

The logo features the acronym 'ESCOP' in a bold, white, sans-serif font, with the word 'Newsletter' written in a white, elegant script font below it. The entire logo is set against a dark grey rectangular background.

# ESCOP Newsletter

european society for cognitive psychology

Newsletter 02. Number 2

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Accompanying this newsletter, you should find the latest copy of the ESCoP Membership Directory. It represents a snapshot of the Society in 2002. I have attempted to ensure it is as accurate as possible (and would like to thank all those members who wrote earlier this year and provided updated information on their addresses). Of course, it is not a perfect document: with a membership as large as it now is, and flexibility in the job market for cognitive psychologists, it is hardly surprising that some members are in the process of moving as the booklet went to print. Nonetheless, it stands as an important testament to the successful situation that the Society finds itself in. We are part of a diverse membership (in terms of both geography and research) but an important one too, with members often at the forefront of their fields.

Subsequent to the distribution of the last newsletter, the Society has re-launched its electronic mailing list. Problems had begun to surface with the previous list (despite the valiant attempts of André Vandierendonck over a considerable period of time) and it was recognised that we needed a more stable environment. The committee agreed to use the society domain name ([escop.org](http://escop.org)) as a recognisable address and we have a contract with a professional mailing service (North Star Technical Services at [mystery.com](http://mystery.com)) to provide a distribution service for a nominal fee. Their ability to handle some of the technical aspects of a list service is a major benefit, and as a central 'hub' point, ought to make it easier to change committee personnel etc. without disruption to the service. The mailing list is an evolving service and if you have comments about its functionality, you are welcome to get in touch with a committee member. If you haven't been receiving Society

emails from “members@escop.org”, perhaps because of an incorrect or out-of-date address, please get in touch, so that I can investigate your circumstances further.

I am delighted to be able to report that Cesare Cornoldi will be the next President of the Society. This also provides me with the chance to thank André Vandierendonck for all his fine work as President, during which time the Society has been able to strengthen its core activities (witness for example the fine conference in Edinburgh last year) and develop new initiatives (such as the workshop series, about which a report is included later in the newsletter). I should also mention that Bernhard Hommel will be taking up the reigns as Society Treasurer, as Joachim Hoffman stands down. We have a lot to thank Joachim for, and the healthy Society financial position is a tribute to his efforts. To all those that complete their service, I’m sure I write on behalf of everyone when I congratulate them on a task well done. To those who replace them, I offer a very warm welcome.

John Towse, ESCoP Secretary  
Psychology Department, Fylde College, Lancaster University, Lancaster LA1 4YF, UK  
j.towse@lancaster.ac.uk

New Society Members. It is nice to be able to report that the Society has admitted new members since the last newsletter, as follows:

- Ms. Marylene Chalard (LAPSCO) (Associate Member)
- Dr. Alessandro Couyoumdjian (University of Rome "La Sapienza") (Associate Member)
- Ms. Natacha Deroost (Free University of Brussels) (Associate Member)
- Dr Steve Dewhurst (Lancaster University) (Full Member)
- Dr. Nicolas Dumay (University of York) (Associate Member)
- Ms. Alexandra Lenhard (Universität Würzburg) (Student Member)
- Dr. Mei-Ching Lien (NASA Ames Research Center) (Associate Member)
- Dr. Jane Morgan (University of Birmingham) (Associate Member)

#### Committee members: Election results

Between the previous newsletter and the current one, the Society held an election for two places on the ESCoP committee. Three candidates had been nominated, and members were invited to vote for up to two of them. Votes received by the closing date for the election were as follows:

Maria Brandimonte	80
Axel Buchner	52
Bernhard Hommel	70

Accordingly, Maria and Bernhard have been elected as new committee members. We wish them well in their new role.

Review of the 1st ESCoP Workshop on Executive functions, Ghent.  
**David Pearson, University of Aberdeen.**

The first European Working Memory Symposium (EWOMS-1) was held in Ghent on the 5-7<sup>th</sup> September 2002. The main focus of the meeting was on executive processes in working memory, and featured oral presentations and posters from just over forty contributors. The format for the meeting was similar to that used for the successful series of European Workshops on Imagery and Cognition that have been running since 1986. The absence of multiple sessions helped provide a greater sense of cohesion and consistency across the three days of the symposium than can often be found in some larger-scale conferences. The programme also placed greater emphasis on providing opportunities for discussion and informal communication by allowing fifteen minutes of general discussion time following every two or three presentations.

I thoroughly enjoyed this meeting and was very impressed by the overall quality of the research that was presented and the breadth and scope of the general discussions that followed. I was initially a little apprehensive about how well a meeting entirely devoted to the central executive could work, especially considering its general reputation as a “ragbag” and “area of residual ignorance” within the working memory literature! These worries were soon dispelled, however, as it became apparent that the meeting would provide a unique opportunity to examine in detail issues that have hovered uneasily at the periphery of working memory research over the last thirty years. These included the peculiar tension that exists between the concept of a “central executive” and that of “executive functioning” (which were soon revealed to be more different than might initially be supposed), and also the extent to which executive control can be considered ‘central’ rather than an emergent property of interacting subsystems in working memory.

The meeting was the product of an initiative originating from the ESCOP committee intended to support a series of small-scale symposia focusing on topical issues in cognitive psychology. On the strength of EWOMS-1 this initiative will make a valuable contribution to the exchange of ideas across the international psychology community. Special mention should go to the local organisers of the symposium, André and Marilou Vandierendonck and Maud Deschuyteneer, who did an excellent job of ensuring that the meeting ran smoothly in a relaxed and welcoming atmosphere. EWOMS-1 was closed by a presentation by Graham Hitch who acted as a general discussant, and did a formidable job in drawing together the myriad themes and ideas that had arisen over the preceding three days of the workshop. I particularly enjoyed the allusion to the myth of Pandora’s Box, and the concern that the drive to subdivide the concept of a central executive could unleash a process of endless proliferation of new ‘components’, each of which themselves could be fractionated *ad infinitum*. Pandora has certainly had a bad press over the years, but she was also the first mortal to be granted the gift of curiosity, and it was that spirit which best represented the lively and stimulating discussions that occurred during the meeting. I certainly would not now claim to have definitive answers to the enigma of executive processes in working memory, but I did leave the meeting with happy memories and a notebook crammed full of great ideas for future experiments. And you can’t ask for more than that!

# XIII Conference of ESCOP: First call for papers Granada 2003

Local organizers

Chair: Teresa Bajo

Supporting Group: Luis Fuentes (U. Almería)  
Juan Lupiáñez (U. Granada)  
P. Macizo (U. Granada)  
P. Padilla (U. Granada)

## General Information

Venue

The conference is hosted by the Department of Experimental Psychology, University of Granada. The site for the ESCOP congress is the “Palacio de Congresos y Exposiciones”, one of the most modern facilities of its kind in Spain. The *Palacio* is located next to the city centre and close to many hotels and it offers a wide range of lecture halls and auditoriums for scientific sessions as well as opening and closing ceremonies. All lecture halls and auditorium will be equipped with audio/visual aids including the equipment needed for PowerPoint presentations. The technical staff of the congress centre will be available to assist the participants.

Bar and restaurant facilities are available at the congress centre.

Date

The conference starts on Wednesday September 17, 2003 and ends on Saturday 20, 2003. The first day will feature a keynote conference, 4 to 5 parallel thematic sessions and an opening reception. Thursday and Saturday will schedule symposia, thematic sessions and posters from morning to evening. If possible, Friday afternoon and evening will be kept free and a guided visit to the Alhambra and Albayzin will be offered. On the evening of Saturday 20<sup>th</sup>, there will be a closing conference dinner at the “Carmen de los Mártires”.

Invited speakers

The conference intends to bring together researchers working in different domains of cognitive psychology. This is reflected in the choice of invited speakers.

- The Broadbent Lecture: Phil Johnson-Laird
- The Bertelson Lecture: Charles Spence
- John Duncan
- Henry Roediger III

## Conference themes

All papers on topics in the domain of cognitive psychology and cognitive science are welcome.

## Formats

### Symposia

Proposals for symposia can be submitted to the organizers ([escop@ugr.es](mailto:escop@ugr.es)). A symposium is considered to be a 2-hour (or 2.20-hour) session consisting of 5 or 6 twenty minutes contributions, one of which may be a discussion session.

A submission must be made by the convener and consists of a 200-word abstract describing the purpose and the theme of the symposium, the list of the speakers and the title of their talks. Each speaker should also provide a 200-word abstract. The same format would be used as the one for regular papers and posters

### Thematic sessions and poster sessions

Proposals for oral and poster presentations are welcome and should contain the following information:

- Title
- authors and their affiliation (it is assumed that the first author is giving the presentation)
- author e-mail
- 200-word abstract
- preference: oral or poster session
- facilities needed

Priority will be given to ESCOP members for oral presentations. The scientific committee reserve the final right to allocate presentations to poster or oral sessions.

### Registration and Submissions

Proposals should be submitted not later than February 28, 2003. Registration and submissions forms will be available at the web site <http://www.ugr.es/local/escop>. Submissions should be sent via e-mail ([escop@ugr.es](mailto:escop@ugr.es)) as an attached "word document". A notification of receipt will be mailed back to the proposer within two weeks.

The exact amount of the registration fee has not been fixed yet. It is estimated to be in the order of 140 euro for members and 180 for non-members. A discount for early registration would also be set.

### Accommodation

Many hotel and hostels are situated close to the congress centre. Information will be posted on the web site.

Announcing the Ninth European Workshop on Imagery and Cognition  
Pavia, Italy, 25-27 April 2003

Since its beginning in 1986, the series of the European Workshops on Imagery and Cognition (EWIC) has provided invaluable opportunities for European scientists to exchange their views and findings in the domain of mental imagery, and more broadly on visuo-spatial cognitive processes. This European event is also open to North-American colleagues.

The last EWIC was organized by Michel Denis and Maryvonne Carfantan in Saint Malo, France, and it has been a great scientific event. In that occasion, it was decided to organize the meeting in spring, also in order to avoid the conjunction with other events. Given its success and the positive feedbacks from several colleagues, it was suggested to organize the 2003 meeting in spring too. In that occasion, Pavia was proposed as the venue for the 9th EWIC.

The present preliminary announcement is intended to invite you to note in your diaries that the ninth EWIC will be held in Pavia, Italy, 25-27 April 2003.

We expect, as usual, a full, high-quality programme, based on the papers that participants will submit as oral or poster presentations. The programme will be prepared by a Scientific Committee, consisting of Tomaso VECCHI (Pavia, Italy), Cesare CORNOLDI (Padova, Italy), Michel DENIS (Orsay, France), Tore HELSTRUP (Oslo, Norway), Robert H. LOGIE (Aberdeen, UK), Marc MARSCHARK (Rochester, USA), Gerry QUINN (St. Andrews, UK), and John RICHARDSON (Milton Keynes, UK).

Among the main topics covered by the workshop, mental imagery is, of course, the core issue (not only visual imagery, but also imagery in the other sensory modalities). Other fields covered by the workshop also extends to include any theme related to visuo-spatial working memory and visuo-spatial cognition, as approached by experimental cognitive psychology and neuroscience, in domains like perception, memory, language comprehension, problem solving, etc.

The programme will also include invited keynote speakers who are leading international scientists in imagery and spatial cognition research. Alain BERTHOZ (Paris, France), Johannes ENGELKAMP (Saarbruecken, Germany), and Timothy SALTHOUSE (Virginia, USA) have already accepted to participate.

The venue of the Workshop: Pavia is an old medieval town very close to Milan (30 km south on the way to Genoa). Pavia has also one of the oldest Universities in Italy. The town of Pavia and its surroundings are especially attractive for both cultural and leisure purposes. In addition, Milan shopping facilities and historic sites as well as seaside places on the Ligurian Sea can be easily reached by train in less than an hour. Pavia can be easily reached by car, train and plane. Direct bus services are available between Pavia and Milan Malpensa or Milan Linate Airports.

A formal Call for Papers will be sent in September with a deadline for the submission of contributions in October. In that occasion more information about accommodation, registration, travel and other logistic aspects of the meeting will be provided. A formal decision about the programme of

the 9th EWIC is expected by early next year, after the Christmas break.

Please, circulate the present preliminary information to any potentially interested people that you might know, and do not hesitate to contact me for any queries or suggestions.

Tomaso Vecchi

### **Dear European Colleagues:**

It is our distinct privilege and pleasure to announce that the Japanese Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (Monbusho) has just approved our budget for the International Conference series on Memory at the University of Tsukuba (City of Tsukuba), the high tech science center of Japan. It is about 50 km northeast of Tokyo (an 80-90 minute limousine ride from Narita (Tokyo) International Airports). Its fourth conference (tic4 for short) will be held on January 11, 12, 13, 2003. Its theme is **Human Learning and Memory: Advances in Theory and Application.**

We are also happy to tell you that the first three of this series (tic1-tic3) also administered by the University of Tsukuba and organized by Nobuo Ohta were very successful. He attracted panoplies of internationally renowned speakers such as:

- Tic1 on Memory and Consciousness (March, 1998): J. R. Anderson, J. Engelkamp, J. Gardiner, L. Jacoby, M. Masson, L.-G. Nilsson, P. Perruchet, L. Reder, and H. L. Roediger.
- Tic2 on Lifespan Memory Development (December, 1999): L. Bäckman, D. F. Bjorklund, N. Cowan, A. de Ribaupierre, R. Fivush, P. Graf, G. Hitch, E. A. Maylor, L.-G. Nilsson, D. C. Rubin, T. A. Salthouse, H. Tajika, and H. Sakata.
- Tic3 on Memory and Society (March, 2002): D. Albert, E. Bjork, R. Bjork, M. Conway, F. Craik, D. Herrmann, Y. Itsukushima, S. Lindsay, R. Logie, I. Lundberg, M. Mimura, L.-G. Nilsson, K. Pezdek, J. Schooler, and B. Wilson.

Tic4, **Human Learning and Memory: Advances in Theory and Application** (January, 2003), has doubled its human resources by co-opting the organizational and editorial talents of Chizuko Izawa. Nobuo Ohta and she would like to make tic4 the best of all international conferences on memory worldwide. The most important elements for such success are outstanding participants. Rich Shiffrin has already committed to deliver the keynote speech at our tic4. Other speakers include: Charles J. Brainerd, Nelson Cowan, Lynn Hasher, Alice F. Healy, Michael S. Humphreys, Chizuko Izawa, Jun Kawaguchi, Douglas L. Nelson, Jeroen G. L. Raaijmakers, Valerie F. Reyna, Robert L. Solso,

We are now looking forward to our excellent poster session on January 12, 2003, the best in our history! Tics usually attract over 130-150 poster submissions, although each poster participants must pay their own travel and registration expenses. However, tic4 invites some overseas poster participants with some convention support, and we would like to extend one of such invitations to you. We hope you will be able accept it.

If affirmative, you will be provided with a free registration (usually about US\$30). Furthermore, this invitation would make it possible for you to apply for your travel and hotel accommodation expenses to your own research/institutional grants or personal funds, as well as getting tax benefits. Tic4 will be happy to make your hotel reservation as per options to be noted shortly. Hotels vary from 3,000 to 9,500 yens per night (without breakfast and tax) depending on the convenience/distance from the Tsukuba Congress Center, our Conference site (most expensive). The Campus Hotel (least expensive) requires an about 10 min. cab/bus ride each way, (Currently rate: US\$ = about 125 to 130+ yens, subject to change daily.)

If you can honor us by your acceptance of this invitation, we ask for a poster presentation, with its abstract submission by November 30, 2002. Details will follow, upon your acceptance.

RSVP via e-mail to Chizuko Izawa, as soon as possible so that your name can be listed in our web site: the sooner, the better! Needless to say, we very much look forward to the prospect of seeing you in Japan, not long after the New Year of 2003!

Sincerely,

Nobuo Ohta,  
Professor of Psychology, Institute of Psychology,  
University of Tsukuba  
Tsukuba, Japan  
Email: nobohta@human.tsukuba.ac.jp

Chizuko Izawa,  
Professor of Psychology, Tulane University,  
411 Pine Street  
New Orleans, LA, 70118-3715 USA  
Email: izawa@tulane.edu