representative. The call for nominations is included in this newsletter, together with some details of the voting procedure (as discussed during the postgraduate meeting held in Christchurch). Please think about who you would like to see fill this position and make the effort to get your nominations in. The final vote will be taken at the conference next year, at which time the two year term of the new representative will begin. Don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions concerning either the position or the voting procedure.

Kathryn Strong

Postgraduate Representative

University of New South Wales

K.Strong@unsw.edu.au

Association news

SocPsyBull E-Mail Deletions

As you all know, SASP has an e-mail network called SocPsyBull. Members use this network for such things as the distribution of job announcements, requests for information, and conference information. Only current SASP members have access to this list.

As the monitor of the SocPsyBull list, I (Michael Platow) receive return messages from every e-mail submitted to the list that did not make it to specific individuals; I have nearly 100 of these cluttering up my files. This transmission failure almost always occurs because members, or their institutions, have changed their e-mail addresses without informing me. In my first few months as monitor, I tracked down members via the internet and corrected their e-mail addresses without them knowing.

Unfortunately, this hunting and correcting is extremely time consuming. I would like to request that each member inform me personally of any changes to his or her e-mail address. In the mean time, *I will delete from the SocPsyBull addresses that are no longer valid.* This means that, even if you are a current SASP member, you will not receive SocPsyBull information if you have failed to inform me of your e-mail address change.

Members can contact me via e-mail at m.platow@latrobe.edu.au. Do not request e-mail address changes through SocPsyBull.

Michael Platow

School of Psychology

La Trobe University

Bundoora, Vic, 3083

Call for projects for SASP funding

(Applications due 1 December 1998)

At the 1997 AGM, it was decided that SASP should, beyond its present commitments, provide funding for two types of initiatives:

- Projects of direct benefit to members of SASP who are postgraduate students or recent PhD graduates
- Seed funding for other projects

To date, funding has been provided for the postgraduate pre-conference workshop at SASP 1998 in Christchurch, with the expectation that this workshop will continue at future conferences if it is successful.

The executive of SASP is now issuing a call for applications for funding in three areas, as follows:

1. **Subsidies for full-time postgraduate students** of up to \$300 towards attendance at SASP (including a pre-conference workshop, if there is one), which may be spent for travel, registration, or accommodation. Applications should be accompanied by proof of full-time student status and a full statement of other funding obtained for this purpose from any other source, certified by the student's head of department. Applicants must be members of SASP in good standing.
2. Applications for **projects of direct benefit to postgraduate students in social psychology** (e.g., activities related to the SASP conference, intensive mode teaching or short courses, provision of visiting speakers to departments for master classes, provision for postgraduate students to visit other departments for short periods, etc). Applications should give a full description of the project, including a business plan detailing all proposed sources of funding, commitments made by project organisers, and timelines. Applications should also specify the ways in which postgraduate students will benefit. Preference will be given to initiatives capable of benefiting all postgraduate members of SASP or those with least access to resources (e.g., students in departments with very small programs in social psychology, students in remote areas).
3. Applications for **projects that are of general benefit to Australasian social psychology** (e.g., publicity activities, liaisons with other associations, community or government organisations, etc.). Applications should give a full description of the project, including a business plan detailing all proposed sources of funding, commitments made by project organisers and others involved, and timelines. Applicants should specify clearly how the project will be of benefit to social psychology in Australia and/or New Zealand.

Applications are due on 1 December 1998, and should be sent by post or fax to:

Professor Cindy Gallois

President, SASP

Academic Board, Brian Wilson Chancellery

The University of Queensland

St. Lucia, Qld, 4072.

Fax: 07-3365 4383

c.gallois@mailbox.uq.edu.au

Questions should be directed to Cindy Gallois, preferably by email.

Conference Reports

SASP 1998

SASP 1998 was held in downtown Christchurch, New Zealand from 16-19 April, at the Centra hotel. The conference was apparently one of the largest SASP conferences ever, with around 160 people attending. There were a large range of symposia and papers delivered, and two keynote speakers: David Funder (University of California at Riverside), and Colin MacLeod (University of Western Australia, Perth). Our impression (and that of others) was that the academic standard of the papers was generally high.

