

# escop Newsletter

european society for cognitive psychology

## Contents

<b>OUR CELEBRATION: THE TENTH CONFERENCE</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>THE POSTER PRIZE WINNERS</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>OBITUARY: ECKHART SCHEERER (1943–1997)</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>REPORT OF THE BUSINESS MEETING</b>	<b>4</b>
Elections . . . . .	4
Change of the constitution . . . . .	5
The Treasurer's Report . . . . .	6
Future conferences . . . . .	7
<b>XIth CONFERENCE: CALL FOR PAPERS</b>	<b>9</b>
General Information . . . . .	9
Formats . . . . .	9
Fees and accommodation . . . . .	10
More Information . . . . .	12

Dear *ESC<sub>o</sub>P* member,

with this newsletter we try to keep you informed about the past and the future activities of the society. This year we had an election. That means that some members are leaving the committee and that fresh ideas are entering the executive. You can read about the results of this election further in this newsletter.

By all means, the major activity this year, was the conference. The tenth one in the 13 years of existence of the society. Of all (European) places, Jerusalem was elected to be the venue of this celebration: hot and beautiful Jerusalem. If you are curious about it, read the reports on the conference in this newsletter.

We also bring you an extensive report of the business meeting held during the conference, and finally you find a call for papers for our next conference, to be held in Ghent, Belgium. As you know—we hope you do—it was decided to have conferences every two years and to shift in 1999 to the odd years to avoid important clashes with other congresses.

André Vandierendonck  
Secretary

## OUR CELEBRATION: THE TENTH CONFERENCE

The tenth conference had to be something special. It was! In Jerusalem, we not only had our first conference outside geographical Europe, it was a good conference both at the scientific level and with regard to touristic and intercultural opportunities.

Seen from a number of nonscientific angles, having the conference in Israel and more specifically in Jerusalem, was exciting. For many members, this provided an opportunity to visit a country permanently mentioned in the media, but we know so little about. In this respect, the visit to Israel was fantastic: to see so many contrasts and differences: green valleys and deserts, new Jerusalem and old Jerusalem, Jews and Arabs, . . . . To be in a country which is at the same time so similar and yet also so dissimilar to the other European countries and cultures was great.

At the scientific level, as usual, the conference was excellent. The invited speakers were outstanding and added momentum to the conference. The talks in the thematic sessions were generally of a high level, and in the poster sessions, there was a lot of good stuff. It is a pity, though, that the space provided for the posters was rather limited, so that conditions for reading and communication were less than optimal.

It is for sure that the organisers—and I am **not** talking about Dan Knassim Ltd. here—did a great job. Shlomo Bentin was already congratulated during the business meeting and at the occasion of the “gala dinner”, but I want to repeat it here. Great work, Shlomo! Thanks for offering us such a good conference with so many submissions.

I must add here, though, that Shlomo, and with him many delegates and the committee, were disappointed by the announced and unannounced absences of speakers that figured in the programme. Any conference runs the risk that at the last moment, some of the delegates cannot attend because of urgent problems. The impression, however, is that in Jerusalem, the rate of nonattendance appeared to be a bit larger than usual. Members who withdraw late from the conference should be aware that they do not render the society and their fellow-members a favour. The committee—I may say—will investigate this issue and try to formulate some solutions.

The involvement of Dan Knassim Ltd was the origin of many problems and complaints. The people at this company failed to acknowledge the receipt of abstracts—at least they did not in a systematic way. They even managed to lose or forget a number of submissions. Fees and costs were high, even compared to Israelian standards, and Dan Knassim was suboptimal in handling problems. This was a bad experience for all of us and not in the least for Shlomo. But after all, this unhappy surprise will hopefully prevent us from making the same mistake again. Above all, it did not spoil the general feeling that the tenth conference, was a good one.

In short, the Jerusalem conference will be remembered for a long time by those who were present. And those were not missed a great opportunity, but can catch up the next time.

## THE POSTER PRIZE WINNERS

It has become a tradition. In every conference a few poster presentations are awarded a humble prize: a free registration at the next  $\mathcal{E}SC_o\mathcal{P}$  conference. This year, M. Teresa Bajo (Granada) and Jonathan Grainger (Aix-en-Provence) played the role of jurors. The rules of the game are that the prize is awarded to presenters that are not related to any of the committee members.

This year's prize winners are:

- M. Nisslein, J. Muesseler, & A. Koriat. *The on-line extraction of sentential structure during reading: Evidence from the function disadvantage effect in German.*
- Y. Mouchetant-Rostaing, M.H. Giard, S. Bentin, & J. Pernier. *Different neural activities for implicit and explicit face gender processing in humans.*
- T. Ganel & Y. Goshen-Gottstein. *Repetition priming for unfamiliar faces using a gender-decision task: Evidence for a common route for gender and identity processing.*

## OBITUARY: ECKHART SCHEERER (1943–1997)

Eckhart Scheerer lost a long struggle with illness on 3 March 1997. He was one of the participants of the Inaugural Meeting of the European Society for Cognitive Psychology in Nijmegen, 9–12 September 1985. As the long-time Coordinating Editor of *Psychological Research*, he offered the space of a special issue for the papers, which appeared in 1987. Thus he provided the first scientific forum for the Society, before its own journal started its existence.

Eckhart Scheerer was born in Stuttgart in 1943. He studied Psychology in Tübingen, Vienna and Bochum, where he received his diploma, his doctoral degree, and finally his *venia legendi*. Three years later, in 1979, he moved to Oldenburg. His early years were dedicated to experimental research on visual information processing and reading. Already at that time, however, the interests emerged that eventually were to become the characteristics of Eckhart Scheerer and his intellectual style. He was a scholar in the best sense, with a strong interest in the history of ideas and the logical foundations of general theoretical approaches. In some sense he was a borderer, a philosopher among experimental psychologists and an experimentalist among philosophers. This gave him a key role in cross-disciplinary projects—and from the mid-eighties on he filled that role in a number of multi-disciplinary research groups in a unique way. His death leaves us with a noticeable gap.

Herbert Heuer  
Dortmund

Wolfgang Prinz  
Munich

## REPORT OF THE BUSINESS MEETING

The business meeting started with the report of the president, Vicki Bruce. She gave a brief overview of the activities of the society since the previous conference in Würzburg. You could read about these activities in previous editions of the newspaper. Hence, an enumeration may suffice here. The society sponsored four specialised workshops in 1997: the *ESC<sub>o</sub>P* workshop on eye guidance (Geoffrey Underwood), Audiovisual speech: Computational and cognitive science approaches (Ruth Campbell), Resource limitations of human information processing (Hubert D. Zimmer), Sixth European Workshop on Imagery and Cognition (Tore Helstrup). In 1997 there was also the very successful summer school on language organised by our vice-president, Ino Flores d'Arcais. Finally, there was also the tenth conference in Jerusalem (see elsewhere in this newsletter).

### Elections

Ino Flores d'Arcais' term as vice-president comes to an end and so he is leaving the committee. Already in 1997, Claus Bundesen left the committee after numerous years of service to the society, especially as treasurer. On behalf of the committee and the entire society, at the business meeting, Vicki Bruce thanked both of them warmly for the efforts they have put into the society.

Vicki Bruce's term as president ends and she will continue for another two years as vice-president. There was only one candidate for the presidential elections, Johannes Engelkamp of the University of Saarbrücken. Consequently, he is our next president. Congratulations to Johannes!

Two positions are becoming vacant in the committee: the four-year term of Johannes Engelkamp and André Vandierendonck is ending. Johannes continues as president. André also continues as a co-opted member of the committee (article 11 of the constitution). Five candidates were proposed in agreement with the procedure stipulated in the constitution and a mail ballot was organized among the full members of the society. The results of this elections were as follows:

Name	Number of votes
Mañuel Carreiras	34
Cesare Cornoldi	74
Remo Job	41
Alan Kennedy	52
Pertti Saariluoma	70

Cesare Cornoldi (Padova) and Pertti Saariluoma (Helsinki) are joining the committee for the period 1999–2002. Congratulations to both of them; at lot of hard work is waiting! Thanks to the other candidates for enabling a democratic choice.

The composition of the new committee is as follows:

President	Johannes Engelkamp (Saarbrücken, Germany) (engelkamp@rz.uni-sb.de)
Vice-President	Vicki Bruce (Stirling, UK) (Vicki.Bruce@stirling.ac.uk)
Treasurer	Joachim Hoffmann (Würzburg, Germany) (hoffmann@psychologie.uni-wuerzburg.de)
Secretary	André Vandierendonck (Ghent, Belgium) [co-opted] (Andre.Vandierendonck@rug.ac.be)
Editor Journal	Philip T. Smith (Reading, UK) [ex officio] (P.T.Smith@reading.ac.uk)
Members	Maria Teresa Bajo (Granada, Spain) (mbajo@goliat.ugr.es)
	Cesare Cornoldi (Padova, Italy) (cornoldi@ux1.unipd.it)
	Jonathan Grainger (Aix-en-Provence, France) (grainger@aixup.univ-aix.fr)
	Pertti Saariluoma (Helsinki, Finland) (psa@utu.fi)

### Change of the constitution

As promised quite some time ago, the committee investigated the possibilities for an appropriate status for the society. For a number of years now, the society has been in a kind of dual state, being a Stichting (foundation) according to Dutch law and striving to be a charity under British law. Philip T. Smith investigated the possibilities, advantages and drawbacks of becoming a British charity, while the present secretary explored the advantages and disadvantages of being a Stichting.

The results of this process were quite interesting. Being a Dutch Stichting is cheap and puts only a few restrictions on the functioning of the society. In principle, a Stichting does not have members, only founders who are controlled by an advisory board. So, the advisory board is technically required. However, our constitution stipulates that the real power is in the hands of the membership. Consequently, the task of the advisory board is restricted.

The advantages and disadvantages of a British charity are not substantially different, but the recognition procedure seem to be quite tedious.

Taking all these findings into account, the committee decided that there is no problem in remaining a Stichting, on condition that the constitution is adapted with respect to the composition of the Advisory Board. The committee reasoned that there is no necessity to have an extensive Board if it is rarely ever consulted and if nobody seems to know who is in it. Originally, this board represented the different countries, so that the board consisted of 1–2 members per country. It is believed that this is no longer viable and therefore the committee proposed to remain a Stichting and to change a few articles of the constitution.

These articles and the proposed changes were published in the previous newsletter and

were thoroughly discussed at the business meeting. Some members expressed their concern about the possibility that the Advisory Board could dismiss the committee, according to the law. However, the constitution is a sufficient safeguard. At the business meeting a large majority voted in favour of the changes.

From now on, Articles 17 and 20 of the constitution read (the changes are in boldface):

**Article 17.** The Advisory Board shall consist of **mininally six and maximally 12 members, who have been Committee members of the society**. The term of office for a member of the Advisory Board is four years, with eligibility for re-election. The Advisory Board shall not hold formal meetings, but the Committee shall seek the advice of its members where appropriate. A member cannot be a Committee member and a member of the Advisory Board at the same time.

**Article 20.** **Every four years, or whenever the effective size of the Advisory Board drops below six members, the election procedure will be started by the secretary.** Nominations shall be made as in Article 19 and voting shall take place in accordance with Articles 21 to 23, with the additional condition that only nominees that have been Committee members of the society before, are eligible.

In addition to this change based on a rather fundamental choice, the committee also proposed to change Article 8, to simplify the acceptance procedure. This was also accepted at the business meeting, so that the new article 8 is now:

**Article 8.** Proposals for membership should be made on forms obtainable from the Secretary and should be returned to the Secretary. A candidate for any type of membership should be proposed by **one Full member of the Society**. The Committee of the Society (or such Subcommittee as the Committee may determine) shall be responsible for processing applications.

New members joining the society will receive henceforth the new text of the constitution.

## The Treasurer's Report

At the business meeting, the treasurer, Joachim Hoffmann, presented a report over 1997 and the first half of 1998. As the 1997 overview was published in the previous newsletter, it is not repeated here.

In the half year overview of 1998, the balance dropped by DEM 20.000. The committee will investigate whether this is a structural problem or a coincidence. If necessary, a raise of the fee will be proposed. Meanwhile, it is kept at the same level. From 1999 on, the membership fee will be expressed in Euro, so that the fee for full and affiliate membership will amount to about 60 Euro and the fee for associate membership will be about 40 Euro. As the half year balance is not so informative, it is not published here. The next newsletter will publish the complete overview of 1998.

Every year, the treasurer's office receives payments that are difficult to identify. At the business meeting, the following ones were presented. If any reader of this newsletter recognizes the source of the payment, please contact the treasurer:

Joachim Hoffmann  
 Lehrstuhl Psychologie III  
 University of Würzburg  
 Röntgenring 11  
 D-97070 Würzburg  
 Germany  
 E-mail: [hoffmann@psychologie.uni-wuerzburg.de](mailto:hoffmann@psychologie.uni-wuerzburg.de).

Date	Payment Mode	Country	From	Amount
20-01-98	Credit card		Mrs. A. Sanders-Kronenburg	70
09-03-98	Bank transfer	Slovenia	Novak Trkman Dragica Goriska Ulica 51 1000 Ljubljana	140
03-04-98	Bank transfer	Belgium	UCL Serv. Financier Halles Univ Place de l'Université 1 B-1348 Louvain-la-Neuve	110
17-06-98	Banca Antoniana Popolare Veneta (Cheque)	Italy	Dr. L. Surian Universita Degli Studi Padova	70
25-06-98	Bank Leumi (Cheque)	Israel	Ben-Gurion University of the Negev	110

### Future conferences

At the business meeting, also information was presented about the next conferences. In 1999, Ghent is hosting the conference. Read more about this in the call for papers in this newsletter. In 2001, the XIIth conference will be organised in Edinburgh, UK. This will be organised jointly with the British Psychological Society, Cognitive Psychology section.

Meanwhile, the committee has decided to look ahead a number of years for the next conference venue. The principle is that potential organisers submit a well-documented proposal and that a decision is taken four years ahead during the conference. In practice, this means that potential candidates for the XIIIth conference in 2003 should start making their homework. An extensive proposal covering financial as well as scientific aspects should be submitted to the secretary before the summer of 1999. The committee will study the proposals and propose a choice during the next conference.

### MEMBER'S OPINIONS

A society like ours runs on the actions and the initiatives taken by members, be it in the committee, be it in another position. The Newsletter offers a forum for member's opinions on the society. Short texts expressing an opinion, or a suggestion about actions that the society should take are welcomed. You are invited to send your text to the secretary by e-mail: [Andre.Vandierendonck@rug.ac.be](mailto:Andre.Vandierendonck@rug.ac.be).

### THE MAILING LIST

If you have any initiatives or interesting information you want to share with the other members of the society, you can simply mail it to

`escop-list@rug.ac.be`

and it is spread out to everyone who is subscribed to that list. To subscribe yourself to this list, if you are not already, send e-mail to

`majordomo@rug.ac.be`

and place in the body of your mailing the following text:

`subscribe escop-list`

### *ESC<sub>o</sub>P* WEBSITE

Some time ago, Axel Cleeremans offered to produce a website for the society. Part of the website is ready now. Congratulations to Axel are in order, for he produced a website that is great according to esthetic as well as ergonomic criteria. The website's URL is:

<http://www.ulb.ac.be/assoc/escop/>

Please consult and send your comments either to Axel or to the secretary.



## XIth CONFERENCE: CALL FOR PAPERS

### General Information

#### Venue

The XIth conference is hosted by the Department of Experimental Psychology, University of Ghent. The conference venue is "Het Pand", an old Dominican monastery built in the 12th century, renovated during the sixties and seventies and presently the cultural centre of the University of Ghent.

The plenary sessions, the poster sessions and the coffee breaks will take place in rooms on the ground level. For the thematic sessions and the symposia, rooms on the other floors will be used as well.

#### Date

The conference starts on Wednesday September 1, 1999 and ends on Saturday September 4, 1999. The first day will feature the Broadbent lecture and an opening reception with typical Belgian products (beer and cheese). The other three days will schedule symposia, thematic sessions and poster sessions from morning to evening. On the evening of the last day, there will be a closing conference dinner at a small castle outside the city of Ghent.

#### 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 and the symposia already announced.

- **The Broadbent Lecture:** Willem Levelt, *Max Planck Institute for Psycholinguistics, Nijmegen*
- **The Young Psychologist Lecture:** Maria Brandimonte, *University of Trieste*
- David E. Meyer, *University of Michigan*
- Stanislas Dehaene, *Paris*

#### Conference themes

All papers on topics in the domain of cognitive psychology and cognitive science are welcome. The organisers will give extra attention to the following topics: language production, number processing, memory, attention and executive control, time estimation, and higher cognitive processes such as reasoning.

#### Formats

#### Symposia

Proposals for symposia can be submitted to the organisers. A symposium is considered to be a 3-hour session consisting of 6 one half hour 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, and a list of the speakers. Each speaker should also provide a 200-word abstract. The same format should be used as

the one for the regular papers and posters (see below). Use the website form or E-mail as explained in the paragraph on thematic and poster sessions.

The following symposia have already been announced:

- *Time estimation* (Conveners: Gino De Vooght and Vicky Franssen)
- *Bilingualism* (Convener: Jonathan Grainger)
- *Language production* (Convener: Pienie Zwitserlood)
- *Numerical cognition* (Conveners: Wim Fias and Marc Brysbaert)
- *Executive control* (Convener: Bernard Hommel)
- *Visuo-spatial working memory* (Conveners: Hubert D. Zimmer and Gilbert Mohr)

### **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 the one giving the presentation)
- author e-mail address
- 200-word abstract
- preference: oral or poster session
- facilities needed other than an overhead projector

For oral presentations, priority is given to  $\mathcal{E}SC_o\mathcal{P}$ -members. Depending on the number and the quality of the submission, the programme committee may decide to put some paper proposals in the poster category and vice versa.

### **Submission**

Proposals should be submitted **not later than February 28, 1999** either by E-mail to [escopxi@expsy.rug.ac.be](mailto:escopxi@expsy.rug.ac.be)

or via the form available on the website

<http://allserv.rug.ac.be/~avandi/escopxi/index.html>

If you are using E-mail, please, only send plain ascii text files, not doc-files nor rtf-files. A notification of receipt will be mailed back to the proposer within two weeks.

### **Final Announcement**

A program committee of the local organisation extended with some members of the  $\mathcal{E}SC_o\mathcal{P}$  committee will study all the proposals and design a final programme. Notification of acceptance of the symposia, the papers and the posters will be send out by the end of April 1999, together with an invitation to register for the conference.

Registration forms will be made available via the website before that date.

### **Fees and accommodation**

#### **Registration Fee**

The exact amount of the registration fee has not been fixed yet. It is estimated to be in the order of 100 Euro.

### Accommodation

Hotel capacity in Ghent is quite large. However, the beginning of September is still a period with intensive touristic activity. Therefore, conference delegates are advised to reserve hotel accommodation as early as possible, because the number of rooms available in the center of the city may be restricted.

We have made agreements with a number of hotels that are located nearby the conference site. The prices listed are special prices for participants in the *ESCOP* conference of 1999, and include breakfast. When contacting the hotel, mention "ESCOP" in order to get the price listed. Because the conference falls in the touristic season, the prices are normally higher in that period.

In what follows, two lists of hotels are presented. The first list presents hotels which are situated on walking distance (5–10 minutes walk) from the conference site. A partial city map with locations of the hotels will be included in the final call for registration and will be present on the website later on.

Accommodation on walking distance					
Hotel	Address	Phone/Fax +32-9-...	Number of rooms	Room size	
				1P	2P
Ibis Cathedral	Limburgstraat, 2 B-9000 Gent	233 0000 233 1000	120	3095	3295
Ibis Opera	Nederkouter, 24–26 B-9000 Gent	225 0707 223 5007	134	3095	3295
Novotel Centrum	Goudenleeuwplein, 5 B-9000 Gent	224 2230 224 3205	117	4600	5000
Sofitel	Hoogpoort, 63 B-9000 Gent	233 3331 233 1102	127	5550	6125
Sint-Jorishof	Botermarkt, 2 B-9000 Gent	224 2424 224 2640	28	3100 3500	3100 3500
Erasmus	Poel, 25 B-9000 Gent	224 2195 233 4241	11	3150	4200
Gravensteen	Jan Breydelstraat, 35 B-9000 Gent	225 1150 225 1850	26	3690	7380
Flandria Centrum	Barrestraat, 3 B-9000 Gent	223 0626 233 7789	21	1600	1800
Youth Hostel De Draecke	Sint-Widostraat, 11 B-9000 Gent	233 7050 233 8001			500 pp
Without card: + BEF 100		Sheets: + BEF 125			
Note. The Erasmus Hotel also has rooms for 3 persons (4850) and for 4 persons (5750). The Youth Hostel has 4 and 6 person rooms at respectively 450 and 405 BEF per person.					

The second list presents hotels which are not considered to be on walking distance. However, the city center is easily reached by tram or bus.

<b>Accommodation outside the city center</b>					
Hotel	Address	Phone/Fax +32-9- . . .	Number of rooms	Room size	
				1P	2P
Alfa Flanders	Koning Albertlaan, 121 B-9000 Gent	222 6065 220 1605	49	3000	3500
Europa	Gordunakaai, 59 B-9000 Gent	222 6071 220 0609		2600	2950
Student Rooms	(University)	Not yet available			

### Lunches

No lunches are provided at the conference. There are many occasions in the neighborhood, and for the more wealthy people, on week days, there is an excellent restaurant in the building. A list of suggestions will be included in the congress bundle.

### More Information

Further information about the conference can be obtained in several ways:

- consult the conference website

<http://allserv.rug.ac.be/~avandi/escopxi/index.html>

- send e-mail to [escopxi@expsy.rug.ac.be](mailto:escopxi@expsy.rug.ac.be)
- contact André Vandierendonck ([Andre.Vandierendonck@rug.ac.be](mailto:Andre.Vandierendonck@rug.ac.be)) or Marc Brysbaert ([Marc.Brysbaert@rug.ac.be](mailto:Marc.Brysbaert@rug.ac.be)) at the following address:

Department of Experimental Psychology  
 University of Ghent  
 Henri Dunantlaan 2  
 B-9000 Ghent  
 Phone: +32-9-264 6437 (André)    +32-9-264 6408 (Marc)  
 Fax: +32-9-264 6496

**EUROPEAN SOCIETY FOR COGNITIVE PSYCHOLOGY  
MEMBERSHIP PROPOSAL FORM**

LAST NAME .....  
FIRST NAME(s) ..... DATE OF BIRTH .....  
TYPE OF MEMBER:  Full member       Associate member       Affiliate member

FULL CURRENT PROFESSIONAL ADDRESS:  
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Telephone: ..... Fax: .....  
E-mail: .....

DEGREES	Year of Degree	University
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EXPERIENCE	Dates	Post
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CURRENT RESEARCH INTERESTS:

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2. ....	5. ....
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RECENT PUBLICATIONS:  
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PROPOSED BY (Name): ..... (Signature) .....  
Date: .....  
Address: .....  
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**Please do not exceed the space indicated for each section. If necessary, list only selected publications indicating that the list is incomplete.**