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ASSC NEWSLETTER – JUNE 2007  
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Welcome to this month's ASSC newsletter. The ASSC newsletter is intended to improve communication with the membership by providing a quick monthly summary of current events and activities being undertaken by the association. In addition, it is hoped that the newsletter will act as a bulletin board for current members of the ASSC to inform their colleagues of academic events relevant to the study of consciousness (books, meetings, etc.). This way, multiple postings to the ASSC-membership-list will be avoided while allowing an effective communication of relevant information.

Last week, some messages that were intended for me with regard to the newsletter went to the whole membership by mistake. We apologize for the inconvenience (it won't happen again!) and would like to remind you to direct your future messages with regard to the newsletter to my personal email-address (kmusholt@gmail.com) rather than the ASSC-list.

This newsletter includes information about:

– ASSC EVENTS AND INFORMATION:

1. ASSC-11 Meeting in Las Vegas – Last Chance to Sign Up
2. ASSC-11 Meeting in Las Vegas – Student Social
3. ASSC-12 Meeting in Taipei – New Date and Formation of Scientific Committee
4. ASSC Eprint-Archive – The Five Most Popular Papers of May 2007

– NON-ASSC EVENTS AND INFORMATION:

1. Participatory Consciousness Theory Wiki for ASSC Members
2. Consciousness Researchers Database
3. International Symposium on the Vegetative and Minimally Conscious State
4. Toward a Science of Consciousness 2007 Conference
5. Forthcoming Books:
  - J.Scott Jordan & Dawn M. McBride (Eds.) (2007) The Concepts of Consciousness: Integrating an Emerging Science

– Bachmann, T., Breitmeyer, B.G., & Ögmen, H. (2007). The Experimental Phenomena of Consciousness: A Brief Dictionary.

Enjoy the newsletter!

Kristina

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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 (subject: ASSC newsletter).

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 – LAST CHANCE TO SIGN UP

Corresponding author: Susana Martinez-Conde  
(smart@neuralcorrelate.com)

Further information: <http://assc2007.neuralcorrelate.com>

The 11th annual conference of the Association for the Scientific Study of Consciousness will be hosted June 22nd–25th at The Imperial Palace Hotel, in Las Vegas, Nevada. The full online program for the conference is now available:

[http://assc2007.neuralcorrelate.com/index.php?module=pagemaster&PAGE\\_user\\_op=view\\_page&PAGE\\_id=35&MMN\\_position=4:4](http://assc2007.neuralcorrelate.com/index.php?module=pagemaster&PAGE_user_op=view_page&PAGE_id=35&MMN_position=4:4).

Several of the ticketed events, as the Gala Banquet and the tutorials are almost full. If you wait to do onsite registration you may miss

out!

This year's meeting will also feature a special a \*Distinguished Debate in Consciousness\* sponsored by the Mind Science Foundation, with Daniel Dennett and Michael Gazzaniga: "Who Am I? Where Am I? Neurobiological and Philosophical Concepts of the Self" at 8:30–9:30am, Saturday June 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Make sure to plan your travel so as to make it to the fabulous and free (!) Opening Reception, at Canaletto Ristorante at the Venetian, 8pm–10pm, Friday, June 22<sup>nd</sup>.

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## 2. ASSC-11 MEETING IN LAS VEGAS – STUDENT SOCIAL

Corresponding author: Michael Hill (michael.hill@pharm.ox.ac.uk)

Further information: <http://www.assc-students.org>

We are happy to invite you to this year's student social event! The event will be held on Sunday 24th June from eight till late at the Freakin' Frog Las Vegas ([www.freakinfrog.com](http://www.freakinfrog.com)). Thanks to the generosity of the Mind Science Foundation ([www.mindscience.org](http://www.mindscience.org)) who have kindly offered to sponsor the event there will be free drinks provided during the first part of the evening. There will also be a quiz where philosophers meet face to face with scientists. If you can think of any tricky questions (topic: consciousness/mind) which might contribute to make this quiz a night to remember please don't hesitate to send them to us. We hope that the event will help foster student communication and networking and of course be a great fun night for everyone. As always this and further information can be found on our website (see URL above).

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## 3. ASSC-12 MEETING IN TAIPEI – NEW DATE AND FORMATION OF SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

Corresponding author: Allen Houg

Contact: Kristina Musholt ([kmusholt@gmail.com](mailto:kmusholt@gmail.com))

Further information: [www.ym.edu.tw/assc12/](http://www.ym.edu.tw/assc12/).

ASSC12 is going to be held from 19–22 June, 2008 (NOT 20–23 June as announced in last month's newsletter) at the Gis Convention Center, National Taiwan University, Taipei. The academic content of ASSC meetings is determined by a scientific program committee

that is generally made up of the local organizers, plus 4–5 other members of the association from different areas of research. The science committee is responsible for inviting speakers, organizing symposia and workshops and assessing proposals for oral and poster presentations. The science committee is chosen by the Board in consultation with the local organizers. If you are interested in joining the committee for next year's meeting in Taipei, please send an email to Kristina Musholt (kmusholt@gmail.com, subject: science committee) no later than Thursday, June 21. To help the Board make it's decision please provide two short paragraphs (each less than 200 words); the first detailing your background, the second what you think the committee should try to achieve. Please do not send CVs or attachments as only a short edited list of interested people will be forwarded on to the Board (full CVs WILL NOT be forwarded).

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#### 4. ASSC EPRINT COMMITTEE – THE FIVE "MOST POPULAR" PAPERS OF MAY 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 May 2007:

1. Sagiv, N. and Ward, J. (2006) Crossmodal interactions: lessons from synesthesia. *Progress in Brain Research*, 155. (1428 downloads from 22 countries). <http://eprints.assc.caltech.edu/224/>.
2. 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* (1063 downloads from 22 countries). <http://eprints.assc.caltech.edu/200/>.
3. Block, N. (2007) Consciousness, Accessibility and the Mesh between Psychology and Neuroscience. *Behavioral and Brain Sciences*, forthcoming. (991 downloads from 18 countries). <http://eprints.assc.caltech.edu/261/>
4. Robbins, S. E (2006) Bergson and the holographic theory of mind. *Phenomenology and the Cognitive Sciences*, 5. (984 downloads from 19 countries). <http://eprints.assc.caltech.edu/206/>.

5. Koriat, A. (2006) Metacognition and Consciousness. In: Cambridge handbook of consciousness. Cambridge University Press, New York, USA. (941 downloads from 23 countries). <http://eprints.assc.caltech.edu/175/>

Overall, we registered 42926 downloads from 68 countries – this is a new record! 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. PARTICIPATORY CONSCIOUSNESS THEORY WIKI FOR ASSC MEMBERS

Corresponding author: Bernard Baars ([baars@nsi.edu](mailto:baars@nsi.edu))  
Further information: [bernardbaars.pbwiki.com](http://bernardbaars.pbwiki.com)

I would like to hear from ASSC members interested in empirical theories of consciousness and related questions, with the aim of setting up a Consciousness Theory Wiki. It will be similar to [bernardbaars.pbwiki.com](http://bernardbaars.pbwiki.com), which has all the basic papers on Global Workspace, and a link to Baars' 1988 book, A Cognitive Theory of Consciousness, which spells out the basic theory. ([www.nsi.edu/users/baars](http://www.nsi.edu/users/baars)). That book will soon be part of the free Google Books collection. As you know, work by Stan Dehaene, Stan Franklin, Murray Shanahan and others has developed GWT in productive directions. Competing theoretical views are very welcome, of course.

The current plan is to use the Consciousness Theory Wiki as an international web seminar, with leading theorists presenting \*\*\*evidence-based models of conscious and unconscious processes\*\*\* for open discussion. Wiki seminars will be publicly archived and linked to Science & Consciousness Review ([www.sci-con.org](http://www.sci-con.org)). Please contact [baars@nsi.edu](mailto:baars@nsi.edu) if you wish to participate and contribute your work.

Qualified graduate students and post-docs are very welcome to contribute and participate. Wide participation is encouraged.

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## 2. CONSCIOUSNESS RESEARCHERS DATABASE

Corresponding author: Joseph Dial (jdial@mindsience.org)

Further information: [www.mindsience.org/crd](http://www.mindsience.org/crd)

At ASSC 10 in Oxford last year the Mind Science Foundation (MSF) launched the Consciousness Researchers Database (CRD), as an essential component of its unwavering commitment toward building awareness for and coalescing the field of consciousness research. The CRD has the power to not only bring scientists of similar research interest together in a manner that dismantles the limitations of geographical distances, but also has the additional purpose of alerting the media, funding agencies, and science journals to the growing number of mainstream scientists that are focused on finding a solution to the question that Science magazine rated on of the top 25 questions in modern science: "What is the biological basis of consciousness?". The CRD currently recognizes the research efforts of the field's most prominent scientists by listing approximately 100 of the leading minds in consciousness research. However, the CRD can only achieve its full potential for drawing attention to the field and connecting researchers around the world by expanding the database to include the merit worthy efforts of every consciousness researcher and student. The Mind Science Foundation cordially invites the scientists and students of ASSC to join the Consciousness Researchers Database by following the link above.

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## 3. INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON THE VEGETATIVE AND MINIMALLY CONSCIOUS STATE

Corresponding author: Tristan Bekinschtein (trisebek@gmail.com)

Further information:

[http://www.wbic.cam.ac.uk/~mrc30/conference\\_home.html](http://www.wbic.cam.ac.uk/~mrc30/conference_home.html)

The International Symposium on the Vegetative and Minimally Conscious State will be held in Cambridge, UK, on the 26th & 27th SEPTEMBER 2007. This meeting features an invited program of lectures by neurologists, neuroscientists and allied health professionals. Topics include: advances in functional imaging, electrophysiology and behavioral assessment, care management and rehabilitation, mechanical and surgical interventions. The symposium will also include open discussion sessions lead by

leading experts in the field: Adrian Owen (A hierarchical fMRI battery to reveal residual cognitive functions), Nicholas Schiff (Multimodal imaging), Steven Laureys (Achievements and the future direction of imaging research), Andrea Kuebler (Brain Computer interfaces), Joe Giacino (Assesment and rehabilitation strategy), Lionel Naccache (How can we use imaging and electrophysiology to explore consciousness?), Keith Andrews (Dilemmas of VS and MCS), David Menon (What can studies of anesthesia tell us about consciousness?), Geraint Rees (The NC of visual consciousness), Ralf Clauss (Zolpidem to increase the level of consciousness?).

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#### 4. TOWARD A SCIENCE OF CONSCIOUSNESS 2007 CONFERENCE

Corresponding author: Leve Moro (leve@utu.fi)

Further information: <http://www.tsc2007.org/>

The Toward a Science of Consciousness 2007 international conference will be arranged in Budapest, Hungary, July 23–26, 2007. Plenary talks by: Walter Freeman, Stuart Hameroff, Ivan Havel, Ilona Kovacs, David Papineau, Karl Pribram, Petra Stoerig. Workshops and concurrent sessions: Philosophy, Language and Consciousness, Machine Consciousness I–II, First Person Methods, Phenomenological Concepts, Neuroscience I–III, Psychophysiology, Concept of Consciousness I–II, Cognitive Science and Psychology I–III, Qualia, Ontology of Consciousness, Altered States of Consciousness, Materialism and Dualism, Physical and Biological Sciences, Ethic and Free Will. For detailed program and registration, see URL above. !!! Early registration extended to June 30 for ASSC members !!!

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#### 5. FORTHCOMING BOOK: J.SCOTT JORDAN & DAWN M. MCBRIDE (EDS.) (2007)

THE CONCEPTS OF CONSCIOUSNESS: INTEGRATING AN EMERGING SCIENCE.

Corresponding author: J. Scott Jordan (jsjorda@ilstu.edu) or

<http://www.ilstu.edu/~jsjorda>

Further information:

[http://www.imprint.co.uk/books/Jordan\\_McBride.html](http://www.imprint.co.uk/books/Jordan_McBride.html)

For the conference and the special issue of the Journal of Consciousness Studies that lie behind this book, pairs of researchers were asked to tackle from different standpoints concepts of consciousness such as realism, representation, intentionality, information, control, memory and self. The contributors are David Leech Anderson, Harald Atmanspacher , Timothy L. Hubbard, Andrew Bailey, John Barresi, Liliana Albertazzi, Cees van Leeuwen, Robert Shaw & Jeffrey Kinsella-Shaw, Bernhard Hommel, J. Scott Jordan & Marcello Ghin, Dawn M. McBride, Michael Spivey & Sarah Cargill, Natalie Sebanz, and Sabine Maasen.

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6. FORTHCOMING BOOK: BACHMANN, T., BREITMEYER, B.G., & ÖGMEN, H.  
(2007). THE EXPERIMENTAL PHENOMENA OF CONSCIOUSNESS: A BRIEF DICTIONARY. NEW YORK: OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS.  
Corresponding author: Talis Bachmann (talis.b@lawinst.ee)

This is a first dictionary of its kind on consciousness phenomena where consciousness appears as a dependent variable in special experimental/observational conditions.