The conference was preceded by a postgraduate workshop attended by about 45 people: thanks are extended to Joe Forgas and Mike Smithson for presenting seminars at this conference. This was a first for SASP, and, by all accounts, was successful. The reception on the Thursday night started off with a bang with a Powhiri (Maori welcome) put on by a group from the University of Canterbury. It was a moving and entertaining ceremony. Graham Vaughan (as president elect) made something of a mess at picking up the peace offering of a twig, and came close to getting rapped around the ears by the Taiaha held by the Maori challenger. However, he redeemed himself later with a splendid speech and song (both in Maori). Our current president (Cindy Gallois) also made speeches both in English and Maori (the latter which she amazingly learnt in 5 mins. just before the ceremony).

The conference dinner was also a highlight of the conference with a good deal of hilarity all round, and much wine and food imbibed. Martha Augoustinos picked up first prize (a free attempt at the world record for nude bungy-jumping from a helicopter) for the social psychology joke competition, and Margaret Foddy and Kristina Macrae kept everyone amused with risqué skits and bogus awards based on the conference programme.

It was a tiring but fulfilling experience organizing the conference. We thank all those who helped to make the conference successful including the officers of SASP, students from the University of Canterbury, the psychology department at the University of Canterbury, and all the members of SASP.

Garth Fletcher g.fletcher@psyc.canterbury.ac.nz

Lucy Johnston l.johnstone@psyc.canterbury.ac.nz

Not the SASP conference

Report from SASPSoc (the SASP Social Committee)

As in previous years, the 1998 Christchurch meeting of SASP was characterised by three styles of social intercourse, representing the three hermeneutic traditions of the Society: the RAM, the EWE and the LAMB. You may recall that these were identified at the Annual Dinner postprandial speech, where Associate Professor Foggy and Dr Macrame distinguished between the Realistic Accuracy Model, Epiphenomenal Women's Epistemology, and the approach that has come to be known colloquially as Linguistic Analysis Methodology: Bullshit.

To cite supporting instances, the RAM model of intercourse is best exemplified by the way in which the Two Dead Princesses (Diana Grace) and Plato found their true essence in his cave. The EWE and LAMB discourses inevitably clash, and Martha and Joe provided us with ample illustration of this, mainly over drinks at the bar and little bowls of unidentifiable left-overs from empty cereal packets. Hegel might have seen their debates as a classic case of the I - EWE dialectic. John Turner adopted all three stances at various times during the meeting with just about anyone, depending on whether it was their mind or body he was after. As usual, Alex Haslam lived his methodology in his socialising and vice versa, befitting his paper advocating the BAA BAA design.

Significant insights into our collective personality were offered at the Sheep Symposium, with most of us not knowing which side of the fence we were on vis-a-vis the rather woolly presentations of our two Keynote Speakers. Professor

Thunder almost had us convinced about the Big Two in Sheep (although his overheads suggested he thought he was in Fiji rather than New Zealand - but hey, what's the difference when we're all here together in the Southern Hemisphere). Then we flocked to Professor Clone ("Dolly") McCloud's address where it was hard not to come away with a strong conviction that the sheep is quite a complex character. Indeed, in the opinion of your humble writer, the audience's ability to follow the complexity of Dolly's experimental designs truly sorted out the sheep from the goats.

Much more could be said but it is likely to be censored by your new editors who for understandable reasons do not wish to be sued at this early stage of their editorial careers. No doubt there will be further libellous and slanderous social intercourse in Brisbane in 1999. Bring your Pauline Hanson masks.

Dr Kristina Macrae Kristina.Macrae@sci.monash.edu.au

The International Association for Cross-Cultural Psychology (IACCP), which publishes the Journal of Cross-Cultural Psychology, had its silver jubilee conference in Bellingham, Washington, on the tranquil campus of Western Washington University (3-7 August, 1998). The conference was well attended, featuring a past-oriented founders symposium (founders of cross-cultural psychology like Rogelio Diaz-Guerrero, Gustav Jahoda, Douglas Price-Williams, and Harry Triandis) and a future-oriented symposium (youngish cross-culturalists like Ted Singelis, Uichol Kim, Kwok Leung, Fons van de Vijver, Patricia Greenfield, Heidi Keller, Zanep Ajcan, and myself).

For a symposium on culture and social psychology at this conference, I reviewed recent papers published in the area of social cognition and culture, and found a clear trend of an increase in the number of publications in the area over the 1989-1998 period. On the same panel, however, Marilyn Brewer reported that she couldn't find too much research in the area of culture and intergroup relationships. Apparently, social psychology is "culturalized" at different paces in different areas.

I also attended a small conference on culture and psychology held at Stanford University held shortly after the IACCP conference (18-19 August, 1998). Hazel Markus and Michael Morris organized it with the help of their students and associates. The conference spanned two days totalling about 20 hours of presentation and discussion. I gave a paper on communication and group entitativity, and took part in a panel discussion with Michael Bond, Shinobu Kitayama, Hazel Markus, Michael Morris, Claude Steele, and Harry Triandis. The conference was extremely stimulating; what was most encouraging was the number of graduate students who gave excellent papers, again indicating the increasing interest in culture.

Yoshi Kashima

School of Psychology

La Trobe University

psyk@lure.latrobe.edu.au

Group Processes Pre-Conference--American Sociological Associatio

The thirteenth annual Group Processes pre-conference of the ASA was held in San Francisco on August 20. This is a group of about 100 sociologists whose research interests include power and exchange, status, equity and justice, affect, identity, collective behaviour, etc. There are usually 6 to 8 speakers during the day, and several roundtable discussions over lunch. If any SASP member is interested on being on their mailing list, contact Margaret Foddy.

Margaret Foddy

School of Psychology

La Trobe University

psymf@lure.latrobe.edu.au

International Work Psychology Conference, University of Sheffield, England, July 1-3, 1998.

I recently presented at the International Work Psychology Conference in Sheffield, and can highly recommend this conference to fellow social psychologists, even if your research area is only tangentially related to organisational psychology. Virtually all of the research presented had a strong underlying social psychology base. This is not surprising when you consider the main topics of the presentations and poster sessions were in the areas of teams, leadership, communication, motivation, stress, training and learning, sexual relations, justice, etc. There were also various interesting methodology papers - examining issues from artefacts to artificial intelligence in psychological research. Not only was there a great variety of topics, but the quality of presentations was very high, with presenters ranging from postgrads to professors, and a few organisational psychology consultants. There were about 270 registrants in total.

It was great to catch up with some old friends and colleagues from around Australia (including many other SASP members), and to meet other social/organisational psychologists from around Australia and the rest of the world. There was quite a high representation of Australians and expat Australians, including the conference organiser, Kerrie Unsworth, who did a magnificent job of putting together a great conference. Again, a highly enjoyable and recommended conference. The next one is due to be held in 2000. If interested, the website address for the Institute of Work Psychology is <http://www.shef.ac.uk/~iwp>.

Michael Willemyns

Michael.Willemyns@vut.edu.au

Forthcoming conferences

SASP Conference - 1999

Plans for the SASP 99 conference are progressing very well. After taking a closer look at the different venues on the Sunshine Coast, we have decided on the Hyatt at Coolum, which is only about 20 minutes from Maroochydore Airport (we suggest that people fly directly to this airport - this is possible from all major Australian airports). We have negotiated a very good rate with the Hyatt and, although it will be necessary for everyone to stay there, the options for sharing accommodation are excellent. The conference will be held from 5pm, Thursday, 8th April, 1999, until after lunch on Sunday, 11th April - the conference dinner will be held on Saturday evening at Noosa. The call for papers and additional information about the conference will be sent to all SASP members in early December, with abstracts and registration forms due in early February. We will call for suggestions for symposia at an earlier date, via the SASP Bulletin Board.

As decided at Christchurch, the Conference will be preceded by a 1-day Postgraduate Preconference on Thursday, 8th April, commencing with predinner drinks on Wednesday, 7th April. At this stage, it is envisaged that the morning session of the Preconference will offer postgraduates (and recent graduates) an opportunity to discuss issues concerning publication in social psychology with former and current journal editors. The afternoon session will constitute a workshop-style research-oriented session focusing on the broad topic of "intolerance" - including its cognitive, individual, interpersonal, and intergroup dimensions. This area is of contemporary relevance to social psychology and the community, and its scientific study clearly benefits from an integration of the range of different levels of analysis and research foci in social psychology.

Deborah J. Terry, PhD

School of Psychology

University of Queensland

Brisbane, QLD 4072, Australia

Phone: +61 7 3365-6442

Fax: +61 7 3365-4466

deborah@psy.uq.edu.au

International Sociology Association Meetings: Montreal Canada July 26-August 1, 1998--Future meeting in Brisbane, 2002.

