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ASSC NEWSLETTER – MAY 2007  
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Welcome to the second ASSC newsletter. This month's issue contains news regarding:

ASSC Events and Information:

1. ASSC-11 Meeting in Las Vegas – Accommodation
2. ASSC-12 Meeting in Taipei – Change of Date
3. ASSC Student Committee – Interested Students are Invited to Meet at ASSC-11
4. ASSC Eprint Committee – The Five "Most Popular" Papers of April 2007

Non-ASSC Events and Information:

1. Science & Consciousness Review
2. Forthcoming Book: Bernard J. Baars & Nicole M. Gage (Eds.) (2007) Cognition, Brain & Consciousness: An Introduction to Cognitive Neuroscience
3. 3rd Workshop on Cognitive and Social Perspectives on (Un)Consciousness: Evaluative Conditioning and Preference Acquisition
4. Positions Available:
  - MSc in Functional Neuroimaging
  - Ph.D Positions at the Berlin School of Mind and Brain
  - Postdoc in the Department of Psychology, Columbia University, New York City, NY, USA
  - Postdoctoral Fellowships in Zurich, Switzerland

Enjoy the newsletter!

Kristina Musholt

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SUBMISSION GUIDELINES  
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All members of the ASSC are invited to submit items for inclusion in the newsletter that are of potential interest to the general membership to Kristina Musholt ( kmusholt@gmail.com) by no later than the 10th of the month.

Items should be in the form of ONE paragraph of plain ASCII text no longer than 150 WORDS, and should be of general relevance to the MAINSTREAM ACADEMIC study of consciousness. Attachments will not be accepted. The submitting author must be a current member of the ASSC. Submissions that do not meet these requirements may be rejected without further correspondence.

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ASSC EVENTS AND INFORMATION  
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1. ASSC-11 MEETING IN LAS VEGAS – ACCOMMODATION  
Corresponding authors: Susana Martinez-Conde, Steve Macknik( smart@neuralcorrelate.com)  
Further information: <http://assc2007.neuralcorrelate.com>

The ASSC 2007 conference (June 22– June 25) is quickly approaching! Make your hotel reservation NOW! Please know that ASSC11's headquarters hotel, The Imperial Palace, will close the room block on May 22nd. If you do not have your room reservation in by that time, you will not be able to get special conference pricing. Please make your hotel reservation today by following the reservation procedures listed here:  
[http://assc2007.neuralcorrelate.com/index.php?module=pagemaster&PAGE\\_user\\_op=view\\_page&PAGE\\_id=18](http://assc2007.neuralcorrelate.com/index.php?module=pagemaster&PAGE_user_op=view_page&PAGE_id=18) . Also, note that some people have been making reservations for "standard" rooms outside of the ASSC room block (we've blocked all "deluxe" rooms). However, the "standard" rooms are actually "sub-standard" in our opinion, whereas "deluxe" rooms are normal decent hotel rooms. It makes no difference to us either way (there is no benefit for us if you reserve rooms from the block, or not), but we suggest that you'll be happier staying in rooms that have been reserved in the block. Looking forward to seeing you at the meeting!

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2. ASSC-12 MEETING IN TAIPEI – CHANGE OF DATE

Corresponding author: Allen Houg (assc12@ym.edu.tw)  
Further information: <http://www.assc.caltech.edu/conferences.htm>

Please note that the board has decided to change the dates for next year's meeting in Taipei, Taiwan to June 20 – 23, 2008 in order to make it easier for members from North America to attend the conference after the end of their academic year. Please keep these dates free so that you can attend our first meeting in Asia!

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3. ASSC STUDENT COMMITTEE – INTERESTED STUDENTS ARE INVITED TO MEET AT ASSC-11

Corresponding author: Michael Hill (michael.hill@pharm.ox.ac.uk )  
Further information: <http://www.assc-students.org>

Michael Hill, currently chair of the ASSC student committee, will leave the committee after this year's conference and the board is thus looking for new students to join the committee. The committee takes care of the ASSC student community throughout the year and organizes student events at the ASSC's annual conference. Terms on the committee are normally three years long. Students who are interested in joining the committee will have the opportunity to talk to Michael and the other members of the committee to learn more about the committee's activities, duties and structure during this year's meeting in Las Vegas. For further information please contact Michael or visit the student website. The board will make a decision about new committee members in consultation with the student committee shortly after this year's conference.

