

HUMAN BEHAVIOR & EVOLUTION SOCIETY



Summer-Fall 2007 Newsletter

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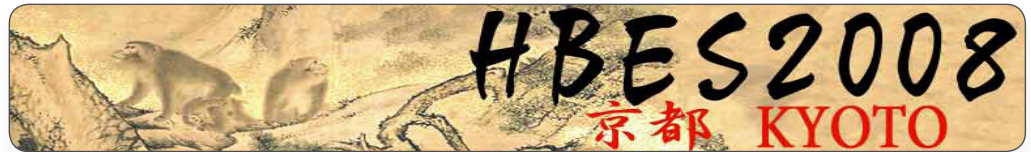
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The next HBES conference will be held at Kyoto University, Japan, June 4 - June 8, 2008. The conference website is <http://beep.c.u-tokyo.ac.jp/~hbes2008/index.htm>. Abstract submission will be open soon. March 15 is the deadline for all submissions.

HBES 2007 CONFERENCE COMPETITION WINNERS

Congratulations to the winners of the HBES Conference Competitions!

Winner of the New Investigator Competition: Thomas Currie

Winner of the Postdoctoral Investigator Competition: Thomas Hills

Winners of the Poster Competition: Brian Bergstrom & Pascal Boyer

SPECIAL FEATURES

Does Evolutionary Training Make Students Smarter? by David Sloan Wilson

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View

From the President's Window | David Buss

In this issue, out-going HBES president David Buss reflects on the maturation of our society and the road ahead. Thank-you, David, for your service to our society!! Welcome to in-coming HBES president Steve Gangestad, Professor of Psychology at UNM.



[Read more...](#)

Interview

Elaine Hatfield

The featured interview is with Elaine Hatfield, Professor of Psychology at the University of Hawaii. Well known to the evolutionary crowd for her publication with Clark on sex differences in receptivity to sexual offers, Elaine has helped pave the way for the scientific study of love.



[Read more...](#)

MisMannered

Doug Kenrick

*Out in the deserts of Tempe
There works a true devotee
Who's clever and keen
Good proof of his genes
Read, you'll laugh I guarantee*

Christmas has come early!
You're not going to want to miss the new MisMannered piece.



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Students

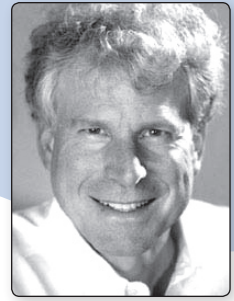
The Student Voice | Aaron Blackwell

Student representative Aaron Blackwell takes a look at the breakdown of HBES student members by discipline. In addition, read the Featured Student Profile of Amy Cavanaugh, a doctoral student in Biology at the University of Louisville.



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View From the President's Window | David Buss



The Evolution of HBES

As HBES moves into its 19th year, it's worthwhile to reflect back on its infancy and look ahead to its transition to adulthood. The first official HBES meeting occurred in 1989 at Northwestern University. By unanimous vote, W.D. Hamilton was elected first President. During Hamilton's presentation, he expressed surprise and dismay at how little modern evolutionary theory had penetrated the social sciences, especially given how rapid the transformation had occurred in evolutionary biology. Perhaps, he mused, we will always remain a small and tattered group, ignored and dismissed by mainstream social scientists. He hoped for more, though, which is why he agreed in 1989 to serve as HBES's first President.

The infant HBES certainly met Hamilton's description. But a sense of excitement filled the air during that 1989 meeting. It felt like a birth of something grand. It seemed like the beginning of an exhilarating scientific revolution, one that would transform profoundly the scientific understanding of human behavior. I remember asking my friend Frank Sulloway, a Harvard-trained historian of science, for his prognostication for the field. "Your stock will rise over time," he said "but it will rise very slowly." A few years later, when HBES became a toddler, I asked him again. This time, Frank said "Your stock is rising faster than I thought."

As HBES reached puberty in the early 2000's, Frank's forecasts became increasingly optimistic. Appropriately so. A few indications signaled the shift. In 1989, students interested in evolution and human behavior had few places to go—perhaps Michigan, Northwestern, McMaster, with a smattering of isolated evolutionists elsewhere. In 2007 the HBES home page lists 52 universities to study evolution and human behavior in the North America alone, and many others throughout the world. New interdisciplinary programs are formed nearly every year as more and more universities reach a critical mass of evolutionists across departments.

Another indication from mainstream psychology centers on citations in introductory textbooks. According to an analysis published by R. Elizabeth Cornwell and her colleagues (2005), reference to work in evolution and human behavior in the late 1980's was practically non-existent. When it was discussed, the tone, more often than not, was decidedly negative. And the treatment, more often than not, was scandalously inaccurate. By 2004, citations

to evolutionary work had mushroomed; collectively, citations to evolutionary work in the leading textbooks number in the thousands. Topics such as mating strategies, parental investment, kin selection, and altruism, all formerly absent, became topics critical to cover. The tone shifted in a decidedly positive direction; and treatments were judged to be more often accurate than not. In 1989, there existed not a single textbook in evolutionary psychology. Now there are more than a dozen, some translated into other languages such as German, Polish, Korean, and Chinese. In 1989, PhD's with a focus on evolution and human behavior rarely got placed in academic positions. Now, the top evolutionary students regularly secure tenure track jobs at colleges and universities from coast to coast.

I do not underestimate the obstacles, hostilities, and forces that oppose this scientific revolution. They are real, and many of us are forced to spend too much time battling them. And the adolescent HBES struggles with many issues other adolescents struggle with—a sense of identify and figuring out what sort of adult it wants to be. But I like to think that Bill Hamilton, whose life was cut tragically short in the year 2000, would have been happily surprised at how deeply evolutionary theory has penetrated the social sciences. And by how many have now joined our once small and tattered band.

I would like to thank members of HBES for the honor of allowing me to serve as president for the past two years, and best wishes to my successor Steve Gangestad.

David M. Buss

Featured Interview | Elaine Hatfield



Elaine Hatfield is a Professor of Psychology at the University of Hawaii. Elaine is perhaps most well-known within the HBES community for her publication with Russell Clark (Clark, R. D. & Hatfield, E. 1989. Gender differences in receptivity to sexual offers. *Journal of Psychology & Human Sexuality*, 2, 39-55). Today, Elaine is one of the most cited social psychologists having published many articles, chapters, and books on love and emotional contagion. Throughout her career she has witnessed a number of changes including the increase in the number of women in psychology and the establishment of scientific programs of research on love and attraction. (Elaine was awarded Senator Proxmire's Golden Fleece Award for studying companionate and passionate love!!). I hope you have a chance to meet her one day -- she is truly a wonderful person with a gigantic heart. Please enjoy this special interview.

DL: Can you describe what it was like starting off as a female academic interested in passionate love and sexual desire? What was the atmosphere like at Stanford?

EH: In 1959, I entered the Ph.D. program at Stanford University. By then, I had developed an intellectual interest in passionate love, sexual desire, and mate selection. I knew, of course, that theorizing about such topics was "taboo." Passionate love was considered to be a trivial phenomenon; it wasn't a respectable topic of study; it wasn't amenable to scientific investigation; there wasn't any hope of finding out very much about love in my lifetime. And it wasn't "hot"—the hot topic in the 1960s was mathematical modeling.

Math modeling and rat runways. If we ignored the first and last thirds of the runway in rat experiments (too much variability in rat behavior there) and concentrated on the middle third (where rat behavior generally settled down) we had a real chance of making an intellectual breakthrough and contributing importantly to the field of psychology. Thus ran the conventional wisdom.

At the same time, late in the evenings at Stanford University after our work was done, we confided endlessly to one another about our personal problems. For most people, the rigors of graduate school were taking a toll on their romances. At one time, all the members of our group were having terrible trouble in their close relationships. Some of us couldn't find anyone to date, others were trapped in unhappy romantic relationships, or getting divorces. One set of topics was interesting in the day; another, a source of near-obsession

in our evening chats.

Because of the bravery and generosity of my mentor, Leon Festinger, I was afforded the opportunity to attempt a rigorous investigation of passionate love as part of my graduate work.

The first signs of trouble appeared in the Spring of 1963, when I tried to find a faculty position. I came on the job market during the "Sputnik era." America was in a race—fueled by misinformation and terror—with the USSR, and huge amounts of money were being poured into education. Anyone could get a job—or so I thought. Festinger told me that I was the "best graduate student" he'd ever had—probably he told everyone that—and, in a burst of hubris, promised that he could get me a job anywhere I wanted.

I wanted the best—which at that time meant Harvard, Yale, or Bell Labs. We soon discovered that it was not to be as easy as we had supposed. Chairs were frank in saying that a woman would not fit in at their universities. They assured us that they were personally in favor of hiring women, but lamented that their colleagues or their students would never accept such an appointment.