The International Sociology Association (ISA) holds a major international conference every 4 years. I attended the meeting in Montreal in July, and gave a paper in the Social Psychology "Research Committee" stream. This is like a section in APA, and its members are keen to foster links to social psychologists in psychology who are interested in group processes research, and in cross cultural collaborations. The present Chair of the Social Psychology group (Section 42) is Ed Lawler of Cornell University (previous editor of *Social Psychology Quarterly*). There are also sections with interests in gender issues, methodology, organisational sociology, emotions, justice, and rational choice (topics of interest to SASP members).

In 2002, the large meeting will be held in BRISBANE!! (yes, Brisbane, Australia). I have agreed to act as a liaison person to SASP, and will be putting a proposal to the next SASP AGM about some joint sessions.

Margaret Foddy

School of Psychology

La Trobe University

The Fourth International Conference on Communication, Ageing and Health. Gold Coast, Queensland, 13th - 16th July, 1999

Call for Abstracts for Posters and Symposia

Abstracts due 31st January, 1999

This Conference is the fourth in a series of international conferences that provide interaction between the disciplines in the areas of communication, ageing and health. The previous conferences have been (1988) Fullbright International Colloquium, Newtown, Wales, (1994) Second International Conference on Communication, Aging and Health, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada, (1996) Third International Conference on Communication, Aging and Health, Kansas City, USA. The fourth conference will continue the tradition of providing a forum for interdisciplinary, intergenerational and intercultural dialogue on the communication and health of older people. The Conference will cover theoretical, practice and policy issues and therefore provide a vital link between disciplines which specialise in these areas.

The Conference will be held in the International Year of Older Persons and, as such, will be a focus for activities in Australia. The theme of the International Year of Older Persons is "A Society for All Ages" which is reflected in the conference theme. In line with this concept, the chosen destination of Surfers Paradise on the Gold Coast attracts retirees from all states of Australia, and it is planned that a key feature of this conference will be the participation of older people themselves in many activities and debates.

Topic areas include Interdisciplinary, Intergenerational, Intercultural Theory, Practice and Policy Issues in

- Intergenerational communication
- Interdisciplinary issues in communication and health
- Cross-cultural issues in communication and health
- The role of communication in healthy ageing
- Communication disabilities in ageing
- Communication in aged care facilities
- Communication and technology
- Communication between health professionals and older people
- Older people in the media

The conference keynote speakers are

- Professor Ellen Bouchard Ryan - Professor of Psychiatry and Gerontology, McMaster University, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada.
- Professor Rosemary Lubinski - Professor, Department of Communicative Disorders and Sciences, State University of New York, Buffalo, NY, USA.
- Professor Howard Giles - Professor and Chair, Department of Communication, University of California, Santa Barbara, CA, USA.
- Professor Heather Gibb - Professor of Nursing, Aged Care, University of Technology, Sydney and South Eastern Sydney Area Health Service, NSW, Australia.
- Ms Val French - Chairperson, Older People Speak Out, Vice-chair, State Coordinating Committee, Australian Coalition 99, International Year of Older Persons, Queensland, Australia.

Call for abstracts are for two forms of presentation:

Poster sessions. the posters will be displayed for a minimum of one day at the conference and will be grouped according to the topic areas. Formal viewing of posters will occur for 1.5 hours prior to a discussion session. A discussant will be allocated to each topic area and will present brief summaries of the posters, inviting the authors to comment where necessary. This will be followed by focused discussion on the implications of these posters so that a set of recommendations can be made. The recommendations from all sessions will be collated and discussed in a plenary session on the final day of the conference.

Brief symposia. The aim of these symposia is to showcase state-of-the-art research, practice or policy in communication, ageing and health. These will be predominantly oral sessions organized by leaders in their field who will introduce 3-4 speakers to present a set of related papers. A limited number of 1.5 hour symposia will be offered. No remuneration will be available to participants. Preference will be given to topical issues in the area of communication, ageing and health involving participants from a range of disciplines, backgrounds and geographical locations. As with poster sessions, organisers will be required to provide a set of recommendations from each symposium. These will be presented on the final day of the conference.

For more information and registration forms, contact the conference secretariat or visit the conference website at:

<http://www.hlth.qut.edu.au/nrs/events/commages.htm>



**International Association of
Language and Social Psychology**

The primary purpose of the Association is to ensure the continuity and development of its triennial international conference series. It is an interdisciplinary association, reaching out to social psychologists, communication scholars, linguists, and all who have a professional interest in language and communication. It is the diversity of perspectives that focus on the interface between language and social behaviour that has made the conference a stimulating and rewarding experience. The immediate aims of the Association include the development of specialist workshops, small group meetings, a web page, and a regular newsletter, in addition to the conferences. The first newsletter was published earlier this year.

Currently membership is open to researchers who have given a paper at one of the conferences, have published in a relevant academic journal or who are currently researching in the area and are nominated by a member. Membership dues are set at \$100US for three years or \$35US for one year. For more details or to apply for membership contact the Association Treasurer, Jeffery Pittam, at the following address:

Jeffery Pittam

Department of English

The University of Queensland

Brisbane 4072, Australia

j.pittam@mailbox.uq.edu.au

The Second Sydney Symposium of Social Psychology

The Second Sydney Symposium of Social Psychology will be convened by Joseph Forgas, Ladd Wheeler and Kip Williams at the University of New South Wales, May 23-25 1999. The first such symposium was convened by Joe Forgas last year, and proved to be an overwhelming success. The symposium attracted a large number of eminent speakers and leading researchers from around the world, and contributions to this meeting will be published by Cambridge University Press shortly.

The symposium will now become an annual event at UNSW, thanks to financial support provided by the University of New South Wales. The symposium should provide a major new international forum for social psychologists to meet, and to facilitate contact between Australian social psychologists and high-profile researchers from all over the world.

Submissions for next year's symposium, to be held in March 1999, were equally, if not more, impressive than last, indicating keen and growing interest in the event by leading psychologists from around the world. Selected contributors to next year's meeting will include -

Joel Cooper, Princeton University

Norbert Kerr, Michigan State University

Susan Andersen, New York University

Fred Rhodewalt, University of Utah

Pascal Huguet, University of Clermont-Ferrand, France

William McGuire, Yale University

Mike Hogg, University of Queensland

Jeff Simpson, Texas A&M University

Roy Baumeister, Case Western University

Diane Tice, Case Western University

Astrid Schuetz, University of Bamberg, Germany

Bill Crano, Claremont Graduate School

Garth Fletcher, Christchurch University

Martin Kaplan, University of Northern Illinois

John Nezlek, William and Mary College

Henk Wilke, Leiden University

Constanine Sedikides, University of North Carolina

Richard Sorrentino, University of Western Ontario

Wendy Wood, Texas A&M University

A detailed program will be announced in a later issue of the Bulletin, and there will be an opportunity for Australasian social psychologists to attend this meeting, as was the case last year.

Joe Forgas

University of New South Wales

j.forgas@unsw.edu.au

5th National Conference on Reasoning and Decision Making

The Centre for Rural Social Research is pleased to announce that the 5th National Conference on Reasoning and Decision Making will be held at Charles Sturt University, Wagga Wagga, NSW, from Thursday 3 December to Saturday 5 December 1998.

While the conference has, in previous years, been attended primarily by psychologists and philosophers, it is hoped this year to foster an atmosphere of wide interdisciplinary research.

The Conference aims to provide a forum for the exchange of ideas and research across a number of disciplines on the subject of the nature of human reasoning and decision making in contemporary Australia. In particular, it is intended to increase both knowledge and awareness of the principles and practice of sound reasoning and decision making and to consider how reasoning and decision making principles should be applied to policy development.

A number of prominent Keynote speakers will attend, including the Hon. Justice Michael Kirby (High Court of Australia), Dr. Pat O'Shane (Chief Magistrate of NSW), Pru Goward (Office of the Status of Women), Professor Don Thompson (Charles Sturt University), Phillip Adams (journalist and media commentator), Dr Philip Nitschke (euthanasia advocate), and Dr Felicity Allen (Monash University).

We invite academics, practitioners, and community members interested in the theoretical and applied aspects of reasoning and decision making to submit abstracts for conference papers.

For further information, please contact:

The Conference Secretariat

Centre for Rural Social Research

Charles Sturt University

Locked Bag 678

Bathurst. Vic

or Rina Onorato ronorato@csu.edu.au

Academic visitors

Dr. Roland Neumann, from the University of Wuerzburg, Germany, is spending several months working in the Affect Research Laboratory, University of New South Wales with Prof. Forgas's group, on a postdoctoral fellowship financed by the University of Wuerzburg. Dr. Neumann's research interests focus on the role of proprioceptive cues in emotional experience, the study of implicit attitudes, and research on incidental priming effects on attitudes and judgments.

Toshio Yamagishi will be visiting La Trobe University as a Distinguished Visiting Scholar in March and April of 1999. His interests are in social dilemmas, trust, and social exchange, as well as in computer simulations of societies. We are planning to hold a workshop on social dilemmas during his visit. Contact Margaret Foddy for further information.

Margaret Foddy

La Trobe University

Professor **Richard Sorrentino** (University of Western Ontario) is visiting the ANU from September 1998 until June 1999. His primary research interests involve examining the interface between motivation and cognition - work which is reflected in his and Higgins' three edited volumes of the Handbook of Motivation and Cognition. The current focus of his research is related to uncertainty reduction and intergroup relations. Also visiting the ANU is **Wendy van Rijswijk** (Free University of Amsterdam), from August 1998 until the end of January 1999, to work on her PhD (being supervised by Naomi Ellemers) on 'category activation and the dynamics of stereotyping'.

Robin Martin (University of Wales, Cardiff) will be spending three months (April - June, 1999) visiting the Centre for Research on Group Processes at the University of Queensland. Robin has one foot firmly placed in the organisational camp and one in the social psychology camp. He has published extensively on social influence and conformity and on work psychology. Contact Mike Hogg at the University of Queensland for details.

mike@psy.uq.edu.au

Professor **Arnulf Kolstand** from Trondheim University is spending a semester at the School of Psychology, Murdoch University, through to February 1999. For details contact Mike Innes at Murdoch.

minnes@socs.murdoch.edu.au

News of members

Martha Augoustinos (University of Adelaide) is one of the few to receive a large ARC grant this year, for a 3 year project with Amanda LeCouteur on "Race, multiculturalism, and political correctness: Discourses and debates in Australian society". She has also been invited to give an address to the Social Representations conference being organized by Kay Deaux, to be held at the Graduate Center of the City University of New York, October 9-19, 1998. She is also editing, with **Kate Reynolds** of the ANU, a book on the psychology of prejudice and racism, with a special focus on the Australian context.

Norm Feather (Flinders University) has been awarded the Distinguished Scientific Contribution Award from the Australian Psychological Society. He will receive this award at the Annual Conference of the APS in Hobart in 1999. He has also been selected to receive the University of New England Distinguished Alumni Award to be presented to him in October.

He recently attended three notable events: 1. The 14th International and Silver Jubilee Congress of the International Association for Cross-Cultural Psychology, held in Bellingham, Washington State; 2. The 24th International Congress of Applied Psychology held in San Francisco; He organised, chaired, and was a discussant for a symposium on the Psychological Impact of Unemployment with contributors from Germany, USA, and Australia; 3. The Annual convention of the American Psychological Association. He is currently working on a book for Plenum Press: Values, Achievement, and Justice: Studies in the Psychology of Deservingness.

Norm will also be involved in a small conference to be held at Flinders University on November 13, 1998, to celebrate 30 years of the existence of the psychology programme there, closely associated with Norm. There will be six speakers talking about aspects of psychology associated with the history of psychology at Flinders. Nigel Bond (UWS) and Gina Geffen (University of Queensland) will be speaking. Particularly associated with social psychology will be Norm, Joe Forgas (UNSW), and Mike Innes (Murdoch). The secretary of the organising committee is Sue Dolman, who can be contacted for further details at Sue.Dolman@flinders.edu.au.

Margaret Foddy (La Trobe University) has been invited to do a presentation on management communication in the Middle East in November, at the 4th Annual Human Resource Development in the Middle East (HRDME) Conference in Bahrain. I'm hoping Bill Clinton doesn't try any distractions there while the conference is on! Do you know where I can get one of those t-shirts that says in Arabic "I am not an American"?

Joseph Forgas (University of New South Wales) has been commissioned to edit the first Handbook of Affect and Social Cognition, to be published by Lawrence Erlbaum and Associates. This is the first time that a comprehensive Handbook specifically designed to deal with the growing field of affect and social cognition has been commissioned. He and Herbert Bless (University of Trier) jointly convened a recent Small Group Meeting by the European Association of Experimental Social Psychology, held in the Odenwald, near Heidelberg in early July. The theme of the meeting was 'The message within: Subjective experiences and social cognition', and was attended by a large group of leading researchers from Europe and the USA, including Dan Wegner (Virginia), Dan Gilbert (Harvard), Jack Dovidio (Colgate), Galen Bodenhausen (Northwestern), Neil Macrae (Bristol), Norbert Schwarz (Michigan), Geoff Haddock (Exeter), Andrea Abele (Nurnberg), Ap Dijksterhuis (Nijmegen), Eliot Smith (Purdue) and many others. The papers presented at the meeting will be published by Psychology Press, Philadelphia in 1999.

Joe Forgas attended and presented an invited paper in June in Mirano, Italy at the Small Group Meeting of the European Association of Experimental Social Psychology on 'Implicit and explicit processes in the role of affect in stereotyping and judgments'.

Debbie Terry and Mike Hogg (University of Queensland) have an edited book appearing soon:

Terry, D. T., & Hogg, M. A. (Eds.), (1999). *Attitudes, behavior, and social context: The role of norms and group membership*. Mahwah, NJ: Erlbaum. (Contributors include Mike Hogg, Debbie Terry, Tony Manstead, Paul Sparks, David Trafimow, Dale Miller, Deborah Prentice, Yoshi Kashima, Diane Mackie, Daan van Knippenberg, Richard Petty, Gabriel Mugny, Joel Cooper, Jeff Stone, Anthony Pratkanis, Katy White, and Julie Duck).

Mike is also joint editor with Dom Abrams of another book due to appear by the end of the year:

Abrams, D., & Hogg, M. A. (Eds.), (1999). *Social identity and social cognition*. Oxford: Blackwell. (Contributors include Dom Abrams, Mike Hogg, Susan Fiske, Penny Oakes, Alex Haslam, Kate Reynolds, Steve Sherman, David Hamilton, Miles Hewstone, Rupert Brown, Iain Walker, Vance Locke, Eliot Smith, Diane Mackie, Shelley Farnham, Tony Greenwald, Marilyn Brewer, Debbie Terry, Julie Duck, Daan van Knippenberg).

Ron Taft was given the Role Theorist of the Year Award at a dinner in San Francisco held in conjunction with the APA Convention. This award is made annually by an informal group of "role theorists" associated with Theodore Sarbin.

Stephen Cox recently graduated from the University of Queensland) with his PhD. His thesis title was *Social identity and its management: Homophobia and responses to it by gay men*, and was supervised by Cindy Gallois. Steve now works at the School of Organisational Behaviour and Management, Griffith University.

Nigel Roberts (supervisors Pat Noller and Lisa Gaffney) has received his Ph.D from the University of Queensland) on the topic "Communication in violent relationships: The role of attachment and arousal". Parts of the thesis have already been published in book chapters, and a chapter is being prepared for the Handbook of Language and Social Psychology.

Pat Noller (University of Queensland) is now President of the International Society for the Study of Personal Relationships (ISSPR), taking up duties after the recent very successful conference in Saratoga Springs, New York State. Members may also be interested to know that the next conference of ISSPR will be held in Brisbane in 2000 from 27th June to 2nd July. This is a great conference for those social psychologists interested in relationships and 2000 will provide the best opportunity for Australians and New Zealanders to attend. Please make a note of the dates and plan to come. Pat Noller and Judy Feeney will be looking after local arrangements, and Barry Fallon will be arranging the academic program.

Sue Watt is taking up a position at the University of Manchester as research associate on a project with Martin Lea (University of Manchester) and Russell Spears (University of Amsterdam). The project involves experimental analyses of group interactions via computer, conducted within a social identity framework, with the aim of understanding the effects of visual anonymity and video-mediated communications on behaviour within and between groups.

Gregor Kennedy graduated with his PhD from the University of Melbourne. His supervisor was Barry Fallon, and his thesis title was *The theory and measurement of power in interpersonal relationships*.

Kip Williams (University of New South Wales) will be chairing a session at SESP in Kentucky, called 'Social psychology on the Web', which will include his research on ostracism (with Chris Cheung and Wilma Choi), as well as presentations by Katelyn McKenna and John Bargh, Donal Carlston, Leigh Thompson, and Russell Spears and Tom Postmes. The discussant will be Joel Cooper.

He is also conducting another web experiment, and would appreciate it if people would encourage their undergraduate students to access it. The URL is:

<http://psyber.psy.unsw.edu.au/cyberball>

Neal Ashkanasy (University of Queensland) has been elected Program Chair for the Managerial and Organizational Cognitions Division of the Academy of Management in the US (the first Australian to hold such an office). He also organized the "First conference on emotions and organizational life" which was held recently in San Diego. A selection of papers will be published late 1999. For more information about the conference and the email discussion group 'Emonet', skip to:

<http://www.uq.edu.au/emonet/>

Val Clarke (Deakin University) recently received Deakin's 1997 Supervisor of the Year Award, organised by the Deakin University Postgraduate Association, and based on student nominations.

Departmental profile

Social psychology at Swinburne University of Technology

The Psychology Department at Swinburne University of Technology has an active and dynamic Social Psychology group which is located in the School of Social and Behavioural Sciences. Social Psychology forms core subjects in both the undergraduate and postgraduate programs at Swinburne, and, in between social psychology teaching commitments, a number of staff are busily conducting research in this area. Swinburne also enjoys a number of links with other Melbourne social psychologists including those at the University of Melbourne, La Trobe University, and Monash University, and is hoping to form more links with interstate universities. In addition to national links, Swinburne and Osmania Universities are co-hosting an international conference in Hyderabad (India) in January 1999 during which social psychology will be heavily represented. Other exciting developments at Swinburne include the establishment of the Institute of Social Research. We expect that research in the social psychology area will continue to flourish within the multi-disciplinary Institute which has social psychology themes included amongst its goals.

A long-term member of the department is **Bruce Findlay**. In between finishing his doctorate and coordinating undergraduate social psychology, Bruce is collaborating with Sulochana Reddy of Osmania University (India) on two projects, one involving how a society in which most marriages are arranged views adult attachment, and another asking whether sense of humour predicts overall well-being over and above personality factors.

Another Swinburne social psychologist with Indian connections is **Prasuna Reddy**. Prasuna was recently awarded her PhD in which she explored cross-cultural constructions of emotion. She is also interested in cultural narratives of illness and treatment, especially the narratives that surround issues concerning cancer.

In the last few years there have been major additions to the social psychology team at Swinburne, with the inclusion of **Emiko Kashima** and **Elizabeth Hardie**. Emiko's major areas of research include self and identity. More specifically, she is interested in the effects of social and cultural context on the way people define and place the self in relation to others. Emiko and Elizabeth recently completed a project investigating the role of interpersonal relationships in individual-collective processes and developed a new scale to measure individual, relational, and collective self-construal. We are all looking forward to the publication of the scale.

Elizabeth Hardie also investigates health issues from a social psychology perspective (she is the Chair of the Victoria section of the APS College of Health Psychologists). In addition to her work on menstrual cycle research, she is currently engaged in research with **Simone Buzwell** examining the influence of psychosocial resources and stress on men's and women's somatic health. Simone is also involved in research examining the construction of the sexual self, sexual behaviour and men's perceptions and practices in regard to prostate cancer. **Roger Cook** also has an interest in the health field and while he primarily identifies himself as a counseling psychologist he does on occasion flirt with social psychology. His areas of interest include infertility and its impact on men, in-law relationships and their sequelae, and fathers and sons.

In summary, social psychology at Swinburne University is thriving, especially in three major areas: health, personal relationships, and cross-cultural research. In all of these areas, Swinburne social psychologists are involved in both theoretical development and research with a more applied focus. This is reflected in our increasing number of postgraduate social psychology students who are involved in coursework Masters, research degrees (MA and PhD), and professional doctorates (including a new one in Health Psychology). We are all looking forward to the continued growth of social psychology at Swinburne.

Simone Buzwell

Swinburne University

SASP nomination form for postgraduate representative

Nominations are due for the SASP office of Postgraduate Representative. The new representative will serve on SASP's executive committee for a period of two years, commencing at the SASP Conference in 1999. The representative must be a postgraduate student in either Australia or New Zealand, and must be a current postgraduate member of SASP. If you wish to nominate someone for the position, please complete the form below, providing the names and signatures of

the person nominating, the person seconding the nomination, and the affirmation of the nominee to serve, if elected. This form must reach the current Postgraduate Representative at the address below by 31 December 1998. The list of nominees, together with some information about each of them, will then be posted via sasp-grad and socpsybull. Specific details of the voting procedure will also be provided at that time. Votes must then be returned to the current Postgraduate Representative either before or at the 1999 SASP Conference, where the results of the ballot will be announced, and the term of the new representative will commence.

Please complete and return the following form by 31 December 1998 to:

Kathryn Strong

SASP Postgraduate Representative

School of Psychology

University of NSW

Sydney, NSW, 2052

Nomination for Postgraduate Representative of the Society of Australasian Social Psychologists

We nominate _____ for the Postgraduate Representative of SASP.

Name of nominator _____ Signature _____

Name of seconder _____ Signature _____

Signature of nominee _____

Email and/or postal address of nominee:
