



THE ATHENS INSTITUTE FOR EDUCATION AND RESEARCH

# Abstract Book:

11<sup>th</sup> Annual International Conference on

**Psychology**

29-31 May & 1 June 2017

Athens, Greece

Edited by

Gregory T. Papanikos

2017



Abstracts  
11<sup>th</sup> Annual International  
Conference on Psychology  
29-31 May & 1 June  
Athens, Greece

Edited by Gregory T.  
Papanikos

First Published in Athens, Greece by the Athens Institute for Education and  
Research.

ISBN: 978-960-598-123-5

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored,  
retrieved system, or transmitted, in any form or by any means, without the  
written permission of the publisher, nor be otherwise circulated in any form of  
binding or cover.

8 Valaoritou Street  
Kolonaki, 10671 Athens, Greece  
[www.atiner.gr](http://www.atiner.gr)

©Copyright 2017 by the Athens Institute for Education and Research. The  
individual essays remain the intellectual properties of the contributors.

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

(In Alphabetical Order by Author's Family name)

<b>Preface</b>		<b>9</b>
<b>Conference Program</b>		<b>11</b>
<b>1.</b>	<b>A Closer Look at some of the Approaches Emirati Families use with their Children to Help Enhance their Mother Language</b> <i>Maitha Ali</i>	<b>14</b>
<b>2.</b>	<b>Intergenerational Trust in the Context of Health and Wellbeing in Diaspora</b> <i>Maria-Irini Avgoulas &amp; Rebecca Fanany</i>	<b>15</b>
<b>3.</b>	<b>Modifications of a First Psychological Aid (FPA) Protocol for Victims in the Early Stages of a Disaster</b> <i>Susana Celeste Azzollini, Aldana Sol Grinhaus, Azzara Sergio, Depaula Pablo &amp; Alejandro Cosentino</i>	<b>16</b>
<b>4.</b>	<b>Inclusive Planning and Design of Green Open Spaces for People with Physical Disabilities</b> <i>Christine Bai</i>	<b>17</b>
<b>5.</b>	<b>Perceiving a Biological Human Movement Facilitates Action Word Processing</b> <i>Sophie-Anne Beauprez</i>	<b>19</b>
<b>6.</b>	<b>Beyond The Inside-Out Course: Participants as Researchers, Educators and Activists</b> <i>Angela Bryant</i>	<b>20</b>
<b>7.</b>	<b>Predictors of Resilience in Female Students: The Impact of Attachment Quality</b> <i>Jonathan Catling</i>	<b>21</b>
<b>8.</b>	<b>Examining the Factors Predicting the Life Satisfaction of the Individuals in the Course of Divorce</b> <i>Isil Coklar, Nurgul Iyilikci Zeyrek &amp; Ferda Aysan</i>	<b>22</b>
<b>9.</b>	<b>Coping Strategies and Temperamental Dimensions in Children and Adolescents in Foster Care</b> <i>Emeline Delaville</i>	<b>23</b>
<b>10.</b>	<b>The Link between Childhood Maltreatment and Psychological Distress: The Roles of Cognitive Distortion, Alexithymia, and Eudemonic Well-Being</b> <i>Siqi (Joy) Fang</i>	<b>24</b>
<b>11.</b>	<b>The Indirect Effect of Self-Efficacy on Marijuana Protective Strategies</b> <i>Eleftherios Hetelekides, Mark Prince &amp; R. Lorraine Collins</i>	<b>25</b>

12.	<b>Senior Leadership Team Coaching in Action - Creating High Performance Teams</b> <i>Jingxi Hou &amp; Siqi (Joy) Fang</i>	26
13.	<b>The Influence of Television on Sexual Behaviour of Adolescents</b> <i>Zuzana Hradilekova &amp; Veronika Zajacova</i>	27
14.	<b>Coping with CFS/ME: A Rehabilitation Program for Adolescents with Chronic Fatigue Syndrome/Myalgic Encephalomyelitis</b> <i>Ketil Jakobsen</i>	28
15.	<b>Personality Traits Similarity in Married Couples and Prejudice towards Homosexuals and Obese Persons</b> <i>Barbara Kalebic Maglica &amp; Irena Miletic</i>	29
16.	<b>When Parents Support Students' Choices: Parents' Role in Students' Choice of a High School Major</b> <i>Idit Katz, Moran Green-Cohen, Rinat Cohen &amp; Suzi Morsiano-Davidpur</i>	30
17.	<b>Child Abuse and Epigenetic Mechanisms of Disease Risk</b> <i>Joan Kaufman, Janitza Montalvo-Ortiz, Bao-Zhu Yang, Catherine Orr, Kerry O'Loughlin, Hannah Holbrook, Hugh Garavan, Matthew Albaugh, Joel Gelernter &amp; James Hudziak</i>	31
18.	<b>Electrophysiological Processing of Angry Faces and its Relationship to Social Avoidance and Self-Construal</b> <i>Richard Lewis, Goeun Park &amp; Sharon Goto</i>	33
19.	<b>Parkinson's Disease in Everyday Life: An Interpretative Phenomenological Analysis of a Case Study</b> <i>Liliann Manning &amp; Camille Guillemin</i>	35
20.	<b>A Behavioural Health Integrated Care Program: Coordination and Delivery of Somatic Care within a Community Mental Health Clinic for Persons with Serious Mental Illness</b> <i>Alexandros Maragakis &amp; Jill Rach Beisel</i>	36
21.	<b>Neuropsychological Deficits in Tshivenda Speaking Children with Attention-Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder</b> <i>Mudzunga Mathioha</i>	37
22.	<b>Darkness and Light: The Role of Dark Triad Traits and Empathy in Understanding Preferences for Visual Artworks</b> <i>Michelle Newberry</i>	38

23.	<b>Study of Aggressive Behavior and Types of Moral Judgment in Children and Adolescents with Intellectual Disabilities</b> <i>Leila Oubrahim</i>	39
24.	<b>The Role of Art Expertise in Aesthetic Appreciation of Artworks</b> <i>Galina Paramei &amp; David Bimler</i>	40
25.	<b>Testing the Social Motivation Theory in Typically Developing Children and Children with ASD</b> <i>Diane Pouline Dubois &amp; Kimberly Burnside</i>	42
26.	<b>Mindfulness in Psychotherapeutic Practice: An Exploration of Mechanisms of Action</b> <i>Linda V. Shepherd</i>	43
27.	<b>Mona Lisa's smiles in non-Mona Lisas</b> <i>Alessandro Soranzo</i>	44
28.	<b>The Relationship between Students' Sense of Community in the Classroom, Aggressive behaviour and Self-Perception</b> <i>Helen Vrailas Bateman</i>	45
29.	<b>Considerations for Addressing the Mental Health Needs of Refugees</b> <i>Sandra Zakowski</i>	46



## Preface

This book includes the abstracts of all the papers presented at the *11<sup>th</sup> Annual International Conference on Psychology, 29-31 May & 1 June 2017*, organized by the Athens Institute for Education and Research (ATINER). In total 27 papers were submitted by 30 presenters, coming from 16 different countries (Argentina, Australia, Canada, China, Croatia, France, Hong Kong, Israel, Norway, Slovakia, South Africa, Turkey, UAE, UK, USA). The conference was organized into 10 sessions that included a variety of topic areas such as Education Psychology, Cognitive Psychology, International Perspectives in Psychology, Psychology in the Arts & Professions. A full conference program can be found beginning on the next page. In accordance with ATINER's Publication Policy, the papers presented during this conference will be considered for inclusion in one of ATINER's many publications.

The purpose of this abstract book is to provide members of ATINER and other academics around the world with a resource through which to discover colleagues and additional research relevant to their own work. This purpose is in congruence with the overall mission of the institute. ATINER was established in 1995 as an independent academic organization with the mission to become a forum where academics and researchers from all over the world could meet to exchange ideas on their research and consider the future developments of their fields of study.

It is our hope that through ATINER's conferences and publications, Athens will become a place where academics and researchers from all over the world regularly meet to discuss the developments of their discipline and present their work. Since 1995, ATINER has organized more than 400 international conferences and has published nearly 200 books. Academically, the institute is organized into seven research divisions and 38 research units. Each research unit organizes at least one annual conference and undertakes various small and large research projects.

For each of these events, the involvement of multiple parties is crucial. I would like to thank all the participants, the members of the organizing and academic committees, and most importantly the administration staff of ATINER for putting this conference and its subsequent publications together.

**Gregory T. Papanikos**  
**President**



**FINAL CONFERENCE PROGRAM**  
**11<sup>th</sup> Annual International Conference on Psychology**  
**29-31 May & 1 June 2017, Athens, Greece**

**PROGRAM**

**Conference Venue: Titania Hotel, 52 Panepistimiou Avenue, Athens, Greece**

**C O N F E R E N C E   P R O G R A M**

**Monday 29 May 2017**

**08:00-09:00 Registration and Refreshments**

**09:00-09:30 (Room B - 10<sup>th</sup> Floor) Welcome and Opening Address by Gregory T. Papanikos, President, ATINER.**

**09:30-11:00 Session I (Room A - 10<sup>th</sup> Floor): Therapy and Interventions**

**Chair:** Vasilis Skianis, Research Fellow, ATINER.

1. Liliann Manning, Professor, University of Strasbourg, France & Camille Guillemin, Neuropsychologist, University of Strasbourg, France. Parkinson's Disease in Everyday Life: An Interpretative Phenomenological Analysis of a Case Study.
2. Alexandros Maragakis, Assistant Professor, Eastern Michigan University, USA & Jill Rach Beisel, Associate Professor, University of Maryland, USA. A Behavioural Health Integrated Care Program: Coordination and Delivery of Somatic Care within a Community Mental Health Clinic for Persons with Serious Mental Illness.
3. Ketil Jakobsen, Clinical Psychologist, St Olavs University Hospital, Trondheim, Norway. Coping with CFS/ME: A Rehabilitation Program for Adolescents with Chronic Fatigue Syndrome/Myalgic Encephalomyelitis.
4. \*Linda V. Shepherd, Post-Doctoral Fellow, Hawaii Island Health and Wellness Center, USA. Mindfulness in Psychotherapeutic Practice: An Exploration of Mechanisms of Action.

**11:00-12:30 Session II (Room A - 10<sup>th</sup> Floor): Development Psychology I**

**Chair:** \*Helen Vrailas Bateman, Associate Professor, Sewanee: The University of the South, USA.

1. Diane Poulin Dubois, Professor, Concordia University, Canada & Kimberly Burnside, PhD Student, Concordia University, Canada. Testing the Social Motivation Theory in Typically Developing Children and Children with ASD.
2. Zuzana Hradilekova, Counselling Psychologist, Central Office of Labour, Family and Social Affairs, Slovakia & Veronika Zajacova, Student, University of St. Cyril and Method, Slovakia. The Influence of Television on Sexual Behaviour of Adolescents.
3. \*Siqi (Joy) Fang, PhD Candidate, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong. The Link between Childhood Maltreatment and Psychological Distress: The Roles of Cognitive Distortion, Alexithymia, and Eudemonic Well-Being.
4. Emeline Delaville, PhD Student, Université François-Rabelais de TOURS, France. Coping Strategies and Temperamental Dimensions in Children and Adolescents in Foster Care.

**12:30-14:00 Session III (Room A - 10<sup>th</sup> Floor): Education Psychology**

**Chair:** Diane Poulin Dubois, Professor, Concordia University, Canada.

1. Angela Bryant, Associate Professor, The Ohio State University-Newark, USA. Beyond The Inside-Out Course: Participants as Researchers, Educators and Activists. (PSYETH)
2. \*Helen Vrailas Bateman, Associate Professor, Sewanee: The University of the South, USA. The Relationship between Students' Sense of Community in the Classroom, Aggressive behaviour and Self-Perception.
3. Jonathan Catling, Senior Lecturer, University of Birmingham, U.K. Predictors of Resilience in Female Students: The Impact of Attachment Quality.
4. Idit Katz, Senior Lecturer, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, Israel, Moran Green-Cohen, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, Israel, Rinat Cohen, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, Israel & Suzi Morsiano-davidpur, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, Israel. When Parents Support Students' Choices: Parents' Role in Students' Choice of a High School Major.

**14:00-15:00 Lunch**

**15:00-16:30 Session IV (Room A - 10<sup>th</sup> Floor): Cognitive Psychology**

**Chair:** \*Maria-Irini Avgoulas, Associate Lecturer, La Trobe University, Australia.

1. Richard Lewis, Professor, Pomona College, USA, Goeun Park, Student, Pomona College, USA & Sharon Goto, Professor, Pomona College, USA. Electrophysiological Processing of Angry Faces and its Relationship to Social Avoidance and Self-Construct.
2. Mudzunga Mathivha, Lecturer, Clinical Psychologist, University of Limpopo, South Africa. Neuropsychological Deficits in Tshivenda Speaking Children with Attention-Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder.
3. Sophie-Anne Beauprez, PhD Student, Centre de Recherche sur la Cognition et l'Apprentissage (CeRCA), France. Perceiving a Biological Human Movement Facilitates Action Word Processing.

**16:30-18:30 Session V (Room A - 10<sup>th</sup> Floor): International Perspectives in Psychology**

**Chair:** \*Linda V. Shepherd, Post-Doctoral Fellow, Hawaii Island Health and Wellness Center, USA.

1. Sandra Zakowski, Professor, Argosy University, USA. Considerations for Addressing the Mental Health Needs of Refugees.
2. \*Maria-Irini Avgoulas, Associate Lecturer, La Trobe University, Australia & Rebecca Fanany, Associate Professor, Deakin University, Australia. Intergenerational Trust in the Context of Health and Wellbeing in Diaspora.
3. Maitha Ali, Student, Zayed University, UAE. A Closer Look at some of the Approaches Emirati Families use with their Children to Help Enhance their Mother Language.

**21:00-23:00 The Pragmatic Symposium of the Conference as Organized in Ancient Athens with Dialogues, Food, Wine, Music and Dancing but fine tuned to Synchronous Ethics (Details during registration)**

**Tuesday 30 May 2017**

**07:30-10:30 Session VI (Room B - 10<sup>th</sup> Floor): An Educational Urban Walk in Modern and Ancient Athens**

**Chair:** Gregory Katsas, Vice President of Academic Affairs, ATINER & Associate Professor, The American College of Greece-Deree College, Greece.

Group Discussion on Ancient and Modern Athens. Visit to the Most Important Historical and Cultural Monuments of the City (be prepared to walk and talk as in the ancient peripatetic school of Aristotle) (Note: The simple registration fee of the conference does not cover the cost of this session. More details during registration).

**11:30-13:00 Session VII (Room A - 10<sup>th</sup> Floor): Health Psychology**

**Chair:** \*Joan Kaufman, Director, Center for Child and Family Traumatic Stress and Professor, Johns Hopkins University, USA

1. Isil Coklar, Assistant Professor, Okan University, Turkey, Nurgul Iyilikci Zeyrek, Psychologist - Family Counsellor, Family Court of Izmir - Ministry of Justice of Turkey, Turkey & Ferda Aysan, Professor, Dokuz Eylul University, Turkey. Examining the Factors Predicting the Life Satisfaction of the Individuals in the Course of Divorce.
2. Barbara Kalebic Maglica, Assistant Professor, University of Rijeka, Croatia & Irena Miletic, Senior Professional Associate, University of Rijeka, Croatia. Personality Traits Similarity in Married Couples and Prejudice towards Homosexuals and Obese Persons.
3. Eleftherios Hetelekides, Research Assistant, State University of New York at Buffalo, USA, Mark Prince, Assistant Professor, Colorado State University, USA & R. Lorraine Collins, Associate Dean for Research, State University of New York at Buffalo, USA. The Indirect Effect of Self-Efficacy on Marijuana Protective Strategies.

**13:00-14:00 Lunch**

**14:00-15:30 Session VIII (Room A - 10<sup>th</sup> Floor): Psychology in the Arts & Professions**

**Chair:** Barbara Kalebic Maglica, Assistant Professor, University of Rijeka, Croatia

1. \*Galina Paramej, Professor, Liverpool Hope University, UK & David Bimler, Research Associate, Massey University, New Zealand. The Role of Art Expertise in Aesthetic Appreciation of Artworks. (PSYART)
2. Michelle Newberry, Senior Lecturer, Sheffield Hallam University, UK. Darkness and Light: The Role of Dark Triad Traits and Empathy in Understanding Preferences for Visual Artworks.
3. \*Alessandro Soranzo, Reader in Psychology, Sheffield Hallam University, UK. Mona Lisa's smiles in non-Mona Lisas.

**15:30-17:00 Session IX (Room A - 10<sup>th</sup> Floor): Development Psychology II**

**Chair:** Michelle Newberry, Senior Lecturer, Sheffield Hallam University, UK.

1. \*Joan Kaufman, Director, Center for Child and Family Traumatic Stress and Professor, Johns Hopkins University, USA, Janitza Montalvo-Ortiz, Yale University, USA, Bao-Zhu Yang, Yale University, USA, Catherine Orr, University of Vermont, USA, Kerry O'Loughlin, University of Vermont, USA, Hannah Holbrook, University of Vermont, USA, Hugh Garavan, University of Vermont, USA, Matthew Albaugh, University of Vermont, USA, Joel Gelernter, Yale University, USA & James Hudziak, University of Vermont, USA. Child Abuse and Epigenetic Mechanisms of Disease Risk.
2. Leila Oubrahim, PhD Student, Université François-Rabelais de TOURS, France. Study of Aggressive Behavior and Types of Moral Judgment in Children and Adolescents with Intellectual Disabilities.

**17:00-18:30 Session X (Room A - 10<sup>th</sup> Floor): Special Issues**

**Chair:** \*Galina Paramei, Professor, Liverpool Hope University, UK.

1. Jingxi Hou, President, International Association of Organization and Leadership, China & Siqi (Joy) Fang, PhD Candidate, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong. Senior Leadership Team Coaching in Action – Creating High Performance Teams.
2. Christine Bai, Project Leader, University of Applied Sciences Rapperswil (HSR), Switzerland. Inclusive Planning and Design of Green Open Spaces for People with Physical Disabilities. (PSYCIT)
3. Susana Celeste Azzollini, Professor / Researcher, National Defense University, Army Faculty / Universidad de Buenos Aires, Argentina, Aldana Sol Grinhaus, Scholarship Researcher, Universidad de Buenos Aires, Argentina, Azzara Sergio, Scholarship Researcher, Universidad de Buenos Aires, Argentina, Depaula Pablo, Scholarship Researcher, Universidad de Buenos Aires, Argentina & Alejandro Cosentino, Researcher, Universidad de Buenos Aires, Argentina. Modifications of a First Psychological Aid (FPA) Protocol for Victims in the Early Stages of a Disaster.

**21:00- 22:30 Dinner (Details during registration)**

**Wednesday 31 May 2017**

**Educational Island Tour: (Details during registration)**

or

**Mycenae and Epidaurus Visit: (Details during registration)**

**Thursday 1 June 2017**

**Delphi Visit: (Details during registration)**

**Maitha Ali**

Student, Zayed University, UAE

## **A Closer Look at some of the Approaches Emirati Families use with their Children to Help Enhance their Mother Language**

Emirati families believe that a mother language should be used by their children. Some have argued that one's mother language is important for the child (Emirates 24 News, 2012). The current study sought to look at some of the approaches Emirati families use with their children to help enhance their mother language. A survey was administered to 60 respondents. The questions included: *How often children speak their mother language with their mother? And are children comfortable talking in their mother language everywhere, anywhere, or anytime?* The results of this study show that the mother language is important as a first language of the child, they should learn the first language well to develop their second language. There will always be differences between each parenting style, attitude and different methods to use with their children to help enhance their mother language. Based on the literature, children use their mother language a lot on their daily life. They use their second language sometimes with their parents, nannies, family and friends. The rate of the children who learn their mother language and use it are high, this will affect them in a positive way that will develop their skills and knowledge (Al Sumaiti, 2012). Educational implications are further discussed.

**Maria-Irini Avgoulas**

Associate Lecturer, La Trobe University, Australia

&

**Rebecca Fanany**

Associate Professor, Deakin University, Australia

## **Intergenerational Trust in the Context of Health and Wellbeing in Diaspora**

Trust between members of different familial generations characterizes the Greek diaspora community in Melbourne, Australia. This intergenerational trust is particularly apparent in the context of health and wellbeing where family members rely on each other for support and advice as well as for culturally specific insights into the interpretation of health and illness. Reliance on traditional health-enhancing practices also shows the effects of intergenerational trust, which often contradicts the interpretations suggested by modern medicine and societal views. A total of 48 female participants from 16 families, representing the immigrant, first and second Australian generations of the Greek diaspora, participated in a qualitative study to elucidate the nature of the experience of health and illness across generations. Melbourne, Australia is known for its well-established Greek community and its maintenance of Greek culture and way of life. Despite long residence in Australia, cultural is central to community experience, despite acculturation and shifts in perception in the context of health and wellbeing. This paper will discuss the role of intergenerational trust in upward and downward transmission of cultural knowledge across generations. The impact of intergenerational trust is also discussed in relation to the conceptualization of health, acceptance of health interventions and health-enhancing behavior grounded in traditional beliefs and practices that have withstood the test of time. These issues have implications for the overall health of the community as they may affect the ways in which individuals and groups interact with the formal healthcare system and understand their own experiences of health and illness.

**Susana Celeste Azzollini**

Professor / Researcher, National Defense University, Army Faculty /  
Universidad de Buenos Aires, Argentina

**Aldana Sol Grinhaus**

Scholarship Researcher, Universidad de Buenos Aires, Argentina

**Azzara Sergio**

Scholarship Researcher, Universidad de Buenos Aires, Argentina

**Depaula Pablo**

Scholarship Researcher, Universidad de Buenos Aires, Argentina

&

**Alejandro Cosentino**

Researcher, Universidad de Buenos Aires, Argentina

**Modifications of a First Psychological Aid (FPA) Protocol  
for Victims in the Early Stages of a Disaster**

Modifications of a First Psychological Aid (FPA) protocol, developed in Israel, are presented to apply to victims in the early stages of a disaster. The goals are to clear the life-saving area of the rescuer and to reduce the risk of post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) in the victims. Starting from the premises of the original model of Farchi (2012), known as the Model of the 6 Cs, a simplified version for its application in Argentina was denominated the Model of the 4 C. In this new protocol the aim is to promote the activity of the prefrontal cortex and to decrease the action of the limbic system which is considered that at the moment of attending to a person in a situation of crisis or disaster. To do this, four guidelines are proposed: 1) Cognitive Communication, 2) Control and Challenge, 3) Commitment and 4) Continuity. In the work, the main foundations of each one are developed and the reasons for which the model has been simplified. Likewise, a FPA protocol based on the above mentioned model is presented. Finally, the potential benefits of incorporating the technique developed by Shapiro (1995, 2001), known as bilateral stimulation, is analyzed for early interventions to victims in a crisis situation. This technique could be an alternative strategy for the prevention of PTSD.

**Christine Bai**

Project Leader, University of Applied Sciences Rapperswil (HSR),  
Switzerland

## **Inclusive Planning and Design of Green Open Spaces for People with Physical Disabilities**

**Statement of the problem:** In Switzerland there are around one million people living with physical disabilities in very different forms and degrees of severity. By considering the given projected aging of the population this number will increase in the future.

In urban open spaces people with disabilities are underrepresented, although green spaces (e.g. parks, playgrounds, cemeteries) represent an important health-promoting resource for the urban population. Although we have the Disability Equality Act and specific standards and guidelines in many places there are physical, social and psychological barriers that can lead to a lower utilization. Verifiably the proportion of people with disabilities in green open spaces do not correspond to their share in the overall population. This is leading to an unused health resource or even to a recorded negative effect on the health.

The UN Disability Convention (CRPD), which was ratified by Switzerland in 2014, calls for the inclusion of people with disabilities in all social life. Inclusion means the equal participation of all people in society and thus represents the antithesis of segregation and exclusion and goes beyond integration.

**Description of methods and/or approaches and major results:** From this starting point, the following research questions are guiding through the study:

What experience, knowledge and attitudes to the use of green spaces do have people with disabilities?

What are the advantages / qualities which are arising from an inclusive planning?

How has inclusive planning to be implemented and in which planning phase has which topic to be considered?

And finally which design variability is possible within the framework of an "ideal" inclusive planning, in addition to the implementation of legal regulations and technical standards?

In the interdisciplinary project "Inclusive green spaces for people with disabilities" (2015-2017), experience, knowledge and attitudes to the use of green spaces were collected in a first step with qualitative interviews. The implementation of the immediate relevant statements

of the interviews as well as the results of a literature review with a focus on the use of public green open spaces, the claim of people with disability and design, resulted in a guide for inclusive planning and design. The study is about a qualitative methodology seen primarily from a design perspective. The gradual approach to the final product was carried out closely accompanied by the core team research, which composes itself from people with and without disabilities, thus reflecting the inclusive approach / thoughts.

**Conclusion statement:** To achieve the goal of improving human health and well-being of ALL people, awareness of the benefits of inclusive built environment needs to be created within the planning landscape and the design and construction industry. It takes awareness and support to a potential-oriented planning and specifications that is oriented towards planning standards beyond. The requirements of an inclusive planning must be involved in the process flow. And last but not least inclusive design needs space for creativity and inspiration.

**Sophie-Anne Beauprez**

PhD Student, Centre de Recherche sur la Cognition et l'Apprentissage  
(CeRCA), France

### **Perceiving a Biological Human Movement Facilitates Action Word Processing**

We investigated whether action observation can influence action verb processing. Participants saw a prime consisting of a point-light display of a human performing an action and then had to perform a lexical decision task on verbs and pseudo-verbs. These verbs were either congruent or incongruent with the prime that had just been presented. Data analysis showed a facilitation effect on response times for congruent action verbs after having seen an action prime, whereas no facilitation was obtained for incongruent action verbs or for scrambled primes. These results showed that action observation can modify the subsequent processing of action verbs. This confirms that action perception and action words processing share common representations. These findings agree with the embodied view of cognition and open new perspectives to the better understanding of mechanisms related to action word processing.

**Angela Bryant**

Associate Professor, The Ohio State University-Newark, USA

**Beyond The Inside-Out Course:  
Participants as Researchers, Educators and Activists**

The Inside-Out Prison Exchange Program is an international initiative directed at transforming ways of thinking about crime and justice ([www.insideoutcenter.org](http://www.insideoutcenter.org)). It was through different Inside-Out course group projects that the realization of Participatory Action Research (PAR) as a methodological framework for prison research came to fruition. In this presentation, I utilize the case study of Inside-Out courses to demonstrate that participatory action research (PAR) can address many, if not all, of the methodological and ethical problems of community-based research in perhaps the most restrictive community context, the prison. Specifically, I provide examples regarding what authentic research, intervention and activism can look like inside correctional facilities, as well as address many of the challenges of conducting research in prisons *with* prisoners as partners.

**Jonathan Catling**

Senior Lecturer, University of Birmingham, UK

**Predictors of Resilience in Female Students:  
The Impact of Attachment Quality**

Resilience, when coping with stress and trauma, can protect against serious negative life outcomes and lead to greater lifetime satisfaction. The current literature suggests that there are internal factors that may moderate the development of resilience. These factors could be used to inform targeted interventions for youths experiencing stress. The current study extends previous literature by confirming known predictors and testing novel predictors of resilience in female students. Psychological measures of resilience, attachment quality, self-esteem, and exposure to stressful and adverse childhood experiences were utilised, with a sample of 214 university and college students (mean age= 18.84). Multiple regression analysis revealed that self-esteem, exposure to stressful events, levels of avoidance in maternal relationships, and levels of anxiety in paternal relationships were significant predictors of levels of resilience. These results partly reflect current research on the roles of self-esteem and life-time adversity in resilience, and extend existing findings on the role of attachment security. The practical and theoretical implications of these results are discussed.

**Isil Coklar**

Assistant Professor, Okan University, Turkey

**Nurgul Iyilikci Zeyrek**

Psychologist - Family Counsellor, Family Court of Izmir - Ministry of  
Justice of Turkey, Turkey

&

**Ferda Aysan**

Professor, Dokuz Eylul University, Turkey

### **Examining the Factors Predicting the Life Satisfaction of the Individuals in the Course of Divorce**

The purpose of the study is to examine the relationships between life satisfaction, coping strategies, personality traits and various socio-demographic characteristics (sex, education level, perceived socio-economical status etc.) of individuals in the course of divorce and to determine the variables predicting their life satisfaction.

The sample of the study consists of 113 individuals in the course of divorce whose trials are conducted by the family courts in Izmir Courthouse. Demographic Data Form, Satisfaction With Life Scale, Five Factor Personality Inventory-Short Form and Coping Strategies Scale were used to collect data.

Results revealed that there is no significant differentiation between the life satisfaction levels of male and female participants. Extraversion, openness and neurotism are the personality traits which have significant correlations between life satisfaction. Among the coping strategies only avoidance has a significant correlation with life satisfaction. Regression analysis revealed that "avoidance" as a coping strategy and "neurotism" as a personality trait are the most important predictors of life satisfaction. The individuals with higher levels of avoidance and neurotism have lower life satisfaction levels. The results are discussed along with the literature findings, strengths and limitations of the study and suggestions for future researches.

**Emeline Delaville**

PhD Student, Université François-Rabelais de TOURS, France

## **Coping Strategies and Temperamental Dimensions in Children and Adolescents in Foster Care**

**Objective:** This research focuses on emotion regulation of children and adolescents based on their life experiences (children and adolescents who have not been maltreated and those who have been). It aims to compare coping strategies and temperamental dimensions used by the children and adolescents of each of these two groups.

**Methods and population:** 232 children and adolescents aged 7 to 16 years participated in this study including 115 who have never been maltreated (control group) and 117 have been maltreated and are living in foster care. An analysis of variance (ANOVA) was performed for each coping strategy and temperamental dimension to evaluate the consequence of maltreatment on the emotion regulation. The aim is to identify vulnerabilities and resources for children and adolescents in foster care.

**Results:** There are major differences in the use and perceived effectiveness of certain coping strategies and in the temperamental dimensions in children and adolescents who have been maltreated. This confirms that the child's life experiences can influence how understanding the environment and its impact on individual resources.

**Conclusion:** The results show mainly vulnerabilities of emotion regulation for children and adolescents in foster care. These aspects underline the need to use these observations to adapt the support and promote the development of certain coping strategies. These points will be discussed in light devices for preventive and therapeutic used to improve coping skills and emotion regulation.

**Siqi (Joy) Fang**

PhD Candidate, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, China

**The Link between Childhood Maltreatment and Psychological Distress: The Roles of Cognitive Distortion, Alexithymia, and Eudemonic Well-Being**

This study examined the inter-relationship between childhood maltreatment, cognitive distortion, alexithymia, eudemonic wellbeing, and psychological distress. One hundred and eighty-two university students participated in the study and completed an online survey comprising the Childhood Trauma Questionnaire, Cognitive Distortion Scale, Toronto Alexithymia Scale, Psychological Well-Being Scale, and General Health Questionnaire-28. Hierarchical multiple regression analysis showed that child maltreatment, perceptions of hopelessness & helplessness, preoccupation with danger, personal growth, and purpose in life predicted psychological distress. However, alexithymia was not a significant predictor. Further analysis using the regression models with bootstrapping procedure showed that feeling hopeless & helpless and preoccupation with danger mediated the path between child maltreatment and psychological distress. Meanwhile, coping with beliefs in personal growth and life purpose moderated the mediation effects of distorted cognition on psychological distress. To conclude, childhood maltreatment is associated with psychological distress. This relationship is influenced by people's perceptions of life being hopeless, helpless or dangerous. At the same time, the effect of hopelessness, helplessness, and feelings of danger also depends on the degree of using coping strategies of positive psychological functioning.

**Eleftherios Hetelekides**

Research Assistant, State University of New York at Buffalo, USA

**Mark Prince**

Assistant Professor, Colorado State University, USA

&

**R. Lorraine Collins**

Associate Dean for Research, State University of New York at Buffalo,  
USA

**The Indirect Effect of Self-Efficacy on Marijuana Protective Strategies**

Marijuana use has more than doubled in the past decade. Nearly 3 of 10 users develop a marijuana use disorder (Hasin et al., 2015). The sharp increase in users, combined with the ongoing changes in medical, legal and social aspects of marijuana, creates a need for research on antecedents of marijuana use. The current study gathered information from a community sample (N = 54) of frequent marijuana users. Assessments included perceived self-efficacy for reducing intake or abstaining (SE-R/A), marijuana protective strategy (MPS) use, and marijuana use. We explored which key MPS are most strongly associated with self-efficacy and marijuana use. In addition, we hypothesized that SE-R/A would be associated with less marijuana use via use of MPS. Among MPSs examined, "Use a little and then wait to see how you feel before using more" had the strongest association with SE-R/A, while "Avoid methods of using marijuana that can make you more intoxicated than you would like" had the strongest negative association with marijuana use. A path analysis did not detect a direct effect of SE-R/A predicting marijuana use. However, we observed a significant indirect relationship from SE-R/A to marijuana use through MPS use. This suggests that MPS use is a potential mechanism by which marijuana users moderate use, and a more proximal antecedent of marijuana use than personal confidence in one's cessation ability. These findings highlight the value in studying individual strategies. Further, clinicians should work to promote MPS use when treating those seeking help for marijuana use problems.

**Jingxi Hou**

President, International Association of Organization and Leadership,  
China

&

**Siqi (Joy) Fang**

PhD Candidate, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong

### **Senior Leadership Team Coaching in Action - Creating High Performance Teams**

Although individual coaching has proven to be effective, this article advocates the benefits of leadership coaching in team settings, because durable changes in leadership behaviors are more likely to occur. Does leadership team coaching really work? Does it help improve senior leadership team effectiveness and productivity? This action research study answers these questions by tracking the progress of 3 typical senior leadership teams consisting of 31 executives participating in a six-month team coaching programs. Through coaching senior leadership teams to upgrade their transformational stages and reframe their organizational leadership cultures by assessments, workshops, and feedbacks based on ego development theory, results suggest that team effectiveness of the three leadership teams increases up to 43 percent according to superior, direct report, and peers' post-survey feedback. Discussion is offered to show that senior leadership team coaching help teams to achieve a consensus on common purposes, establish a foundation of trust, improve collective skills, and promote efficient operation, all factors that translate into better results for team effectiveness. Implications of the results for future executive development programs are discussed and specific recommendations are provided.

**Zuzana Hradilekova**

Counselling Psychologist, Central Office of Labour, Family and Social  
Affairs, Slovakia

&

**Veronika Zajacova**

Student, University of St. Cyril and Method, Slovakia

## **The Influence of Television on Sexual Behaviour of Adolescents**

Aggression and violence in media are frequently discussed issues but we should also not forget sexual content of television broadcasting. The main objective of our research was therefore to determine whether television affects sexual behavior of adolescents.

For the purposes of this research we have defined television programme as "Files consecutively transmitted and assembled into a single unit containing programmes such as serials and films". (Hradiská, Brečka, 2009). Research aims to demonstrate whether it is possible to observe the influence of programmes containing elements of sexual behaviour on sexual behaviour of adolescents. We are interested in possibility to observe the impact of such programmes on adolescents' ability to maintain intimate relationships. Research should also provide information about the ability of adolescents to identify healthy sexual behavior.

Research has been realized using content analysis and questionnaire. Content analysis was used to monitor elements of sexual behavior during one day in specific television programmes. The questionnaire was used to find out possible differences between religious and non-religious youth, to find out opinions on broadcasted sexual behavior and to find out the connection between risky sexual behavior and displayed sexual content within the programmes.

**Ketil Jakobsen**

Clinical Psychologist, St Olav's University Hospital, Trondheim,  
Norway

### **Coping with CFS/ME: A Rehabilitation Program for Adolescents with Chronic Fatigue Syndrome/Myalgic Encephalomyelitis**

**Background:** Adolescents with Chronic fatigue syndrome/Myalgic encephalomyelitis (CFS/ME) suffer under the current lack of effective treatment and a low Quality of Life (QoL). While research slowly is trying to understand the nature of the disorder, we need to develop tools for relieving symptoms and improving the low QoL accompanying CFS/ME. **Purpose:** In this pilot study, we present a rehabilitation program for adolescents with chronic fatigue syndrome and evaluate if there are changes in outcome associated with the program. **Methods:** The pilot study was defined as a complex intervention containing four elements. The program consisted of Heart Rate Variability Coherence Biofeedback, activity pacing of daily life, cognitive and emotional coping and psychoeducation. Changes in the participant perceived fatigue level, QoL, depressive symptoms and general mental health were measured during the program. **Results:** The participants reported significantly better QoL, a significant reduction of depressive symptoms and significantly better mental health from the baseline assessment to the end. Although the mean fatigue level did not change, 5 of the 13 participants reported a considerable reduction. **Conclusions:** This type of intervention may contribute to improving QoL and general mental health for adolescents with CFS/ME. However, our promising preliminary findings need to be confirmed by findings from randomized controlled studies with larger sample sizes.

**Barbara Kalebic Maglica**

Assistant Professor, University of Rijeka, Croatia

&

**Irena Miletic**

Senior Professional Associate, University of Rijeka, Croatia

## **Personality Traits Similarity in Married Couples and Prejudice towards Homosexuals and Obese Persons**

There are numerous determinants of prejudices towards stigmatized groups, and personality traits are certainly one of them. Different research shows that some personality traits are related to prejudice (e.g. authoritarianism, agreeableness) but there are no studies that connect personality traits similarity between spouses and different prejudice. Therefore, the purpose of this study was to examine how similarity of personality traits (Big five personality traits and authoritarianism) in married couples can explain their prejudice towards homosexuals and obese persons above their individual personality traits.

The sample consisted of 103 married couple. Participants completed the Big Five Inventory, Authoritarianism Scale, Revised Anti-Fat Attitudes Scale and Homosexuality Attitude Scale.

The results of hierarchical regression analysis show that predictors (individual personality traits and similarity in personality traits) can explain the variance of prejudices towards homosexuals and obese in married men better than in married women. Generally, a model is better explained for prejudice towards homosexuals than obese.

The results also show that men are more sensitive to the effects of partner's personality traits. For example, a significant positive predictor of prejudice towards homosexuals in men is women's neuroticism. A significant predictor of negative attitudes towards obese in men is women's conscientiousness (positive) and extraversion (negative). One's own personality traits are more important for negative attitudes towards homosexuals and obese in men than in women. The only similarity in neuroticism between partners is a significant predictor of prejudice towards homosexuals in both sexes. For the prejudice towards obese, similarity in the personality traits is not important predictor neither for men nor women. Obtained results are important in the context of reducing prejudice.

**Idit Katz**

Senior Lecturer, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, Israel

**Moran Green-Cohen**

Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, Israel

**Rinat Cohen**

Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, Israel

&

**Suzi Morsiano-Davidpur**

Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, Israel

### **When Parents Support Students' Choices: Parents' Role in Students' Choice of a High School Major**

The goal of this longitudinal study is to examine how parents' involvement in the decision making process of choosing a high school major, is associated with the type of motivation, wellbeing and success of their children in studying the major. The study employs Self-Determination Theory (Ryan, Deci & Vansteenkiste, 2016) as the theoretical framework for the investigation.

Two hundred and twenty-nine 10<sup>th</sup>-grade students completed questionnaires at the very beginning and at the end of the school year. Through path analysis with bootstrapping, the findings indicated that students' who perceived their parents as supportive during the process of choosing, chose a subject for autonomous rather than controlled reasons, had autonomous rather than controlled motivation to learn the subject, and had higher wellbeing, higher self-perception of ability and higher grades. This study has shown that the context in which a choice is made is essential to the outcomes it produces. Specifically, the results suggests that when parents are involved in their child's decision regarding a high school major, it is very important that they provide a supportive environment that will make the choice more autonomous. This autonomous choice will affect the entire experience of learning the chosen subject as well as the general wellbeing.

**Joan Kaufman**

Director, Center for Child and Family Traumatic Stress & Professor,  
Johns Hopkins University, USA

**Janitza Montalvo-Ortiz**

Yale University, USA

**Bao-Zhu Yang**

Yale University, USA

**Catherine Orr**

University of Vermont, USA

**Kerry O'Loughlin**

University of Vermont, USA

**Hannah Holbrook**

University of Vermont, USA

**Hugh Garavan**

University of Vermont, USA

**Matthew Albaugh**

University of Vermont, USA

**Joel Gelernter**

Yale University, USA

&

**James Hudziak**

University of Vermont, USA

## **Child Abuse and Epigenetic Mechanisms of Disease Risk**

**Objectives:** Individuals with a history of child abuse are at high risk for psychiatric and substance use disorders and a range of other physical health problems. In a prior study we reported maltreatment vs. comparison group differences in methylation of genes implicated in the etiology of substance use and psychiatric disorders, as well as genes involved in the broad range of physical health problems (e.g., obesity, diabetes, heart disease, cancer) also associated with a history of early childhood adversity.<sup>1</sup>The goal of this presentation is to review emerging findings on the role of epigenetic mechanisms in conferring risk for this broad range of adverse outcomes in maltreated children.

**Methods:** Data from an ongoing study of Risk and Resilience in Maltreated Children will be presented, including 450K Illumina bead chip whole epigenome methylation data, functional MRI assessments using the emotional Go/No-Go threat-processing task, resting state functional connectivity data, and a range of clinical assessments including indices of depression and anxiety symptoms, substance use, and measures of obesity.

**Results/Conclusions:** Emerging findings from our group and others suggest maltreatment is associated with alterations in key interlocking brain systems involved in threat processing, reward circuitry, and food regulation. Maltreatment is also associated with widespread epigenetic changes that may mediate the relationship between early adversity, structural and functional brain changes, and the onset of substance use disorders and a broad range of other mental health and physical health problems. Social supports, however, has emerged as an important factor in modifying the adverse effects of early adversity. The clinical implications of these findings will be discussed at the conclusion of this presentation.

**Richard Lewis**

Professor, Pomona College, USA

**Goeun Park**

Student, Pomona College, USA

&

**Sharon Goto**

Professor, Pomona College, USA

## **Electrophysiological Processing of Angry Faces and its Relationship to Social Avoidance and Self-Construal**

Being able to read faces is critical for deriving important information about identity, thoughts, and feelings. Therefore, understanding the neural mechanisms associated with reading faces provides insight into an important human social function. The N170 event-related potential (ERP) is the most heavily studied electrophysiological index of facial processing, and is usually the first ERP measure distinguishing the processing of faces and non-face objects. Less well understood is the electrophysiology of facial expression. We investigated the temporal and spatial dimensions of the processing of angry faces, and sought to examine if the neural activity to angry faces correlated with self-report measures of social anxiety and Collectivist or Independent self-construal. Twenty participants were presented with randomized pictures of cars and faces and instructed to count the number of cars. Fifty car stimuli were selected from an online search whereas 50 angry faces and 50 neutral faces were selected from the NimStim Face Stimulus Set (Tottenham et al., 2009). The EEG was continuously recorded using an Electrical Geodesics Inc. 128-channel Hydrocel Geodesic Sensor Net. As expected, the N170 for face stimuli resulted in a larger negativity than N170 for car stimuli at the lateral posterior regions ( $t(19) = 2.852, p = 0.010$ ). At electrode P8, the N170 peaked faster for the neutral faces ( $M = 133.0, SD = 20.47$ ) than for cars ( $M = 155.6, SD = 26.9$ ). Adaptive means at the central right electrodes show the late positive complex (LPC), measured between 570-700ms after the onset of the stimulus, was greater for angry faces than neutral faces ( $t(19) = 2.65, p = 0.016$ ). Higher social avoidance was related to greater difference between angry and neutral LPC ( $r = 0.48, p = 0.032$ ). Collectivism was correlated with LPC amplitude for angry faces ( $r = 0.45, p = 0.045$ ). These findings support the existing literature on early face recognition at the fusiform face gyrus. General social avoidance and distress may modulate facial processing after the initial facial recognition. The relation between self-construal and the LPC for angry

faces suggest a shared underlying mechanism between cultural sensitivity to group relations and perceptual sensitivity to markers of disharmony.

**Liliann Manning**

Professor, University of Strasbourg, France

&

**Camille Guillemin**

Neuropsychologist, University of Strasbourg, France

## **Parkinson's Disease in Everyday Life: An Interpretative Phenomenological Analysis of a Case Study**

**Objective:** The present study aims at understanding from the first person point of view, the consequences in everyday life of Parkinson's disease (PD). To that end the study focuses on the experiential features of living with the illness, by means of a semi-structured interview.

**Background:** A series of case studies using the Interpretative Phenomenological Analysis (IPA; Smith et al., 2009) have been shown its unique usefulness in grasping how people live with a physical issue (e.g., chronic pain; Smith & Osborn, 2007) or psychological difficulties (e.g., first episode of depression; Smith & Rhodes, 2014). More in relation to the present study, IPA was also used to understand the experience of living with PD in a case study (Bramley & Eatough, 2005), and a hermeneutic phenomenological case study was also carried out to elucidate the complexities of experiencing biotechnological surgery in PD (Eatough, in press).

**Method:** We conducted a semi-structured interview, which was analysed within the frame of the IPA technique. The central question was conceived to carry out a qualitative clinical investigation regarding how the patient experiences the consequences of the disease: from the diagnoses to everyday actual instances important enough to be described. Our patient, a 79 year-old woman was diagnosed with PD 10 years before the IPA interview. She is a retired accountant and lives with her husband. She gave written consent to be interviewed and for the interview to be audio-recorded for later transcription. The analyses were carried out by the two authors, independently and an accord was reached whenever a different interpretation was made.

**Results:** The thematic structure that emerged from the analysis showed four main themes: PD (i) experienced as alterations in the body, (ii) Actions and activities in living with PD, (iii) Tension between different issues, and (iv) experiencing other people's looks.

**Conclusions:** This study brings to light the real difficulties and also what is still a source of enjoyment for our patient. These two types of experience in real life can be important in helping other patients who suffer PD, by both understanding better their difficulties and proposing activities that could be a source of wellbeing.

**Alexandros Maragakis**

Assistant Professor, Eastern Michigan University, USA

&

**Jill Rach Beisel**

Associate Professor, University of Maryland, USA

**A Behavioural Health Integrated Care Program:  
Coordination and Delivery of Somatic Care within a  
Community Mental Health Clinic for Persons with Serious  
Mental Illness**

**Objective:** Individuals with serious mental illness (SMI) are less likely to engage in preventative and primary care services, leading to higher mortality and morbidity. This study aimed to assess the utility of integrating a Family Practice Nurse Practitioner (FPNP) within a traditional outpatient mental health clinic (OMHC). It was hypothesized that patients who accessed the FPNP were more likely to be connected to a primary care provider (PCP) and experience somatic health improvement. **Method:** A retrospective analysis of two databases, electronic medical records and the integrated care database, were analyzed for 98 patients who were referred to the FPNP due to lack of PCP or refusal to see one. **Results:** Of the 98 patients, 55% were connected to a PCP. An additional 18% continued to receive consistent somatic care from the FPNP. Age and connection to a provider were associated with improvements in health (Age OR = 1.05; 95% CI, 1.001-1.094; PCP OR = 16.46; 95% CI, 3.369-80.415; (FPNP OR = 12.03; 95% CI, 1.986-72.906). No statistical difference between type of provider and health improvements were found. **Conclusion:** The use of a FPNP in an OMHC may not only facilitate connection to PCP for those with SMI, but allow for individuals who continue to refuse PCP services to still receive quality somatic care.

**Mudzunga Mathivha**

Lecturer, Clinical Psychologist, University of Limpopo, South Africa

**Neuropsychological Deficits in Tshivenda Speaking  
Children with Attention-Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder**

The aim of the study was to establish whether children with Attention-Deficit/ Hyperactivity show deficits in cognitive impulsiveness and motor functions, caused by a hypofunctioning dopamine system. A group of 84 primary school children, 42 classified as ADHD and 42 as controls, matched for age, gender, and SES, with children without ADHD symptomatology, were compared on their performance on neuropsychological tests which test the functions of the cortical areas supplied by the two dopamine branches, the meso-cortical and nigrostriatal branches. The battery consisted of the Wisconsin Card Sorting Test, the Grooved Pegboard, and the Maze Coordination Task. The results of the tests were analysed as a function of gender and ADHD subtypes. In the majority of the tests the clinical groups performed worse than the control groups. This was the case for both genders. The Hyperactive /Impulsive and combined subtypes consistently performed poorer than the other groups. The results indicate that children with ADHD are more impulsive (deficient executive functions) and have a poorer motor control than their control counterparts, which may be an indication of dopamine dysfunction.

**Michelle Newberry**

Senior Lecturer, Sheffield Hallam University, UK

## **Darkness and Light: The Role of Dark Triad Traits and Empathy in Understanding Preferences for Visual Artworks**

Previous studies have suggested that there is a relationship between preferences for visual artworks and personality traits, many of which have examined the 'Big Five' personality dimensions (Openness, Extraversion, Neuroticism, Agreeableness, and Conscientiousness). For example, Openness and Neuroticism correlate positively with a preference for abstract paintings and pop art (Furnham & Walker, 2000), whereas Agreeableness and Conscientiousness correlate positively with a preference for representational paintings and a dislike of pop art (Furnham & Walker, 2000). Prior research has also found that Sensation Seeking (a desire for novel, varied, complex and intense experiences and the willingness to take risks) correlates positively with a preference for complexity and asymmetry in paintings as well as violent abstract paintings (e.g. Rawlings et al., 1998; Rawlings et al., 2000; Zuckerman, Neary & Brustman, 1970). Whilst these studies have advanced our understanding of aesthetic preference, it has been argued that the Big Five personality model is too broad to lead to powerful predictions of behaviour (Paunonen & Ashton, 2001). In addition, Sensation Seeking is a multifaceted construct, the subscales of which relate differentially to aesthetic preferences (Furnham & Avison, 1997; Zaleski, 1984; Zuckerman, Ulrich, & McLaughlin, 1993). These broad Big Five dimensions and Sensation Seeking relate in different ways to the 'Dark Triad' traits of Machiavellianism, Narcissism, and Psychopathy (Paulhus & Williams, 2002), which have not yet been examined in relation to aesthetic preference. For example, Machiavellianism and Narcissism are associated with low Agreeableness and a high level of Openness to Experience (Paulhus & Williams, 2002), and Psychopathy is associated with low Agreeableness and Conscientiousness (Miller, Lynam, Widger, & Leukefeld, 2001) and a need for stimulation/proneness to boredom (Hare, 1991, 2002). Given these links between the Big Five Dimensions/Sensation Seeking and aesthetic preferences, and the links between these Big Five Dimensions/Sensation Seeking and the Dark Triad traits, it is plausible that the Dark Triad traits may relate to preferences for visual artworks. This study represents the first attempt to examine this.

**Leila Oubrahim**

PhD Student, Université François-Rabelais de TOURS, France

## **Study of Aggressive Behavior and Types of Moral Judgment in Children and Adolescents with Intellectual Disabilities**

The manifestation of aggressive behavior in children and adolescents with intellectual disabilities (ID) seems to be a major concern, both for families and for caregivers. Indeed, firstly, this is a major reason why the family entrusts her child in an institution and secondly, behavioural disorders can cause stress to staff and difficulties in the multidisciplinary care of children and adolescents with intellectual disabilities. However, we have little information on this topic and even less on the moral judgment of this population. There is a lot of studies concerned the moral judgment and the aggressive behavior in people with typical development.

The purpose of this research was to study the evolution of the frequency and the origin (reactive or proactive aggression) of aggressive behaviors and the evolution of the type of moral judgment, in children and adolescents with intellectual disabilities. This work showed the characteristics of passive aggressive behavior and the types of moral judgment through aggressive behavior scale «Children's Scale of Hostility and Aggression» (Farmer & Aman, 2009), «Behavior Problems Inventory-Short Form» (Rojahn, 2011) and a test inspired by the theory of Information Integration (Anderson, 1996). The results indicated that the frequency of aggressive behaviors is higher in children (ID) than in adolescents (ID) and children exhibit a proactive aggression while adolescents exhibit reactive aggression.

In addition, the results emphasize that the moral algebra of children is additive and that the moral algebra of adolescents is also additive rather than multiplicative. Also, they give a weight more important for the factor "consequences" than for the factor "intention". In other words, adolescents (ID) have the same level of moral judgment that the children (ID). People with intellectual disabilities have a different type of judgment of those with typical development.

**Galina Paramei**

Professor, Liverpool Hope University, UK

&

**David Bimler**

Research Associate, Massey University, New Zealand

## **The Role of Art Expertise in Aesthetic Appreciation of Artworks**

Aesthetic appraisal of artwork presents visual problems for the observer to solve in the process of grasping of 'visual rightness' (i.e. "good" structure; Locher, 2003), with an elaboration on perceptual, semantic and affective dimensions (Markovic, 2011). Observer's expertise is a factor in aesthetic appraisal. To examine the influence of artistic training on the aesthetic response, and to clarify the nature of the Representational/Abstract distinction, 30 *experts* and 33 *non-experts* (arts and psychology students, respectively) were asked to rate 24 paintings on six affective and affective-evaluative semantic differential scales. Stimuli were e-reproductions of art paintings from the period 1900-1935, 12 broadly Representational and 12 broadly Abstract. Relative to *non-experts*, *experts* rated Abstract artworks as more *Interesting*, *Beautiful*, *Informative* and *Sophisticated*, distinguishing them less markedly from Representational artworks. Mean expert and non-expert ratings, processed by factor analysis, resulted in a two-factor solution. The first factor, contrasting *Abstract and Representational* paintings, appeared more salient for *non-experts*. The second factor, *Warm-Cool*, separating vibrantly coloured paintings from those with a blue-dominated/dull palette, was more salient for *experts*. While *non-experts* exaggerated differences between Abstract and Representational paintings, experts appraised these two types of art similarly, attending more to artwork collative properties. We conclude that appreciation of art by experts involves 'cognitive mastery' (Leder et al., 2004), i.e. more complex, cues-based visual schemata which equip them with more sophisticated strategies for parsing 'visual rightness' from an image to unfold visual meaning of an artwork.

**Diane Pouline Dubois**

Professor, Concordia University, Canada

&

**Kimberly Burnside**

PhD Student, Concordia University, Canada

## **Testing the Social Motivation Theory in Typically Developing Children and Children with ASD**

Social Motivation theory posits that early deficits in social motivation leads children with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) to attend less to the social world than typically developing (TD) children (Chevallier, Kohls, Troiani, Brodtkin, & Schultz, 2012). This decreased attention to the social world is thought to have downstream effects on their socio-cognitive abilities, including developing a theory of mind, which is part of the ASD symptomatology. However, the social motivation hypothesis is not specific to the ASD population as it is also predicted that typically developing children who show delays in ToM tasks should also attend less to social stimuli. The goal of the present research was to investigate the relation between social motivation and ToM abilities in both TD children and children with ASD. In experiment one, 40 TD children, aged 2- to 7-years-old, completed both an implicit false belief task and two tasks measuring social orienting using a preference looking paradigm: a low-level biological motion task (Annaz et al., 2012) and a higher-level face preference task (Sasson et al., 2012). In experiment two, a subsample of the TD children, aged 2- to 7-years-old, were matched to 16 children with ASD on non-verbal mental age using the Differential Abilities Scale (DAS). Both groups completed the same tasks as in Experiment 1. The biological motion task consisted of point-light displays of a walking human on one side and a phase-scrambled motion on the other. The face preference task consisted of human faces on one side and objects (e.g., electronics, clothing, and blocks) on the other. The proportion of looking time spent on the social stimuli was calculated for both tasks. The implicit false belief task (Thoermer et al., 2012) consisted of a video showing a protagonist watching a car move from one garage to another. While the car was moving from one garage to the next, a phone ringing distracted the protagonist, who failed to see the car back up and leave the scene. This is followed by a 3-second anticipatory looking period where the doors located above each garage turned bright red. The protagonist then came out of the door above the garage where the car was heading before the phone ring (correct door). Participants passed this task if

their first saccade was directed toward the correct door. In Experiment 1, participants showed the expected social preference on both orienting tasks measuring social motivation; 64% of the participants showed a social preference on the biological motion task and 61% of the participants showed a social preference on the static face task. TD participants performed at chance on the implicit false belief task in experiment one. Although the implicit false belief task was not statistically related to the social orienting tasks, there was a modest correlation in the expected direction between the face preference task and the implicit false belief task. In Experiment 2, as expected, only the TD children showed a social preference on both social motivation tasks. Furthermore, children with ASD performed worse than the TD children on the implicit false belief task. The present study is the first to explore the relation between social orienting and ToM in both TD children and children with ASD.

**Linda V. Shepherd**

Post-Doctoral Fellow, Hawaii Island Health and Wellness Center, USA

### **Mindfulness in Psychotherapeutic Practice: An Exploration of Mechanisms of Action**

**Objective of the Study:** Empirical research has demonstrated that meditation positively and significantly influences mental health, as well as neurobiological processes and neuroplastic changes. This study builds upon findings from psychology and neuroscience to uncover, propose, and model mechanisms of action that may explain the interaction between mindfulness meditation and its salutogenic results.

**Design and Methods:** This research approached the issue of mechanisms of action from a qualitative analytic perspective, using a grounded theory methodological approach to data generation, coding, and analysis, including three phases of theoretical sampling resulting in nineteen theoretically sampled experienced meditators as study participants and thirty-eight semi-structured interviews. A constant comparison approach, along with open, axial, and selective coding of resulting data, were used to analyze participant experiences and uncover and propose mechanisms of action.

**Results:** These qualitative data yielded a model of the longitudinal experience of mindfulness meditation along with proposed mechanisms of action, which included a) working at the process level, b) acceptance, c) compassion, d) regulation of emotion, e) cognitive flexibility, f) exposure to the nature of reality, g) connection to the numinous, h) interconnectedness, and i) liberation from conditioning. The study provides a discussion of recent empirical research including neuroimaging studies that provide support for these mechanisms, discusses possibilities for incorporation of elements of mindfulness meditation into psychotherapeutic practice, and provides suggestions for future research.

**Alessandro Soranzo**

Reader in Psychology, Sheffield Hallam University, UK

### **Mona Lisa's smiles in non-Mona Lisas**

The Mona Lisa is the most-visited, most written about and most parodied work of art in the world. However, the 'uncatchable smile' that makes Leonardo da Vinci's Mona Lisa so special is not unique. In previous research, Soranzo & Newberry (2015) found that the technique which would later give his most famous subject her mysterious allure was first executed in the lesser-known painting by the Renaissance master: La Bella Principessa. When viewed directly the slant of her mouth appears to turn downwards, but when viewed in peripheral vision the edges of her mouth take an upward turn. We have now extended this line of research and discovered that a similar "smile illusion" is present in two of Leonardo's drawings: The Lady of the Dishevelled Hair (or La Scapigliata and in the "Female Head". When these drawings are viewed from far away, the facial expression looks significantly happier than when observed from close-up. This new discovery provides further support to the hypothesis that Leonardo deliberately generated the ambiguous smile in the Mona Lisa and that developed this effect over the years.

**Helen Vrailas Bateman**

Associate Professor, Sewanee: The University of the South, USA

### **The Relationship between Students' Sense of Community in the Classroom, Aggressive behaviour and Self- Perception**

The devastating effects that bullying has on children have been well established through a large number of studies. Fewer studies however have focused on trying to understand the factors associated with being a bully. The present study examines the relationship between students' psychological sense of community in the classroom, their self-perceptions, and their aggressive behavior towards others. We examined 70 children (ages 11-14) in a rural school setting in the southeastern U.S. by administering a survey at the end of their academic year. We found that students who reported aggressing toward their classmates had significantly lower psychological sense of community in their classroom and significantly lower sense of academic competence. Moreover, when the type of aggressive behavior was taken into account, we found that low academic competence was significantly associated with higher levels of relational aggression as well as physical aggression. The findings of our study provide important information that can help us understand how to reduce aggressive behavior and bullying in the schools and classrooms. More specifically, our findings suggest that—in addition to helping aggressive children learn how to control aggressive appraisals and behavior—we should also help these children improve their academic performance and competence and their sense of community in the classroom.

**Sandra Zakowski**  
Professor, Argosy University, USA

## **Considerations for Addressing the Mental Health Needs of Refugees**

In recent years, many countries have seen vast increases in migration of refugees from war-torn regions. Migrants, having survived human rights abuses in their home countries, often continue to face persecution, discrimination, and economic hardship after they have reached a “safe haven” in the host country. Many have been traumatized and present with mental health problems that place additional burden on individuals and families putting them at further risk for victimization. How can psychologists prepare to meet the unique mental health needs of refugee populations? While current trauma theory and research have much to offer in providing insights into methods of assessment and treatment, an unquestioning application of such models to refugee populations has potentially detrimental consequences. Cultural constructs, meanings, and stigma associated with mental health among migrants from different cultural groups are only some of the issues to be taken into consideration. Ethical concerns around power differentials, informed consent, trust, and safety can be much more complex and nuanced when working with refugees. The strength and personal resourcefulness of refugees can be a tremendous asset but is often overlooked when taking a “victim” perspective.

There is relatively little systematic research on assessment and treatment of recent refugees that psychologists can draw upon when providing mental health services for refugees. Much can be learned from clinical experiences in direct dialogue with refugees who are the experts on their experiences and their cultural understandings of them. By taking a collaborative and empowering stance, psychologists can learn how to effectively adapt current evidence-based techniques, and may find themselves, at times, compelled to radically change their concept of therapy. This presentation will provide an overview of important consideration in mental health services for refugees based on current research evidence and clinical experience. Recommendations for incorporating refugee psychology into curricula and research agendas will be discussed.