I finally accepted a job paying \$8,200 a year at the University of Minnesota, at the Student Activities Bureau, arranging dances!! (Anyone who knows how shy and non-social I am finds that a big joke!) Trying to spin gold from straw, I embarked on a program of scientific research on close relationships in dating situations. I volunteered to teach two social psychology courses and to supervise psychology graduate students. Thus in the next year—apparently not having offended anyone—I was offered a position in the University of Minnesota Psychology Department, with tenure.

I had a fantastic time. The Minnesota social psychology laboratory was wonderful then. I worked with Ellen Berscheid (then a graduate student), Elliot Aronson, Dana Bramel, and Ben Willerman. Stanley Schachter was a frequent visitor.

A few years later, in 1967, I moved to the University of Wisconsin (the Department of Sociology—the UW Psychology Department was not yet considering the appointment of woman to faculty positions), where I

had a chance to work with another collection of social psychology luminaries—Jerry Marwell, Jane Piliavin, John DeLamater, and Shalom Schwartz, among others.

My prime interests then were on passionate love, sexual desire, and perceptions as to the importance of fairness and equity in love relationships and casual friendships.

DL: You were awarded the “Golden Fleece Award” by Senator William Proxmire. What events led up to this award and what were some of the reactions/consequences?

EH: The most damaging blow to my research program came in 1975. Wisconsin’s U.S. Senator William Proxmire discovered that the National Science Foundation had awarded Ellen Berscheid and me \$84,000 to study the antecedents of passionate and companionate love. Proxmire awarded us his first “Golden Fleece Award”—a public relations stunt designed to protect taxpayers from having to fund unneeded scientific research. He got a lot of political mileage over the years from ridiculing scientists.

Proxmire launched his well-publicized campaign by firing off a press release:

“I object to this not only because no one—not even the National Science Foundation—can argue that falling in love is a science; not only because I’m sure that even if they spend \$84 million or \$84 billion they wouldn’t get an answer that anyone would believe. I’m also against it because I don’t want the answer.

I believe that 200 million other Americans want to leave some things in life a mystery, and right on top of the things we don’t want to know is why a man falls in love with a woman and vice versa. . . .

So National Science Foundation—get out of the love racket. Leave that to Elizabeth Barrett Browning and Irving Berlin. Here if anywhere Alexander Pope was right when he observed, “If ignorance is bliss, ‘tis folly to be wise.”

In subsequent weeks, Senator Proxmire and his supporters issued a series of reductio ad absurdum press releases. I received bags of mail, mostly critical. A Chicago tabloid, The Chicago Tribune, ran a contest. People could call in and vote: Who was right—Proxmire or me? Three University of Chicago Nobel Prize winners wrote in to say “Hooray for research on love!” but

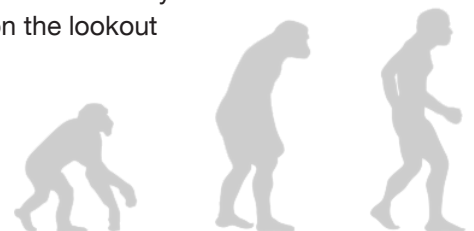
massive numbers of readers (and even a few friends!) wrote to say I was naive to think love and sex could be studied scientifically. Or they carped: “If she can’t even manage her own love life (they must have been foretelling marital problems I didn’t yet see) how can she advise other people what to do?” and to present their academic or clinical views. I lost the “election”: Proxmire 87.5%, me 12.5%.

Even my mother’s Bishop got into the act. He issued a message to the Detroit parishes denouncing the National Science Foundation for awarding scientists \$84,000 to unravel the “most sacred mysteries of love and life.” He asked: “Who granted these ‘scientists’ the ability to see into men’s minds and hearts?” Were our findings going to eliminate pride, selfishness, jealousy, greed, suffering, and war? “Jesus Christ has taught us all that we need to know about love and life,” he insisted. “His Word waits there, in The Holy Bible, for us. He has been waiting for us for almost 2,000 years. It is His commands we must follow, not the childish ‘advice’ of some arrogant, secular scientist, who presumes to know more than Our Lord.”

A sweet man, Dr. Roland W. Radloff, then Program Director of the Social Psychology Program, Division of Social Sciences at NSF, counseled me to refrain from submitting anything for awhile. “Let it blow over.” The peer-review process might approve it, the Program Director might approve it, but at great cost for science. And in the end it wouldn’t be funded. I had little choice but to go along.

Senator Barry Goldwater, of all people, came to my defense. So did James Reston, the leading columnist for The New York Times. In his Times column, Reston wryly agreed that love will always be a mystery. “But if the sociologists and psychologists can get even a suggestion of the answer to our pattern of romantic love, marriage, disillusion, divorce—and the children left behind—it would be the best investment of federal money since Jefferson made the Louisiana Purchase.”

How did I cope? Not very well, I’m afraid. Though a few of my friends think I must look back at this time as one of personal and scholarly triumph—given the centrality of love research in psychology today—it was actually very hard for me. I am essentially a shy person, not on the lookout for conflict; I just like to pursue my intellectual interests. So L’Affaire



Proxmire was actually painful to me and when I remember it, I do so mostly with embarrassment, despite the eventual positive outcome.

I was blessed in this instance, however, by coming from a family and a community that cared not a whit about academic pursuits. It comes as no surprise to me that most of that world thinks my interests—in books, foreign films, and scholarly pursuits—are a bit absurd and certainly frivolous. In my working class family, I was not expected to succeed brilliantly at anything—simply to “do my best.” So, when things are terrible, I tend to be shell-shocked for a few hours, then, reeling, start plodding doggedly along again. Sooner or later, the tide changes.

In 1978, I wrote a little book (*A New Look at Love*) in an attempt to review what social psychologists knew about passionate and companionate love and to explain why the study of love is important. Luckily, it won the American Psychological Association’s and the American Psychological Foundation’s National Media Award. Even so, not everyone welcomed such a book.

DL: How have attitudes of the academic (and non-academic) communities changed regarding the scientific study of love and close relationships?

EH: I’ve hung around long enough to see things change. Eventually it became clear to politicians, scholars, and the general public that even “irrational” emotions such as passionate love can be studied scientifically. In 25+ years, the field of social psychology has become much smarter about the importance of mate selection and relationships. In 1969, when Ellen Berscheid and I wrote the first text that considered passionate love (*Interpersonal Attraction*), we had difficulty finding any material on passionate love. The 1980s and 1990s saw a tremendous surge of interest in love and intimacy.

In the 1980s, Steve Duck and Robin Gilmour inaugurated a series of volumes on the initiation, maintenance and dissolution of relationships. Scientists banded together to form four international, interdisciplinary organizations designed to foster research on close relationships—the International Society for the Study of Personal Relationships (ISSPR), the International Network on Personal Relations (INPR), the International Society for Research on Emotions, the International Academy of Sex Research, and the Society for the Scientific Study of Sex. In 1984, Steve Duck and his colleagues at INPR founded the *Journal of Social and Personal Relationships*, which is devoted entirely to research on close relationships. Later, in 1994, Patricia Noller and her colleagues at ISSPR inaugurated a second journal, *Personal Relationships*,

dedicated to publishing research on the same topics. Since then, thousands of studies concerning love, sex, mate selection, and intimacy have been published in these and various other journals.

DL: How did you come to get involved with Clark and the study on sex differences relating to the receptivity of sexual offers?

EH: In the mid-1970s, I visited Florida State University to give a talk. At that time, FSU was a hotbed of a new kind of social psychology—Sociobiology/Evolutionary Psychology.

The 1960s to 1970s was a period of social transformation. Many Social Psychologists, repelled by the chauvinistic notion that men and women are destined by God to be different “species,” were convinced that men and women are generally more similar than different: that both care about love, romance, sexual adventure, and a million other things. Scientists dedicated to understanding gender differences in attitudes, emotions, and behavior were viewed as slightly suspect. (In 2007, the pendulum seems to have swung the other way. To many, evolutionary psychology is now the received wisdom. To question the notion that Men are From Mars, Women From Venus provokes a quizzical look. This too, I suspect, will pass away.)

Both Russ and I were skeptical of the notion that traditional gender differences had all but disappeared. I: because I couldn’t imagine traditional cultural differences in gender roles occurring overnight. Russ: because he was convinced that gender differences are writ in the genes. In a Q & A session, Russ dropped a bomb. “A woman,” he said, “good looking or not, doesn’t have to worry about timing in searching for a man. Arrive at any time. All she has to do is point an inviting finger at any man, whisper ‘Come on ‘a my place,’ and she’s made a conquest. Most women,” he said, “can get any man to do anything they want. Men have it harder. They have to worry about strategy, timing, and tricks.”

Not surprisingly, the women in the audience were incensed. One sent a pencil flying in Russ’s direction. In one of Russ’s finer moments, he observed: “We don’t have to fight. We don’t have to upset one another. It’s an empirical question. Let’s design a field experiment to see who’s right!”

In a subsequent social psychology class, Russ and his students conceived of a simple experiment. Class members would approach men and women (of the opposite sex), and ask one of three questions: (1) Would

you go out with me tonight? (2) Would you come over to my apartment tonight? or (3) Would you go to bed with me tonight?

Weeks later the results came in—and they surprised almost everyone. When class members asked: “Would you go out with me tonight?” men and women were equally receptive: 56% of the women and 50% of the men agreed to go out on a date. Yet, when confederates asked, “Would you come over to my apartment” or “Would you go to bed with me?” the gender differences were striking. Whereas few women were willing to risk going to a man’s apartment (6%) or to bed with him (0%), a full 69% of the men agreed to go the woman’s apartment and 75% were willing to go to bed with her.

Three scientific journals—Sex Roles, Ethology and Sociobiology, and Representative Research in Social Psychology (an innovative methodology journal)—seemed good fits for this small paper. From June 1978 to September 1980, Russ tackled them all.

The reviewers were not amused. Reviewers’ reactions came typed or angrily scrawled on notepaper. Typical of the scornful reviews was this:

. . . “had this paper been based on a federally funded grant it would have walked away with the Golden Fleece Award of the decade. Apart from the rather comical nature and situations of the study and the debriefing which are regrettably not discussed for they should be hilarious, [sic.] there is no value to this study. The propositions (no pun) on which it is based are incredibly naïve, the conclusions unwarranted, etc. This paper should be rejected without possibility of being submitted to any scholarly journal. If Cosmopolitan won’t print it (with the anecdotes of encounters, documenting # of rapes of females by males who were propositioned, males who were slapped, etc.), then Penthouse Forum might like it. But, not _____ (name of journal omitted.)

One editor found the study so offensive that she claimed she had written to the editors of all other social psychology journals. Studies by Nazi scientists had never been published; this one should suffer the same fate. Under no conditions should this study ever be published. Other journals responded in kind.

For a time, Russ stuck the paper in the drawer.

On a visit to Madison, Wisconsin, Russ told me of his plight. I was incensed. I volunteered to take the paper in hand and craft it into a more felicitous style (designed to appeal to readers of mainstream social psychology and human sexuality journals). In rewriting it, I tried

to make it clear that Russ and I had no axe to grind. I acknowledged the fact that either Social learning theory and/or Evolutionary theory provided equally compelling explanations for our data. Nature and Nurture. I detailed the scientific importance of charting cultural and social changes in men’s and women’s sexual attitudes and behavior, and closed by noting the critical importance of “promiscuous” or “experimental” sexual behavior in determining which populations were most vulnerable to the ravages of sexually transmitted disease—although in the 1980s clinicians were far more worried about STDs other than AIDs (which had not yet appeared on anyone’s radar.)

From there on in, it was smooth sailing. We had a winner. Almost.

In fact, we were not prepared for the long, winding road that lay ahead. More on that later.

DL: What was your initial reaction to the pattern of data Clark found? Did the pattern surprise you?

EH: I was surprised that the gender differences in sexual daring were as great as they turned out to be.

DL: What was the reaction of your peers to this paper? Was it accepted for publication immediately? If not, what were some of the comments from the reviewers?

EH: **The Search for the Holy Grail.**

Two journals seemed likely prospects for our paper: Journal of Personality and Social Psychology, and Archives of Sexual Behavior.

In March, 1981, we began sending the revised paper out yet again. This time, editors were more positive: close but still no cigar. As one editor observed: “I feel the paper should (and almost certainly will be) published somewhere. I regret that I cannot tell you we will publish it.” NIMJ.

A second editor claimed that the Editorial Board had voted to reject it “on the basis of the reviewer’s recommendations.” Alas, the reviewers had all advised, “Accept.” Never mind. Again, it was NIMJ. Many scientists are most comfortable in a black and white world. They either believe in Nature or Nurture. Woe to the scientist who answers: “Both.”

And Yet Again.

In the years since Study #1, a new critique had arisen: “The times they are a’ changin’.” Some critics claimed that Study #1 was now dated: Gender differences may have been important in 1978, but by the enlightened

1980s they had all but disappeared. In addition, the prevalence of new and virulent STDs as well as the discovery of AIDs had surely made young men far more cautious than they were in the “bad old days.” Thus, in Spring 1982, we decided to run the study yet again—same protocol, same time, same place. Whatever results we secured were bound to be interesting. Gender differences remain the same? That argued for the stability of cultural and evolutionary imperatives. Gender differences disappear? That would argue that social factors (such as the women’s movement and deadly diseases like AIDs) had had a profound impact on men and women’s sexual behavior.

The gender differences found in Study #1 were replicated almost exactly in Study #2. I rewrote the paper yet again.

Once More Into The Fray.

By now, since we’d been slapped around pretty badly, I proposed that it might be a good time to try Women’s Studies journals (such as *Psychology of Women Quarterly*), *Social Psychology* journals (such as *Journal of Applied Social Psychology*), and *Close Relationships* journals (such as *Journal of Social and Personal Relationships*). So from November 1981 to January 1984, we worked our way through these journals. The story remained the same: more rejections.

One reviewer observed:

“The study itself is too weird, trivial and frivolous to be interesting. Who cares what the result is to such a silly question, posed in such a stranger-to-stranger way in the middle of the FSU quadrangle? I mean, who cares other than Redbook, Mademoiselle, Glamour or Self—all of which would cream their jeans to get hold of this study. This study lacks redeeming social value.”

There was a call for more research. Reviewers raised questions: How did we know the 18 student experimenters were credible actors? Why were men saying “Yes,” the women saying “No?” Were we sure a debriefing was effective?

For four years the manuscript lay fallow.

Then, in July 1988, I sent the paper to the *Journal of Psychology and Human Sexuality* and it was accepted. The reviewers were not enthusiastic, but they were willing to publish. The long quest was over.

DL: How many times and where has this study been replicated?

EH: Times have changed. Today, most scientists recognize the importance of scientific knowledge about topics that were once considered taboo—love, emotions, physical attraction, sexual desire, and sexual behavior—to name a few. This study has turned out to be the most cited of my (our) papers. It has been replicated in America, England, Germany, and the Netherlands. It’s also been covered (hilariously) by the popular press.

Log on to the web today and you’ll still find the study being debated—in all its distortions. In the early days, a few feminists decried the study because it seemed to justify male chauvinism and sexual license (“The Devil [or Darwin] made me do it.”) And they had a point. The powerful seem able to turn any and all research findings to their own advantage. Today, some women insist that it just goes to show what idiots (“cads,” “jerks,” “animals,”— fill in the blanks) these men are. Go to any Web site today and you will find:

Indirect evidence that men are stupid . . . [<http://home.attbi.com/~brynoh/MainSite/men.htm>.]

Yep! It’s The Study.

Guys = Icky: The definite proof. [<http://www.rpi.edu/~baere/guys%20are%20icky.html>]

Yep! Right again.

Foreign Dispatches: Men are Such Simple Creatures [foreigndispatches.typepad.com/dispatches/2004/10/men_are_such_si.html - 31k -]

Recently, Touch & Go recorded a very funny rock song called “Would you . . .” which transforms our experimental manipulation into an M-TV tune. (The Album is called “I Find You Very Attractive.”) You can find it on: [<http://launch.yahoo.com/track/1486375>]

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-NVAaN3ZAc0> The song is so goofy it always makes my classes giggle.

DL: What kind of research are you currently involved in?

EH: In addition to exploring a number of new topics, such as emotional contagion and “lethal” people, I remain interested in issues related to love, sex, and gender. I am especially focused on trying to integrate cultural, historical, and evolutionary perspectives, and in multidisciplinary approaches generally. Consider, for example, such a basic question as: “Why are men and women interested in sexual activities?”

In the Old Testament, its writers decreed that righteous people might engage in sexual intercourse for three reasons—pleasure, attachment, and procreation. (Later,

Christian church fathers reduced that number to one: procreation.) Traditionally, sexologists have had a similarly simple, straightforward vision of the nature of passion, emphasizing the Biblical three sexual purposes: making babies, having fun, and expressing love. Take a foray into the worlds of culture, time, art, and literature, however, and suddenly you are reminded of how narrow Western scientists' perspectives have been. As Levin (1994) observed:

Coinitus is undertaken not only for pleasure and procreation but also to degrade, control and dominate, to punish and hurt, to overcome loneliness or boredom, to rebel against authority, to establish one's sexuality, or one's achieving sexual competence (adulthood), or to show that sexual access was possible (to "score"), for duty, for adventure, to obtain favours such as a better position or role in life, or even for livelihood. (p. 125).

Historians such as John D'Emilio and Estelle Freedman (1988) have observed that throughout history, people have assigned very different "meanings" to passionate love and sexual activity. Throughout time, they contend, the dominant metaphors have been religious, medical, romantic, or commercial.

Over the past decades, (building on the work of D'Emilio and Freedman) I and my students have asked people at the University of Hawai'i to list all the reasons they and their friends have had for engaging in sexual activities. Our respondents were typical of Hawai'i's multi-ethnic population. They belong to an array of religious groups [Catholic, Protestant, Buddhist, Jewish, Mormon, Other and None] and possess diverse ethnic ancestries (African, Chinese, European, Filipino, Hawaiian, Japanese, Korean, Samoan, Vietnamese, Other-American, and mixed.)

Among the sexual motives such informants cite are, indeed, the Big Three (the same trio of procreation, sport, and affection) that scholars have so much studied. But our informants also mention an impressive array of other motivations as well—among them: Self-Esteem, Status, Spiritual transcendence, Duty, Conformity, Kindness, Desire to Conquer/Power (people can, of course, also withhold sex in the hopes of attaining power,) Submission to others, Vengeance (to conquer, degrade, punish,) Curiosity, Money, Make Someone Jealous, Health and Long Life (Yin and Yang), Stress Reduction, Save the World, Political Revolt. . . and so on.

We have now developed scales designed to measure all the sexual motives known to humankind. We've also conducted several studies designed to find out how

men and women who desire power (or who possess power) differ in their sexual attitudes, feelings, and sexual behavior.

DL: What are your thoughts on what it is like to be a female academic? Have you noticed any changes since you first started out?

EH: Academia has improved markedly. When I was an undergraduate at the University of Michigan (in 1955-1959), women weren't allowed to enter the U of M Student Union via the front door; they had to sneak in around the back.

During that weird time at Minnesota at the Student Activities Bureau (arranging student dances), I also taught, advised students, and conducted research in the Psychology Department. But I was not paid a penny by the Psych Department. My colleague, Ellen Berscheid, and I were told the following by the Chair. (1) Women were not allowed to hang up their coats in the faculty cloak room in Coffman Memorial Union, and (2) Women were not invited to eat lunch in the Faculty Club.

At Coffman Union, there were two dining rooms, separate but unequal. The Faculty Club was stellar: it had high vaulted wood-beamed ceilings. Its walls were glass and it looked out over the Minneapolis skyline and the Mississippi River. It was hushed, elegant, airy, well-upholstered, and intimate. Student waiters, resplendent in starched white jackets, presented the food just-so on the creamy, starched tablecloths. The Faculty Club was not just a men's club, but a WASP men's club. Now and then a visiting professor from Sudan or the Punjab, coming in to give a speech about Public Health in Dehra Dun or Urban Planning in Kassala, would darken the snowy-white constituency, but that was rare. The Club was reserved for faculty members—meaning men. If a special conference was scheduled at the Club, women could attend; Deans and faculty members could bring along their secretaries to take notes, but that was it.

The Café was a large public cafeteria which served the lower orders. Young women—the administrative staff, secretaries, and teaching assistants who helped run the place—ate. The dining hall was large and noisy. The clatter ricocheted off the hard surfaces of the tile ceilings, white walls, and tile floors. The food was mediocre and serve-yourself. The steam tables filled the room with damp and heat.

The Chair said that he was sure we'd prefer the steam room. Actually, he said cheerily, he wished he were free to eat in the staff café himself. "The food is better, the

service faster, and the company is certainly a lot prettier.” But alas, he was condemned to sit with his colleagues. Ellen and I were too polite to mention that he was free to join us in the cafeteria anytime he liked.

And so, for a time, Ellen and I ate lunch together every day in the cafeteria and became fast friends. It was, however, a bit irritating when our colleagues teased us for spending all our time together at lunch, when, in fact, we had no choice but to do so.

In December, Ellen and I decided that it was time to make a gentle expedition into the world of social activism. One Monday, we made our move. But we’d underestimated the power of tradition (or the tradition of power.) When we walked into the Faculty Club and chorused: “May we sit down?” our six colleagues couldn’t have been more courtly. “Of course! How lovely to see you both. Do sit down.” But, just as we were easing into our chairs, Colleague #1 glanced at his watch, feigned amazement, and declared, “Oh, do excuse me I have to run. I didn’t realize it was so late. I’m due back at the lab.” He stood up, obviously relieved to be escaping, and with a regretful glance at his still full plate, like the White Rabbit, he practically ran out the door. There was a pause. Then, horribly, the ghastly exodus continued. Colleague #2 shifted uneasily, then remembered that his wife was picking him up. He bolted. Colleague #3 snatched up a dinner roll and said that he better walk out with his friend. There were a few things they needed to talk about. The remaining men realized that they’d better be going, too. “Wow! It’s later than we’d thought,” they exclaimed. Within minutes Ellen and I were sitting alone at the elegant table, surrounded by six heaping plates. It was a moment we will never forget. The two of us, now fiery red with shame, were unable to speak. We sat alone, bravely smiling, chewing, choking, and crying inside. We would never try again, we vowed.

But of course we did. Skinner had provided a method; we would apply it. Each day we came in, walked into the Faculty Club, at first sitting on the outskirts of the Club, then moving in, one table closer each week or so. Eventually, we ended up sitting near to our colleagues—adjacent to, not with. We weren’t brave enough for that.

Today, things are much, much better. Discrimination still exists in academia, of course, but I and my UH woman colleagues haven’t witnessed any overt prejudice in a long, long time. Colleagues are sometimes obnoxious, but they seem to be equal opportunity boors. Professors tend to disdain any work but their own, but at the University of Hawaii I am happy to report that I and my

women colleagues are treated with exactly the same respect (or disrespect) that everyone else merits.

And today, of course, Ellen is a Regents Professor at the University of Minnesota and eats with her colleagues at Coffman any time she jolly well pleases.

DL: What are some of the challenges facing scientists interested in emotions and close relationships today?

EH: Powerful political, religious, and business constituencies always yearn to get into the act; yearning to control what scientists investigate, how they conduct their research, the conclusions at which they arrive, and the information they disseminate. So it isn’t surprising that cultural and evolutionary psychologists (and scholars interested in close relationships and emotions) often find themselves struggling with powerful critics. Nonetheless, I think it’s important to remind ourselves that, in the long run, Science is on the winning side.

Today, young researchers face two intriguing challenges:

1. How to integrate our understandings as to the nature of culture, genes, and our evolutionary heritage into a new, more comprehensive model of human behavior.

Cultural psychologists point out that people are “wired up” to be able to adapt to a stunning variety of political, social, and environmental contingencies. People can be found on the icy steppes of Siberia and the parched deserts of Sudan; they have survived in the formal cultural milieu of 5th century China and in 21st century Cyberspace. Cultural studies allow us to gain an understanding of the extent to which people’s thoughts, feelings, and behaviors are shaped by the situations in which they find themselves.

Yet, people are not infinitely adaptable. As psychologists such as Buss, Cosmides and Tooby, and Wilson and Daly remind us, a great deal of human potential is “writ in our genes”:

... the specifics of evolutionary biology have a central significance for understanding human thought and action. Evolutionary processes are the “architect” that assembled, detail by detail, our evolved psychological and physiological architecture.

One major challenge young psychologists face, then, is in crafting an evolutionary model that will predict the types of attitudes and behavior that will readily adapt to changing circumstance versus those attitudes and behavior which will be tightly constrained by the inherited architecture of the mind (and impervious to changing circumstance).

A second challenge.

2. Geneticists have discovered that certain cultural and environmental factors may cause various genes to be “expressed,” or “repressed.” Young evolutionary scientists may want to attempt to gain a richer understanding of the complexities of culture, genes, and biology, and to incorporate their insights into their models of close relations and emotion.

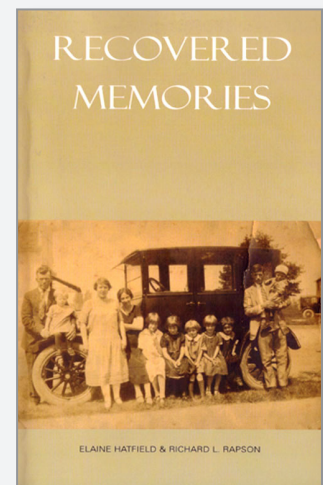
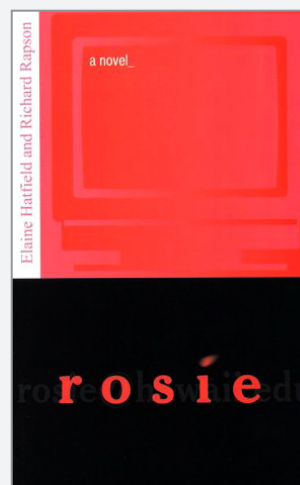
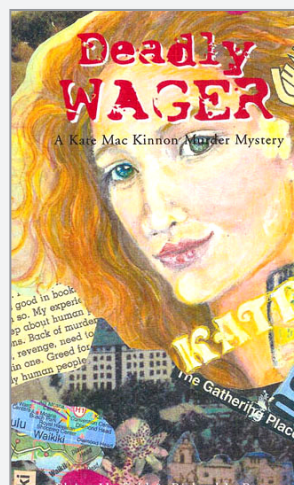
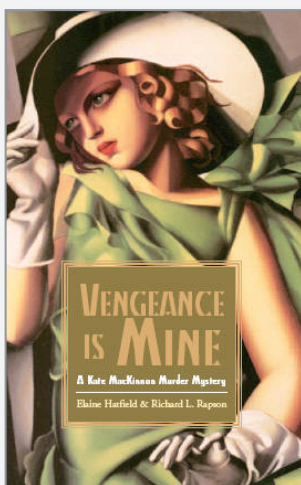
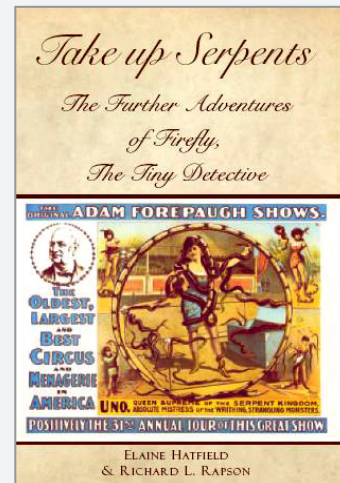
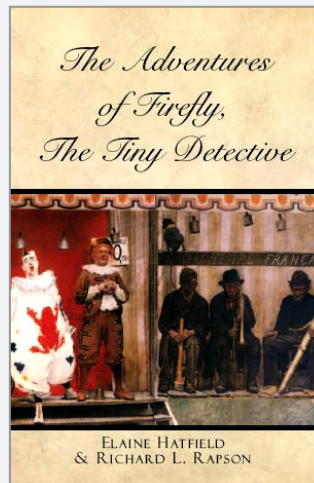
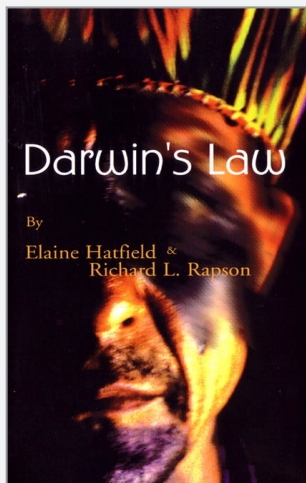
These are exciting challenges that offer endless opportunities for brave and rigorous thinking and research.

DL: Do you have any words of advice for students just starting out on their academic journey in the social sciences?

EH: It is far less important to be brilliant than to be fiercely determined. Dogged does it. When you are knocked around you have to bounce back.

Also, don't lose sight of the fun and thrills to be had from trying to understand ourselves and our world. I've loved (almost) every minute of the scientific enterprise!

Novels by Elaine Hatfield & Richard Rapson





How the Dawkins Stole Christmas

By Dr. Deuss *

Every Jones down in Jonestown liked Jesus a lot,
But the Dawkins, who lived on Mt. Oxford, did not
That Darwinian Dickens said "God's Putative Son,
Was merely a mortal! Just some son of a gun!"

Who knows why the Dawkins became such a skeptic
But the hymns and the prayers drove him quite apoplectic
They say maybe his brain was a trifle too big
With too many modules there under his wig.
Or maybe his genes were a little too tight
Making him selfishly strike out and bite
Back at the God Fearin' Born Again masses
Who were banning his books in their Sunday School classes
But whatever the reason, his genes or his noggin,
The Christians all thought that he needed a floggin

Snearing down from his Named Chair up at old Oxford U.
The Dawkins claimed Jesus's Truths were not true,
But the Joneses all shouted to Dawkins, wait, wait!
Without Jesus to love, we'd have no one to hate
Are you saying Mohammed was better than Christ?
Not supporting our troops! Sir, now that's not too nice!

He wrote: "Jesus, like Santa and Christmas tree stockings
Is just so much malarkey, it really is shocking!"
St. Augustine and Thomas Aquinas were muddled
Their logic so riddled that it left him quite puzzled
Whether God was a What or a How or a Why
Who imagined John Lennon with looking glass eyes

But besides their bad logic, there was one other thing
Those Christians would sing! and they'd sing! AND THEY'D SING
'bout how Jesus was Love but His people were Soldiers!?
It all made Dawkins' head spin right off of his shouldsters

And the more Dawkins heard all these Born Agains sing
The more Dawkins thought: "I must stop this whole thing!"
"Why for 66 years I've put up with this now!
"I MUST make these people think straighter!

... But HOW?"

Then he had an idea! A dangerous idea!
The Dawkins had a fabulous, dangerous idea!
"Aha ha, ha ha ha!" Dawkins laughed without pause
I will wear a red hat just like old Santy Claus
Then I'll go down to Macy's where I'll let little kids
Sit on top of my lap while I'll debunk the fibs
And the fables their parents have fed them for years
About Lucifer, Hell, building horrible fears
I will tell kids to stand up and shout: "I won't sing!
I won't sing about angels and fictitious things!
I won't pray for troops killing Arabs for God!
I won't even say prayers for a brand new iPod!"

Well, he went down to Macy's, and waited around
Until good old Saint Nick startin' feelin run down
From the thousands of brats hot with luxury fever
Then Dawk offered to give the old Saint a short breather

But his plan started sputtering right from the start
When his first little customer tugged at his heart
It was Cindy Lou Jones, from All Saints Bible School
And she whispered "Us kids aren't really such fools!
I can see you're the Dawkins and not the real Saint
And I know that you think that Pascal's wager ain't
Such a sensible case that's it quite so airtight
But just think about this if you can, if you might
Maybe it's a real long shot that Jesus is real
But then what if Mohammed is really the deal
Then there's Buddha, Jehovah and six hundred more
Bet on all of those horses and maybe you'll score!

Dawkins drew in his breath, and he started to stew
"Now Cindy let's start to add up two and two"
But before he could finish, she added one point
She said "Dawk, take a really good look round this joint
If this crowd stops believin', then Christmas sales end
No more microwaves, skateboards, no more blenders that blend
No more digital cameras or TVs or toys
But the biggest and selfishest thing, my old boy
Is that sales of your books would then take a big drop
No more amazon dot com, so think it through, pop!"
When you add up the millions of bookstores and malls
A profit's a profit, no matter how small!

"Beg pardon," he snorted, "I'm not in this for the beans!"
"But Sir Dawkins, you must have forgotten your genes!
To you a few quid may not seem a big deal,
But a million here, million there, starts to get real
Have you no son, no grandchild, no niece?
Your in-clusive fitness could be wrapped in gold fleece
For your genes as they sail down the River of Eden
Every buck means some other bloke's genes'll get beaten!"

And he thought and he thought till his modules were sore
As he bumbled and stumbled right out of the store
"If religion means Christmas and Hannukah too
And new books all wrapped up in paper and glue..."

And what happened then?
Well in Jonestown they say,
that the Dawkins' big brain shrunk three sizes that day
And he lost all his memories of Pascal Boyer
Forgot all that Dennett and Atran might say
And the minute his skull didn't feel quite so tight
He concluded instead that Believers were Right
So he told his press agent to send a release
For his new book expounding on Warring For Peace:
"The Extended Magical Mystical Phenotype of Christ"
Could be bought in advance for a discounted price
He'd explain his new JudaoMuslim Unification
With a number in Texas for Sending Donations

And lest anyone think that his life's work was wrecked
He swore, HE,
He the Dawkins,
Would cash the first check!

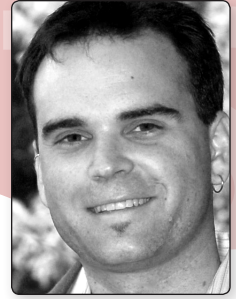


*Translated from the Latin by Monsignor Douglas T. Kenrick, who hopes this will serve as a warning to faithful parishioners about the potential dangers of allowing their children unsupervised access to inappropriate reading materials.

HBES 2007 Conference Photos



The Student Voice | Aaron Blackwell



New Ways For HBES Students to Connect

By now, most of the HBES students should have received an email invitation to join the HBES student Yahoo group. Once we have members, the Yahoo group will serve as a discussion board and email list, and will allow HBES students to notify one another about conferences, set up research collaborations, forward job announcements, and discuss topics of interest. If you did not receive an invitation, please send an email to me at ablackwe@uoregon.edu or visit the group at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/hbesstudent/> and request to be added. There is also a new Human Behavior and Evolution Society Students group on Facebook, for those of you with Facebook accounts. The Facebook group can be used in much the same way. The group can be found by searching for "Human Behavior" on Facebook.

Who are the HBES Student Members?

Who are the HBES Student members and how has our membership changed over the years? I broke down the membership numbers to find out. The latest 2007 numbers indicate there are about 148 HBES student members right now, down from 242 just four years ago (Figure 1). As Figure 2 indicates, currently about 56% of those are psychologists (based on the disciplines listed by individuals

Fig 1. HBES Student Membership By Year

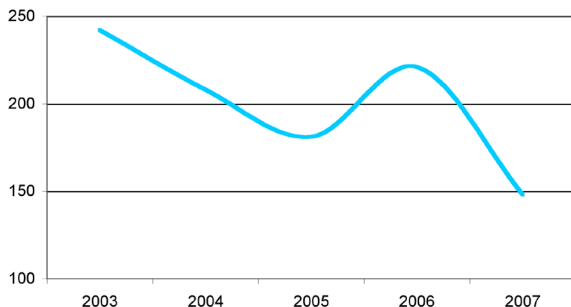
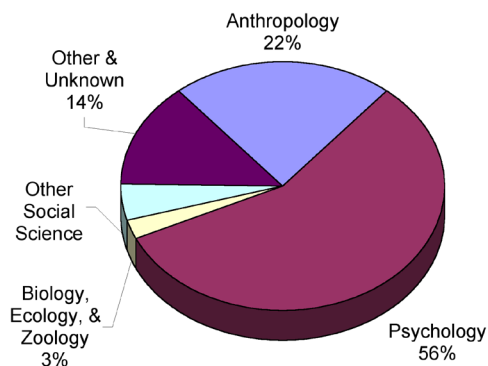
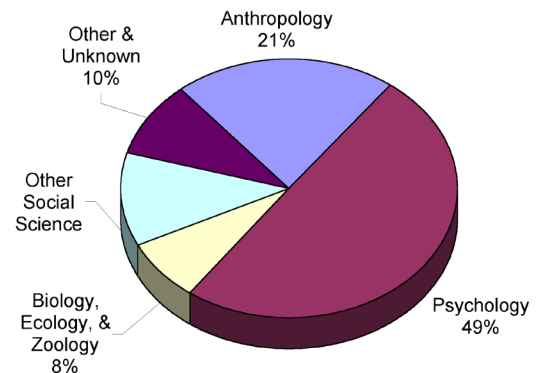


Fig 2. 2007 Student Members



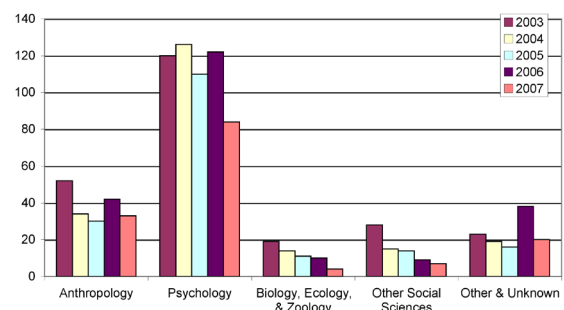
when they signed up for their memberships, and including evolutionary psychology, developmental, cognitive, experimental, etc). Twenty-two percent are anthropologists (social, cultural, bio, archaeology, etc). Only 3% were from biological disciplines and 5% from other social sciences (e.g. sociology, philosophy, history). The bulk of our membership has not changed much since 2003, when 21% of us were anthropologists and 49% psychologists (Figure 3). However, the percentage of our student members from the biological and other social sciences used to be much higher. In fact, for 2007 we have only 4

Fig 3. 2003 Student Members



members from the biological sciences, a 79% decrease from the 19 we had in 2003, and 7 members from other social sciences, a 75% decrease from 2003 number of 28 (Figure 4). In contrast, anthropologists and psychologists are each down about 30%.

Fig 4. Student Members By Discipline And Year



What should we make of these trends? The numbers seem to indicate that as students we should be engaging and involving our peers more in our HBES activities, and in particular, encouraging students from the biological sciences and other social sciences to join HBES. Although anthropologists and psychologists are the core of HBES, the more intellectual diversity we have the broader the questions we can answer.



FEATURED STUDENT PROFILE

Amy Cavanaugh

Amy Cavanaugh is a doctoral student in the Biology department at the University of Louisville. Amy's current work, presented at HBES 2007, focuses on the effect illness has on axillary microflora, which in turn may affect the scent of individuals and allow for sexual selection on healthy scents. She was inspired by a statement in one of Thornhill and Gangestad's many papers, suggesting women might be able to detect a difference between the odor of ill and healthy men, and furthermore that they found the odor of ill men unattractive. Fascinated, she began looking into mechanisms that might be responsible for odor differences between sick and healthy people. Since human body odor is a result of skin bacteria acting on secretions (i.e. sweat), she examined the axillary microflora of 28 humans over the course of six weeks. She found that changes in health status significantly affected the presence or absence of *Staphylococcus*. Her findings suggest that it may actually be the lack of bacterial contributions to body odor which women find unattractive and/or using as a cue to illness. Before beginning her studies at the University of Louisville in 2002, Amy received her BA in Biology from Drew University, where she conducted research on plant diversity in the Galapagos Islands and genetic diversity among blacknose dace (a small, minnow-type fish) in the mountain streams of western Virginia. At the University of Louisville her research initially focused on the polygyny threshold model in a small, shell-dwelling cichlid, before she switched focus to examine olfactory selection in humans. Amy will be finished her dissertation this summer and applying for academic positions in the near future.

Selected Publication

Dugatkin LA, McCall MA, Gregg RG, Cavanaugh A, Christensen C, Unseld M. 2005. Zebrafish (*Danio rerio*) exhibit individual differences in risk-taking behavior during predator inspection. *Ethology Ecology & Evolution* 17: 77-81.

HBES 2007 Conference Photos



HBES Conference 2007



The 19th Annual Meeting of the Human Behavior and Evolution Society took place from May 30 through June 3rd, 2007, at the College of William and Mary in Williamsburg,

Virginia, hosted by Lee Kirkpatrick and Brandy Burkett. The conference attracted roughly 450 participants from around the world, representing diverse academic disciplines including anthropology, behavioral ecology, biology, economics, legal studies, neuroscience, political science, psychology, and many others. The small-town atmosphere, convenient facilities, and somewhat smaller turnout compared to recent years made for an enjoyably intimate and relaxed setting.

As usual, the program revolved around a half-dozen invited addresses, all of which proved outstanding. This year's speakers were selected with an eye toward expanding horizons, offering connections to important research and ideas at the margins of our own field, and they did not disappoint. Plenary Addresses included David Bjorklund (Florida Atlantic University) speaking on developmental psychology, C. Sue Carter (University of Illinois-Chicago) on behavioral neuroscience, Owen Jones (Vanderbilt University) on the law and legal system, Hod Lipson (Cornell University) on evolutionary robotics, Martin Nowak (Harvard University) on the evolutionary biology of cooperation, and Dan Sperber (French Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique) on cognition and mindreading. Keynote Speaker Paul Ewald (University of Louisville) wowed us with his prescriptions for evolutionary medicine, particularly with respect to the greatly under-appreciated role that pathogens might play in the etiology of certain major diseases. The papers, posters, and symposia comprising the remainder of the program reflected, as usual, the impressive quality and diversity of HBES. Kudos go out to the Program Committee of David Schmitt (Chair), Debra Lieberman, and Mark Flinn.

As in previous years, the Conference featured competitions for best Poster, best paper by a New Investigator (pre-doctoral), and best paper by a Postdoctoral scholar (within 5 years of PhD). This year's winners were: Poster Competition: Brian Bergstrom and Pascal Boyer; New Investigator Competition: Thomas Currie; and Postdoctoral Competition: Thomas Hills. Each winner will receive a \$500 cash prize. Many thanks to Tim Ketelaar for organizing these competitions, and to the respective Awards Committees whose names appear elsewhere in this newsletter (along with much more information about the winners and their presentations.)

Every conference location has its own unique advantages and disadvantages, and fortunately the former greatly outnumbered the latter this year. Many local costs were lower than in other locations, permitting lower registration fees than recent years.

(The organizers are happy to report that the budget appears to have wound up in the black – though just barely.) The University Center proved ideal for the size and structure of the conference, and allowing virtually all events to take place under one roof. Only the two evening poster sessions were held elsewhere – a plus rather than a minus because it encouraged folks to enjoy a stroll across the beautiful campus. Hotels and dorms were in very close proximity as well. Many conference-goers took advantage of the historical location to visit Colonial Williamsburg, as well as the Jamestown colony (on its 400th anniversary). The organizers' ace in the hole was the legendary Greene Leaf Cafe, (perhaps too) conveniently located next door to the hotel – a favorite local watering hole that was packed to overflowing every night with happy HBESers. Many great memories were made (and at least as many probably lost) at “the Leaf.” The biggest disadvantage of the location was its distance from major airports, a shortcoming addressed in part by subsidized ground transportation to and from the campus and hotel.

Of course, the conference could not have been held without enormous efforts by many individuals and groups. Student volunteers from several universities -- Hasan Ayaz, Carolyn Hodges, Jenee James Jackson, Christina Larson, Richard Pond, Kori Stroub, and John Terrizzi – were truly invaluable. The university's Conference Services office did an outstanding job providing logistical support, running registration, dorm housing, coordinating catering, facilities, and hotel accommodations.

The conference web site (www.wm.edu/hbes07) will be maintained for several more months. You can still download a complete copy of the final program as printed (in pdf format). We encourage you to provide us with feedback about any particularly positive or negative experiences or aspects of the conference so we can pass this information along to future organizers, to help ensure that each year's HBES is better than the previous year's. You may do so by posting to the “Discussion Forum” on the web page, or by emailing us at hbes07@wm.edu.



A very special thanks to our gracious hosts, Brandy Burkett and Lee Kirkpatrick, who did an outstanding job organizing the conference.

HBES Conference 2007 Competition Winners

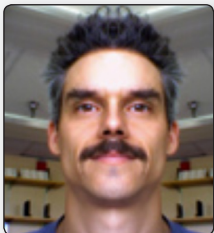


NEW INVESTIGATOR COMPETITION

Thomas Currie

The winner of the HBES 2007 New Investigator Paper competition was Thomas Currie, who along with Ruth Mace presented a paper "A Holy Grail for Anthropology?: Explaining the latitudinal gradient in human cultural diversity." Thomas Currie is a PhD student in the Evolutionary Anthropology program at University College London. Mr. Currie's paper focused on the interesting observation that there are greater densities of cultural groups nearer the equator than towards the poles, a pattern that parallels the distribution of biological species. Using the latest in geographic information system (GIS) technology--a system for capturing, storing, analyzing and managing data which are spatially referenced to the earth--Currie and Mace were able to incorporate ethnographic, environmental, and ecological data to compare several hypotheses that could explain the latitudinal gradient in cultural and biological diversity. Their initial results suggest that the degree of social stratification exhibited by a society is a key factor in explaining the pattern of cultural diversity as observed in language distributions across regions. A more detailed description of Thomas Currie's work can be found on his website: http://www.ucl.ac.uk/heeg/Tom_Currie.htm.

The New Investigator competition committee consisted of Rob Deaner (Chair), David Schmitt, Beverly Strassman, Pat Barclay, Julie Coultas, Gregory Webster, and Sarah Hill. Mr. Currie was selected as the ultimate winner from a set of four finalists that included Montserrat Soler, Lisa Welling Coren Apicella, and Mr. Currie.



POST-DOCTORAL COMPETITION

Thomas Hills

The winner of the HBES 2007 Postdoctoral Investigator Paper competition was Thomas Hills, who along with Peter Todd and Robert Goldstone presented a paper "Implications for human cognition from the evolution of animal foraging." Thomas Hills is currently an associate scientist and postdoctoral fellow in the Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences Department at Indiana University in Bloomington. Dr. Hill's paper began with the fascinating observation that quite similar dopaminergic processes modulate exploratory and exploitative foraging behaviors and the control attention across many animal species. This observation lead him to hypothesize that human goaldirected cognition might be an evolutionary descendent of animal foraging behavior. In a clever experiment, Dr. Hills assigned participants to one of two visual-spatial environments in which resources were either clumpy (most of the resources located near one another) or diffusely scattered. Hills demonstrated that exposure to these clumpy or diffuse arrays of physical resources had a direct impact on the strategies that participants employed in a subsequent, and ostensibly unrelated, cognitive search task that involved foraging through the abstract "mental space" of verbal memory to search for words that could be created from scrambled sets of letters. Hills found, as predicted, that individuals who experienced clumpy resource distributions in the first task (in an external physical environment) behaved as if resources in the second task (in an internal mental space) are more densely clumped in the word search task. These findings were consistent with the notion that goal-directed cognition in humans might be an evolutionary legacy of more ancient adaptations for foraging that are well conserved across the taxa. A more detailed description of Thomas Hill's work can be found on his website: <http://mypage.iu.edu/~thills/thomashills.html>.

The Postdoctoral competition committee consisted of X.T. Wang (Chair), David Sloan Wilson, Norm Li, Josh Duntley, April Bleske, and Gary Brase. Dr. Hills was selected as the ultimate winner from a set of four finalist that included Benedict Jones, Anthony Little, Timothy Wisniewski, and Dr. Hills.

HBES Conference 2007 Competition Winners



POSTER COMPETITION

Brian Bergstrom & Pascal Boyer

The winners of the HBES 2007 Poster competition were Brian Bergstrom and Pascal Boyer who presented a poster titled "Foraging Memory: Landscape cues activate memories of foraging episodes." Brian Bergstrom is a PhD student in the Behavior, Brain, & Cognition division of the psychology program at Washington University-St. Louis.

Pascal Boyer is the Henry Luce Professor of Individual and Collective Memory at Washington University in St. Louis. He teaches in the Psychology and Anthropology departments and is director of the Memory and Development Laboratory in the Psychology Department. Bergstrom and Boyer's poster examined whether humans' ancestral foraging heritage might have produced psychological capacities designed to facilitate successful foraging. To test this idea they examined the association between landscapes and foraging in four studies of free recall. They hypothesized that modern humans would be able to retain relevant associations between various landscapes on the one hand, and their value in terms of food and resources, on the other hand. Consistent with these expectations, Bergstrom and Boyer observed that participants were able to retain foraging-related associations better than other types of associations (e.g. between landscapes and nonforaging events) across the four studies. A more detailed description of the work of Brian Bergstrom and Pascal Boyer can be found on their websites: <http://artsci.wustl.edu/%7Ebdbergst/Home/index.html> and <http://artsci.wustl.edu/~pboyer/PBoyerHomeSite/index.html>.

The HBES Poster competition committee consisted of Clark Barrett (Chair), Greg Bryant, Peter Todd, Pat Barclay, Jim Roney, and Frank Marlowe. Bergstrom and Boyer's poster was selected as the ultimate winner from over 140 posters presented at HBES 2007.

HBES 2007 Conference Photos



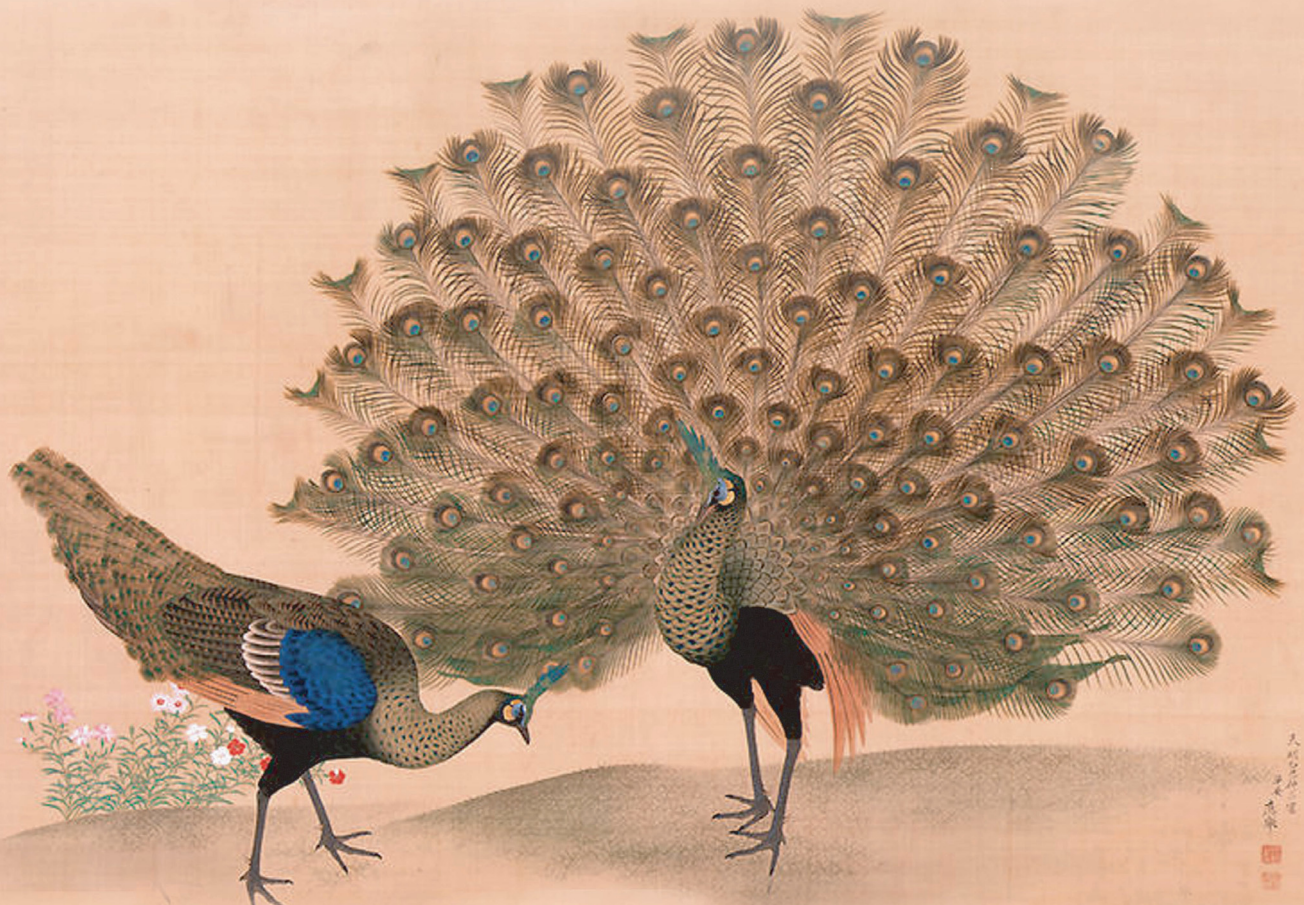
HBES 2008 KYOTO JAPAN

4-8, June, 2008
Kyoto University
The Clock Tower Centennial Hall

Announcing The 20th Annual Meeting of the Human Behavior and Evolution Society. The hosts of the upcoming conference are Toshikazu Hasegawa and Mariko Hiraiwa-Hasegawa.

For more information regarding registration, travel, abstract submission, and the new procedure for the HBES competitions, please visit the conference website: <http://beep.c.u-tokyo.ac.jp/~hbes2008/index.htm>

The hosts have also developed a forum to exchange information regarding the conference: <http://hbes2008.forumotion.com/index.htm>



Announcements

Members in the News

Michael Bailey

Criticism of a Gender Theory, and a Scientist Under Siege

NY Times (August 21st, 2007): <http://www.nytimes.com/2007/08/21/health/psychology/21gender.html?8dpc>

Greg Bryant and Clark Barrett

Baby Talk Crosses Cultural Line

NYTimes (August 28th, 2007): <http://www.nytimes.com/2007/08/28/health/28talk.html?ex=1188964800&en=0231622ee4c21c78&ei=5070&emc=eta1>

Steve Gaulin and Dave Puts

Why Do Men Have Deeper Voices than Women?

NPR (October 27th, 2007): <http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=6632829>

Glenn Geher, Geoffrey Miller, Martie Haselton, and David Buss

Love's Loopy Logic

Psychology Today (January/February, 2007): <http://psychologytoday.com/articles/pto-20061221-000001.xml>

Martie Haselton

Near Ovulation, Women Dress to Impress

Best Dressed Women Have Babies On Their Mind

New Scientist (January 12th, 2007): <http://www.newscientist.com/channel/sex/love/mg19325864.000-best-dressed-women-have-babies-on-their-mind.html>

Error Management Theory

The Love Delusion

New Scientist (March 31st, 2007): <http://www.newscientist.com/channel/being-human/mg19325971.800-the-love-delusion.html>

Why is Muscularity Sexy?

Who Needs Fancy Feathers When You've Got Muscles

LA Times (July 5th, 2007): <http://www.latimes.com/features/health/la-hew-booster5jul05,1,4846512.story?coll=la-headlines-health>

Charles Atlas was right: Brawny guys get the girls

USA Today (July 8th, 2007): http://www.usatoday.com/news/health/2007-07-08-brawny-guys_N.htm

Women Want Brawn For Now, Brains For Good?

Salon.com (July 10th, 2007), <http://www.salon.com/mwt/broadsheet/2007/07/10/brawn/index.html>

Weakness Advantage In Love

Washington Times (July 11th, 2007): <http://www.washingtontimes.com/article/20070711/NATION/107110043/1002>

Owen D. Jones

NY Times: <http://select.nytimes.com/search/restricted/article?res=F50910FE3E550C728DDDA0894DF404482>

Nancy Segal

A Singular Pain: When Death Cuts the Bond of Twins

NY Times (March 1st, 2007): <http://www.nytimes.com/2007/03/01/fashion/01twins.html?ex=1173416400&en=88169179c297b91d&ei=5070>

Lisa Zunshine

2 UK professors win fellowships: FIRST TIME TWO HAVE WON GUGGENHEIMS AT UNIVERSITY

Lexington Herald (May 5th, 2007): http://origin.miami.com/mld/kentucky/news/17182677.htm?source=rss&channel=kentucky_news

Announcements

Jobs & Collaborations

The Department of Anthropology at California State University, Fullerton, invites applications for the position of Assistant Professor of Anthropology (tenure track), with a specialty in Biocultural/Evolutionary Anthropology, beginning in Fall 2008. The department is seeking to fill a tenure-track position in biocultural/evolutionary anthropology with specialties that complement the interests and strengths of current faculty members (see <http://anthro.fullerton.edu>). The Department especially encourages applicants who bring ethnically diverse perspectives to their understanding of the field. Please send your application, describing research and area interests along with (1) evidence of research in biocultural/evolutionary anthropology, (2) evidence of specialization in areas such as: nutrition, aging, growth and development, the evolution of behavior and culture, and the biology of sex, gender, and reproduction (3) a copy of the most recent curriculum vitae, (4) copies of official graduate transcripts, (5) evidence of excellence in teaching (such as sample syllabi and teaching evaluations), (6) copies of publications (such as articles, reports, and reviews), and (7) a list of three references with contact information to Dr. John W. Bedell, Chair, Search Committee for Biocultural/Evolutionary Anthropology, Department of Anthropology, California State University Fullerton, Fullerton, CA 92834-6848. Review of applications will begin October 1, 2007, and will continue until December 17, 2007. Positions open until filled.

The University of Evansville announces an opening for a tenure-track Assistant Professor of Psychology beginning August 2008. Highest priority is a candidate with a Ph.D. in Social Psychology. However, consideration will be given to Ph.D.s in other areas of psychology. All candidates should be prepared to teach introductory psychology, statistics, research methods, social psychology, and other undergraduate courses within the area of expertise. The University places greatest value on teaching performance; in addition, there is significant focus on undergraduate research within the Psychology Department. Review of applications begins immediately and will continue until the position is filled. Candidates should provide a letter of teaching and research interests, curriculum vitae, three letters of reference, and representative publications to John Lakey, Search Committee Chair, Department of Psychology, University of Evansville, 1800 Lincoln Avenue, Evansville, IN 47722, 812-488-2520. The University of Evansville is an equal opportunity affirmative action employer strongly committed to educational excellence through diversity.

The Department of Psychology at the University of Miami (<http://www.psy.miami.edu>) is searching for a new faculty member for its Adult Division. We seek a psychologist with interests in social or personality psychology who is attempting to bridge social and biological approaches to behavior in a deliberate and programmatic way. Evolutionary Psychology is a prime example of the sort of theoretical focus that interests us. The hire may be made at the assistant, associate, or full professor level, with or without tenure. The appointment would likely begin in Fall, 2008. For a more extensive description of the position, please visit http://www.psy.miami.edu/departments/job_opportunities.html#adult! . Please also feel free to contact Mike McCullough directly with additional questions (mikem@miami.edu).

Job postings at CSU Fullerton

<http://hss.fullerton.edu/psychology/facRecruit.asp#developmental>
<http://hss.fullerton.edu/psychology/facRecruit.asp#behavioral>

Announcements

Jobs & Collaborations

The University of North Texas has 3 positions starting August, 2008. Reviews will begin November 1 and continue until the positions are filled. We have 3 APA accredited programs (Clinical, Counseling, Health Psychology/Behavioral Medicine) and Applied Experimental. With a new administration, UNT and the department are changing in exciting ways. Interest in minority issues or any aspect of multicultural psychology is a plus for all positions. NON-TENURABLE: 1) A PhD in social, developmental, community, applied experimental, clinical, counseling is wanted for a continuing, nontenure track research and community relations position with faculty privileges. The responsibilities provide an excellent experience for a post doc. The person will facilitate research (e.g., develop, implement, and manage systematic data collection; supervise and coordinate research activities) and conduct community outreach for our clinic, one of the largest in the nation. A productive research program to build a record of grants and publications is necessary. