

escop Newsletter

european society for cognitive psychology

<http://www.escop.org>

Newsletter 04. Number 1

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Membership proposal form	available on the web for completion!

Introduction by the secretary (Patrick Bonin)

This is the first letter I have produced as Secretary of ESCoP. It is my pleasure to take up this new function. I first want to thank Dr. John Towse, the last ESCoP Secretary, for the work he has done for the Society during the period 2001-2003 and for having devoted much of his time to explaining to me very clearly the different tasks involved in the role of Society Secretary. The Society is growing very quickly, and its influence in Europe and also in the rest of the world is now well recognized thanks, among other things, to its conferences and the Journal of the Society. I very much hope the Society will continue to achieve great success. This is the first time that France has been represented on the Society's Committee and I am glad to have been co-opted as Secretary. I take this opportunity to invite all my colleagues working in Cognitive Psychology and related fields in France to join us in the Society. Of course, as a European, I also warmly invite all cognitive psychologists from other European countries to join the Society. In March, we held a business meeting in Naples and I personally thank all the members of the Committee for their warm welcome. I hope the Society will continue to thrive and to serve the interests of Cognitive Psychology in Europe. I undertake to do everything possible within the scope of my functions to ensure that the Society continues to operate optimally and to ensure that all its members are satisfied.

From the President (Cesare Cornoldi)

Dear ESCOP members,

A new year of the Society has started with some important new additions to for its life and organization. As usual, a year without the large ESCOP Conference can appear somewhat unimportant or lacking in voice. However, in such years, many minor events occur and the Society's modest capabilities, always made available on a voluntary basis, are not diverted towards activities connected to the Conferences but can instead be used to strengthen the organization of the Society.

In this respect, the new year starts with two new devs. First of all, we have a new Secretary, Patrick Bonin, from Clermont-Ferrand, France. I already knew Patrick in connection with his scientific work on language, and I have now had the opportunity to get to know him better and appreciate his commitment to his new role. I think that ESCOP will benefit greatly from his presence and from the combined efforts of the team that consists of Patrick, Bernhard Hommel (who is the treasurer) and Marilou Vandierendonck who will take care of secretarial and archive information. I consider the acquisition of Marilou towards imposing some order on the membership archives. After many years of experience as President of an Italian scientific Society and in the shorter period spent with ESCOP, I have discovered how difficult is to maintain and update a Society's membership archives. Members pay at different times, sometimes pay late, sometimes do not pay. They pay in different forms, pay for renewal or for initial registration. In the case of ESCOP, the membership list must also be sent to Psychology Press for mailing of the Journal. The longer list sent at the beginning of the year must be integrated with shorter lists; sometimes one name can be forgotten, sometimes Psychology Press forgets to update its list and somebody must remind them that a member is not receiving the Journal, etc. It is a very hard job and I am sorry if, in past years, items of information concerning some members have gone astray. We needed somebody who could take care of all these elements. To start with, we looked for a student or a post-graduate, before realizing that students very easily move or change interests and cannot be relied on to assume this type of responsibility. Luck was with us, however, when we discovered that Marilou could handle this job for us. Marilou who for many years has shared life and events related to the ESCOP with Andre, already knew a lot about the Society's administration. At the same time, we knew that she already possessed much valuable experience of administrative duties. After just a few months of involvement with the Society, she has impressed me with her competence and her serious commitment to her responsibilities. When we met in Naples for the Committee meeting, she seemed to have the entire ESCOP membership list in her head and to be prepared to respond to every question concerning their positions. So, if you have any problems, feel free to contact her at the following addresses:

postal address:

Marilou Vandierendonck, Bernard Hamelinckstraat 3, B-9031 Gent, Belgium

E-mail: marilou.vandierendonck@pandora.be

In the last message I received from Marilou, she reported that more than 300 members had already paid their fees and that she was sending a reminder to a small group. From this information, we know that there are currently approximately 400 regular members. This is a reasonable and manageable size, but it does not correspond to the real number of researchers working in the field of Cognitive Psychology in Europe. At the moment, some groups and some countries are underrepresented within the Society. I am sure that in the near future, and

also as a result of the important political events within Europe (10 new countries in the EU after May 1!), the size and the profile of the Society will increase. Currently, the Society is responsible for a Journal, the European Journal of Cognitive Psychology, whose importance and impact –also thanks to the efforts of Claus Bundesen and his team- have rapidly increased. I think that the presence of high-level European journals can further contribute to the development of a strong European profile in the field of cognitive psychology. It is obvious that if the work of European researchers is better known, and more frequently read and cited, the importance of their research and the number of publications will increase.

The year 2004 is also characterized by a number of other events. First of all, I want to mention the one-day meeting which was held in Naples on March, 19. This meeting was important for a number of reasons. First, it provides a model for future short scientific meetings which could be organised in other countries, being based on a series of talks from invited speakers and on a stimulating poster session. Second, it was able to offer a participation grant to a group of young and brilliant researchers who provided some fascinating presentations in the afternoon. Third, it created a very positive financial situation for ESCOP as not only was there no cost to the Society, but also –because the invited speakers were also Committee members- allowed us to hold the first Committee meeting in the history of the Society which did not cost anything at all. As you can imagine, Committee meetings are rather expensive as ESCOP has to pay the travel and accommodation costs of each Committee member (for this reason, only one meeting is organised per year and we try to manage all the other issues through e-mail) and this was a great opportunity to save the Society money. I can imagine that some ESCOP members might have found it somewhat bizarre, at first sight, that all the speakers were also Committee members, but I think that they will now understand the reason for this and will appreciate the care we exercise in using the Society's money. Finally, the Naples meeting was remarkable for the setting and the atmosphere: we admired Naples and the charming old Monastery that houses the Benincasa University. We also enjoyed the warm hospitality that Maria Antonella and her collaborators were able to offer. Thanks, Maria Antonella for all your efforts!

Another 2004 meeting sponsored by ESCOP, the second European Workshop on Working Memory, took place from 22-24 April in the French region of Bourgogne (in the attractive town of Beaune). Beaune has a world reputation for its wine and you can imagine that the participants did not avoid their responsibilities in honouring its wine tradition. The wine tasting session was followed with the necessary attention by all the participants. The scientific sessions offered an important series of oral presentations and posters, and the keynote speeches given by Nelson Cowan, Pat Rabbitt and Sue Gathercole were much appreciated. The example set by the meeting is also important, because it offers a model for small focused meetings which could be further developed within the Society. At the moment, ESCOP is directly involved in workshops on mental imagery and working memory, but I hope that in the future other focused groups will be able to do the same and take advantage from the Society's network (and financial resources). The fact that 50 researchers, all experts in the area and coming from different countries (at least 8 different countries were represented in Beaune), can share three days of scientific debate seems very important for the development of this area of research in Europe. What is more, the organizers, Pierre Barrouillet and Valerie Camos, made an excellent job of producing a stimulating atmosphere.

I also want to draw these events to the attention of the local officers. The position of the local officer is rather new and, for this reason, its responsibilities still need to be better defined. However, I expect that in the future they will have an increasingly important role in enhancing the contact between the cognitive group in their country and ESCOP. In some cases, the level of contact is still very low and it would be valuable to encourage it and thus gain a better understanding of what is going on in the various countries. The presentation offered by Ana Vivas in this newsletter is an example of how we can learn more about a country, in this case Greece which has very few ESCOP members. I hope that the local

officers will increase their efforts in order to enhance their country's presence within the Society, bringing both a more representative membership and, maybe, the potential to organize meetings. The ESCOP Committee is ready to give advice and/or support concerning proposals coming from the local officers. At the same time, I recommend to the ESCOP members to read the Section of this Newsletter concerning Committee life carefully as this contains a current list of local officers. In the same Section, members will also find the call for nominations for the ballot that is to be held in the near future.

In the Newsletter, members will also find the financial report given by our treasurer Bernhard Hommel. They will see that, again thanks to our efforts and to the activity of the current and the former treasurer, the balance is very positive. This gives us confidence and will enable us to support important events. We are sorry that at the moment, despite the support ESCOP is able to give, we are not able to provide exact information about ESCOP's Advanced (Summer) Schools, but we are meeting some difficulties in this area. Some Schools have been announced, but are still not completely defined. For the moment I can only mention the dates (3-10 July 2005) of a School Carlo Umilta, in cooperation with an EU network, intends to organise on cognitive neuropsychology and mathematical cognition, in Erice, Sicily. In Summer 2005, ESCOP will be very active as it will sponsor an imagery workshop (EWIC) organised by Gerry Quinn in Saint Andrews at the end of June and will obviously be involved in the ESCOP Conference which will be held in early September in Leiden, Netherlands. Bernhard Hommel is responsible for the Leiden Conference and we expect him to be very busy as the ESCOP Conferences are growing in size and importance. Bernhard has already given some preliminary information about the Conference at the last Committee meeting in Naples. There will be a series of important addresses, symposia and social events. During the coming months you will receive more information about the Conference directly from Bernhard.

From the Treasurer (Bernhard Hommel)

* I am very sorry that the changes last year caused trouble for some members. Members who think that they are not receiving their journal regularly are encouraged to inform Marilou Vandierendonck (marilou.vandierendonck@pandora.be). We are in the process of transferring the data to a web-based database so that everyone can check and update his or her address and other data, and members will be asked to do this in due course.

**EUROPEAN SOCIETY FOR COGNITIVE
PSYCHOLOGY**
Receipts and Payments Account for 1.8.2003-29.2.2004 (l n Ū)

BALANCE HELD AT July 31, 2003	72, 014.18
RECEIPTS	
Members' subscriptions	
32 members paid for 2003: 1.700,00	18,845.25
275 members paid for 2004: 17,145.25	
Bank interest	2,981.20
	21, 826.45
EXPENSES	
Bureau Treasurer	823.05
Bureau Secretary	3,253.13
Bank Fee	945.35
Travel Costs	435.00
Taylor and Francis	3.129.95
	8.586.48
BALANCE OF RECEIPTS OVER PAYMENTS	13, 239.97
BALANCE HELD AT February 29th, 2004	85, 254.15

Committee life

* Call for nominations

The committee of the Society consists of the President and Vice-President, ex-officio, and five elected members, all seven persons being known as elected Committee members. In 2005, a new President will be elected. Indeed, the term of office of the President is two years, after which he becomes Vice-President. Also, the term for André Vandierendonck (current Vice-President) will come to an end as will that of three elected members, namely Asher Koriat, Robert Logie, Rosa Sanchez-Casas.

In conformity with Article 19 of the ESCoP Constitution (available at <http://www.escop.org>), the Secretary of ESCoP invites all full members of the Society for nominations for elected Committee members and to send any proposals to him before the end of June, 2004. The procedure is as follows:

***Article 19.** The Secretary shall seek nominations for elected Committee members at least four months before a Business meeting and shall set a deadline for receipt of nominations at the Secretary's address at least one month after the call for nominations has been posted to members. Nominations should be made in writing by one Full member of the Society, and seconded by at least three other Full members. The Secretary will refrain from nominating or seconding candidates. At least one of the seconders should be from a country of membership different to that of the person making the nomination. The candidate should give his or her written consent to being nominated. Nominations should indicate whether the nomination is for President, other elected Committee member or (in rare circumstances when this is needed) Vice-President.*

* Local officers

Local officers provide a point-of-information about the Society and its activities in a variety of European countries. They help to provide feedback from members about Society needs and broadcast the Society's benefits and activities. Two new local officers will be nominated one for France (Dr. Xavier Alario) and one for Israel. The current local officers are: Dr. Axel Cleeremans (Belgium), Dr. Søren Kyllingsbæk (Denmark), Dr. Talis Bachmann (Estonia), Dr. Pertti Saariluoma (Finland), Dr. Iring Koch (Germany), Dr. Ana B. Vivas (Greece), Prof. Csaba Pleh (Hungary), Dr. Ruth Byrne (Ireland), Dr. Tomaso Vecchi (Italy), Dr. Tim Brennan (Norway), Dr. Edward Necka (Poland), Dr. Amancio da Costa Pinto (Portugal), Dr. Mircea Miclea (Romania), Dr. Klas Brenk (Slovenia), Dr. Juan Lupiañez (Spain), Dr. Timo Mantyla (Sweden), Dr. Walter Perrig (Switzerland), Dr. Gezinus Wolters (The Netherlands), Dr. Sami Gulgoz (Turkey), Dr. Marc Brysbaert (United Kingdom).

Membership

* Annual fee

The annual fee for membership of ESCoP runs from January to December of the year. For anyone who has not yet paid their fee, please do not forget to return the form which has been sent to you to our Administrator: Marilou Vandierendonck (ESCoP Administration, C/O Marilou Vandierendonck, Bernhard Hamelinckstraat, 3, B-9031 Gent-Drongen, Belgium). For any questions concerning the fee, you may also contact Marilou Vandierendonck by email at: marilou.vandierendonck@pandora.be

* New Society Members

There has been another surge in new members since the last newsletter. A warm welcome is extended to new members, and some returning members.

Reflections on Cognitive Psychology in Greece

My opinion as a foreigner researcher in Greece is that serious and high-caliber research is concentrated within the limits of the four major public universities. As far as cognitive psychology and cognitive neurosciences are concerned, the main universities are the University of Patras, Crete, Aristoteleio (Thessaloniki) and Pandio (Athens). These universities offer several postgraduate programs in cognitive psychology (Aristoteleio and Pandio University) and cognitive neuroscience (University of Patras and University of Crete). Also, research is promoted by a number of relevant societies. The Hellenic Psychological Society, □□□□, (<http://elpse.gr>) is organised in divisions, such as the 'Cognitive Division' and the 'Neuropsychology Division'. The society organises conferences biannually, held in a different Greek city on each occasion (the 9th Conference took place in Rhodes, in 2003). The Hellenic Society for Neuroscience, EEN/HSN, (<http://nucleus.med.upatras.gr/hsn/>) has a multidisciplinary approach to integrating research from fields related to the brain sciences. The Society organises annual meetings (the official language is English). The 18th Annual Meeting of the Hellenic Society of Neuroscience took place in Athens, in October 2003. Other important scientific initiatives have been promoted in recent years. For example, since

2002 the Vivian Smith Advanced Studies Institute of the Neuropsychological Society (in collaboration with the Aristoteleio University) has organised an annual Summer Institute in Xylocastro, Greece. Its aim is to promote knowledge in the fields of cognitive neuroscience and clinical neuropsychology (<http://www.uth.tmc.edu/clinicalneuro/institute/>). Research initiatives outside of those undertaken by the major universities are generally discouraged, since there are few independent bodies that fund research (most of the money comes from the EU). Nevertheless, various efforts are being made by specific individuals and institutions, to bring research in Greece up to a level that matches European standards.

Ana B. Vivas
Greek Local Officer

News of forthcoming meetings

➤ **SUMMER SCHOOL ON EXECUTIVE FUNCTIONS IN GUENNE (GERMANY), 24 SEPTEMBER - 1 OCTOBER**

There are some open slots for PhD students for a summer school on executive functions, co-sponsored by the German Science Community (DFG) and ESCOP. The program comprises four one-day modules on the modelling of executive processes (*Ardi Roelofs*, Max Planck Institute of Psycholinguistics, Nijmegen), working memory and control (*Akira Miyake*, University of Colorado at Boulder), action and movement control (*Daniel Wolpert*, University College London), and cognitive limitations in perception and action (*Pierre Jolicœur*, Université de Montreal), together with a practice module (presentation and communication of research). The summer school will take place in the Heinrich-Luebke-Haus in Guenne, Moehnesee, between Dortmund and Kassel.

There will be no enrolment fee (apart possibly from a small contribution to finance the practice module) and accommodation for ESCOP members is free. Please contact Bernhard Hommel, Leiden University, Postbus 9555, 2300 RB Leiden, The Netherlands without delay (deadline mid June) or e-mail him at hommel@fsw.leidenuniv.nl

➤ **35th EUROPEAN MATHEMATICAL PSYCHOLOGY GROUP MEETING September 2-4, 2004, Ghent, Belgium**

CALL FOR PAPERS. You are cordially invited to attend the *35th European Mathematical Psychology Group meeting*, to be held in Ghent University (Belgium) on September 2-4, 2004. Website: <http://allserv.ugent.be/~yrosseel/empg>

PRESENTATIONS. Proposals for paper presentations related to all aspects of mathematical psychology are welcome, as are suggestions for symposia. Topics covered will include: psychometrics, perception and psychophysics, cognition, measurement and scaling, statistical methods, mathematical models, etc.

A SPECIAL TRIBUTE TO JEAN-CLAUDE FALMAGNE (organized by J.-P. Doignon). The first meeting of the EMPG took place in April 1971, at the initiative of Jean-Claude Falmagne. At that time, Jean-Claude had the feeling that mathematical psychologists in Europe were suffering from a sense of isolation, having to 'smooth' the presentations they

were delivering at general conferences. He thus issued an invitation to a meeting that would permit a higher level of sophistication. Every one of the thirty invited guests came! The event was located at the 'Maison des Belges' of the Cite Universitaire in Paris. Since then, there has been a European Conference on Mathematical Psychology, organized, curiously, by a rather informal Group, almost every year (there were even two of them in 1971). In acknowledgment and admiration to Jean-Claude's foresight, a special session is being organized during this 35th Meeting of the EMPG. The speakers for this session will be J.-P. Doignon, M. Koppen, R.D. Luce, M. Regenwetter and N. Thiery.

SYMPOSIUM ON CATEGORIZATION (organised by Y. Rosseel). A special symposium on categorization will be held during the conference containing a mix of invited speakers and submitted work. The invited speakers are: James Hampton (City University London), Koen Lamberts (Warwick University) and Gert Storms (K.U. Leuven). Researchers in the categorization field are strongly encouraged to submit their latest work and to participate in the categorization symposium.

ABSTRACT SUBMISSION. The procedure for abstract submission is explained on the website. The deadline for abstract submission is May 15, 2004.

REGISTRATION. The registration procedure is explained on the website. The deadline for registration is July 31, 2004. The registration fee of EURO 100 (EURO 25 for students) includes conference materials, an abstract booklet, a get-together party, and refreshments during the coffee breaks throughout the meeting.

SOCIAL PROGRAM. A get-together party will take place in the evening of September 1. A dinner will be organized on September 3.

LOCATION. The meeting will take place in het Pand, an old Dominican monastery founded in 1216, in the city center.

DEADLINES. Abstract submission: May 15, 2004. Registration: July 31, 2004

ORGANIZERS. Ghent University: Thierry Marchant / Yves Rosseel. Université Libre de Bruxelles: Jean-Paul Doignon

Advertising

The Transregional Collaborative Research Center SFB/TR 8 Spatial Cognition: Reasoning, Action, Interaction at the Universities of Bremen and Freiburg, Germany, advertises three researcher positions for- Junior Research Group Leader (BAT Ib), - Postdoctoral Researcher / Doctoral Research (BAT IIa), - Ph.D. Student / Junior Researcher (BAT IIa/2).

The SFB/TR 8 pursues interdisciplinary long-term research in Spatial Cognition. Particular emphasis is given to:

□ Spatial Reasoning: Knowledge representation, human spatial thinking, computational modeling, diagrammatic reasoning, cognitive and computational complexity, qualitative spatio-temporal calculi;

- Action in Space: Cognitive robotics, explorative localization and mapping, robot navigation, human navigation and wayfinding, sensorimotor representations of spatio-temporal structures, embodied cognition;
- Communication and Interaction in Space: Formal methods, spatial and linguistic ontologies, computational linguistics, environmental cognition, integration of spatial methods.

A description of the current research projects of the SFB/TR 8 can be found at www.sfbtr8.uni-bremen.de

The SFB/TR 8 is funded by the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG).

The SFB/TR 8 advertises three researcher positions:

Junior Research Group Leader (approx. • 45,000 to • 55,000 p.a. gross). The candidate should have an excellent scientific record and sufficient experience as a post-doc to independently establish and run a research group. Applications from all disciplines involved in spatial cognition are welcome, including artificial intelligence, cognitive psychology, cognitive robotics, computational linguistics, philosophy of mind, cognitive architecture, and cognitive geography.

Dr. Thomas Barkowsky <sfbtr8@informatik.uni-bremen.de> SFB/TR 8 – Spatial Cognition
Universität Bremen P.O. Box 330 440, 28334 Bremen / Germany

For details on conditions, background, and application criteria of DFG Junior Research Groups in Collaborative Research Centers see www.dfg.de/en/research_funding/promoting_young_researchers/

Postdoctoral Researcher / Doctoral Research Assistant

SFB/TR 8 project I2-[MapSpace], Universität Bremen (BAT IIa, approx. • 40,000 to • 50,000 p.a. gross) in one or several of the areas: Artificial Intelligence / Knowledge Representation / Cognitive Design / Cognitive Geography / Cognitive Modeling.

More information about this project can be found at www.sfbtr8.uni-bremen.de/project?project=I2.

Please address questions about the position and send your application (preferably by email) to: Prof. Christian Freksa <sfbtr8@informatik.uni-bremen.de> SFB/TR 8 - Spatial Cognition
Universität Bremen P.O. Box 330 440 28334 Bremen / Germany

Ph.D. Student / Junior Researcher

SFB/TR 8 project R4-[LogoSpace], Universität Freiburg (BAT IIa/2, approx. • 23,000 to • 28,000 p.a. gross) in Cognitive Psychology / Cognitive Modeling / Cognitive Neuroscience at the "laboratory for human spatial reasoning". The research conducted by the lab addresses various aspects of human spatial cognition, with a special focus on spatial thinking and navigation. Methodologically, the lab combines human experiments using behavioral methods, functional brain imaging, and experiments in real and virtual environments.

Candidates should send letter, CV, reprints, and names of three referees

(preferably by email) to: PD Dr. Markus Knauff <markus.knauff@tuebingen.mpg.de> c/o
Dagmar Sonntag, SFB - Sekretariat Fakultät für Angewandte Wissenschaften
Albert-Ludwigs-Universität Freiburg Georges-Koehler-Allee Gebäude 052 Raum
00 019 79110 Freiburg / Germany

Four full or associate professor positions in developmental psychology, University of Geneva, Switzerland

The University of Geneva, Department of Psychology, invites applications for four positions of Full (or Associate) Professor to begin October 1, 2005, in the areas of: Cognitive Development, Perceptual and Motor Development, Social and Affective Development, and Historico-Critical and Epistemological Approaches in Psychology. Teaching language: French (after first semester). Please consult our web site www.unige.ch/fapse ("Offres d'emploi") for detailed job descriptions and application requirements. Applications must be sent before June 25, 2004.

Philosophical Psychology is an international journal devoted to developing and strengthening the links between philosophy and the psychological sciences, both as basic sciences and as employed in applied settings, by publishing original, peer-refereed contributions to this expanding field of study and research. For a FREE online sample copy as well as a list of contents, please visit <http://www.tandf.co.uk/journals/titles/09515089.asp>