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4. ASSC EPRINT COMMITTEE – THE FIVE "MOST POPULAR" PAPERS OF APRIL 2007

Corresponding author: Kristina Musholt (kmusholt@gmail.com)  
Further information: <http://eprints.assc.caltech.edu>

The Eprints committee is happy to announce the five "most popular" papers of April 2007:

1. Windt, J.M. and Metzinger, T. (2006) The philosophy of dreaming and self-consciousness: What happens to the experiential subject during the dream state? In: The new science of dreaming (1735

downloads from 24 countries).

<http://eprints.assc.caltech.edu/200/>.

2. Sagiv, N. and Ward, J. (2006) Crossmodal interactions: lessons from synesthesia. *Progress in Brain Research*, 155. (1196 downloads from 24 countries). <http://eprints.assc.caltech.edu/224/>.

3. Carruthers, P. (2007) The illusion of conscious will. *Synthese*, 96. (937 downloads from 18 countries).

<http://eprints.assc.caltech.edu/213/>.

4. Robbins, S. E (2006) Bergson and the holographic theory of mind. *Phenomenology and the Cognitive Sciences*, 5. (884 downloads from 20 countries). <http://eprints.assc.caltech.edu/206/>.

5. Block, N. (2007) Consciousness, Accessibility and the Mesh between Psychology and Neuroscience. *Behavioral and Brain Sciences*, forthcoming. (859 downloads from 23 countries).

<http://eprints.assc.caltech.edu/261/>.

We strongly encourage all members of the ASSC to benefit from and contribute to the ASSC Eprint archive.

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NON-ASSC EVENTS AND INFORMATION  
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1. SCIENCE & CONSCIOUSNESS REVIEW.

Corresponding author: Bernie Baars ([bbaars@comcast.net](mailto:bbaars@comcast.net))

Further information: <http://www.sci-con.org>

I would like to inform ASSC members about Science & Consciousness Review, the only scientific newsletter on consciousness research news on the web. SCR welcomes research summaries from any qualified person, written for a general audience. Authors keep copyrights to their brief articles, and are also welcome to send book reviews, editorials, and announcements of conferences. SCR is specifically designed to encourage graduate students to learn about communicating to a larger audience. Be sure to use a snappy title, and put the biggest news in the first sentence or two. SCR receives about 2,000 visitors per week. SCR is run by enthusiastic graduate students, and we welcome applicants who would like to help. Articles are reviewed by the editors, and may be lightly edited. See URL above for more details.

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2. FORTHCOMING BOOK: BERNARD J. BAARS & NICOLE M. GAGE (EDS.) (2007) COGNITION, BRAIN & CONSCIOUSNESS: AN INTRODUCTION TO COGNITIVE NEUROSCIENCE.

Corresponding author: Bernie Baars ( [bbaars@comcast.net](mailto:bbaars@comcast.net))

Further information: <http://textbooks.elsevier.com>

SCIENCE magazine recently called "the biological basis of consciousness" one of the top problems in contemporary science. Despite the increasing evidence curriculum and textbooks have tended to lag behind the frontier. So... Nicole Gage and I have edited a new introductory text for courses in Cognitive Neuroscience, Psychobiology and Cognitive Psychology, with a strong, mainstream role for consciousness. The text is coming out in June, 2007, and ASSC will have an event in Las Vegas to introduce it (thanks to strong support from Joseph Dial of the Mind Science Foundation, and Dr. Johannes Menzel, our tremendous editor for Elsevier/AP). The textbook is aimed at undergrads and grad students, and will be supported with teaching materials on the web. Sample chapters can be downloaded in pdf, and you can order an examination copy with free registration at the URL above. Elsevier is offering a 25% discount to members of the ASSC. The discount code for ASSC members is `assc`. My new "wiki" site also features "Cognition, Brain & Consciousness," and other projects. Please visit < <http://bernardbaars.pbwiki.com>> at your convenience, and please join in the wiki if you want to contribute.

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3. 3RD WORKSHOP ON COGNITIVE AND SOCIAL PERSPECTIVES ON (UN)CONSCIOUSNESS: EVALUATIVE CONDITIONING AND PREFERENCE ACQUISITION.

Corresponding author: Robert Balas ([workshopcspu@swps.edu.pl](mailto:workshopcspu@swps.edu.pl))

Further information: [http://www.swps.edu.pl/new\\_www/workshop](http://www.swps.edu.pl/new_www/workshop)

This workshop will take place from 6th–9th July 2007, in Gdansk, Poland. The scientific scope of the workshop will cover the issues of evaluative conditioning viewed from social, cognitive and applied perspectives. The event is designed to engage young scientists in sharing and discussing ideas concerning investigation of non-conscious processes of preference acquisition with particular emphasis on evaluative conditioning. Along with regular conference activities participants will be given a chance to actively participate in small group tutorials guided by more experienced scientists. The

target group includes postgraduate students, PhD students, and young scientists who have completed their PhD within 5 years prior to the event. Participants will be encouraged to submit talks and posters presenting their own research. The number of participants will be limited to about 50. Participants from Central and Eastern Europe will be supported with a workshop fee reduction when needed.

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4. POSITIONS AVAILABLE:

- MSc IN FUNCTIONAL NEUROIMAGING

Contributing author: Noam Sagiv

Contact: [veronica.johnson@brunel.ac.uk](mailto:veronica.johnson@brunel.ac.uk)

Further information:

<http://www.brunel.ac.uk/courses/pg/cdata/f/Functional+Neuroimaging+MSc>

The Centre for Cognition & Neuroimaging (CCNI) at Brunel University, London, UK is offering a 1-year MSc in Functional Neuroimaging. The program provides a strong theoretical and practical introduction to the world of neuroimaging research. The course is good preparation for a PhD in functional brain imaging, or for working as part of a neuroimaging team with fMRI and/or other imaging modalities. Students spend 6 months on four core topic areas (Principles of Neuroimaging, Practical Neuroimaging, Cognitive Neuroscience, Visual Neuroscience) and another 6 months on a research project. The course focuses in the main on fMRI, but also covers EEG/MEG and TMS. The CCNI has excellent research facilities including a 3T Siemens MRI scanner, a 32-channel Neuroscan EEG setup, and an MRI-compatible 64-channel Neuroscan EEG setup. Applicants should have a good honors degree in Psychology or Neuroscience or Computer Science or other relevant scientific or engineering discipline from a UK institution; an equivalent overseas qualification; or an equivalent professional qualification.

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- Ph.D POSITIONS AT THE BERLIN SCHOOL OF MIND AND BRAIN

Contributing author: Kristina Musholt

Contact: [info@mind-and-brain.de](mailto:info@mind-and-brain.de)

Further information: <http://www.mind-and-brain.de>

The Berlin School of Mind and Brain, an interdisciplinary graduate school at the Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, is inviting students with a master's level background in philosophy, linguistics, psychology, neuroscience, psychiatry, computer science, biology, law, or economics – or another field related to mind and brain research – to submit their applications. The school provides a unique research network at the interface of the humanities, social sciences, and neuroscience. The application deadline is 31 May 2007 for admission in the fall. Please visit our website (see URL above) or contact us (see contact above) for more information on the structure of the Ph.D. program, participating researchers and institutions, admission requirements and the application process. The Berlin School of Mind and Brain is funded by the "Exzellenzinitiative des Bundes und der Länder zur Förderung von Wissenschaft und Forschung an deutschen Hochschulen."

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– POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCH SCIENTIST IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY, COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY, NEW YORK CITY, NY, USA.  
Corresponding author: Hakwan Lau (hakwan@gmail.com )  
Further information: <http://hakwan.googlepages.com/>

We are looking for a candidate with (or expecting) a doctorate in the computational or vision sciences to join a new research group, to focus on the study of neural computation and the higher cognitive aspects of perception, such as attention, confidence judgements and conscious awareness. The projects would involve developing original computational models and testing them with neuroimaging, and therefore the ideal candidate should be familiar with Bayesian learning models, decision theory, and/or some mathematical aspects of signal detection theory. A background in empirical research is desirable. The candidate would also be given the freedom to pursue original research and to interact with the greater community of Bayesian theoreticians and vision scientists in Manhattan. We have funding for 3 years' time. The position is available from September 2007. Please direct inquiries to Hakwan Lau. Interested applicants please send a CV and contact information for 2–3 referees. Columbia University is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action employer. Minorities and women are encouraged to apply.

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- POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIPS IN ZURICH, SWITZERLAND

Corresponding author: Alumit Ishai (ishai@hifo.uzh.ch)

Further information: <http://www.ini.unizh.ch/~alumit>

Applications are invited for a postdoctoral fellowship to study visual perception and memory using fMRI, at the University of Zurich. Experience with fMRI data collection and analysis is required. Candidates should send their CV, statement of research interests, representative publications, and 3 letters of recommendation to Alumit Ishai (ishai@hifo.uzh.ch). For more information see URL above.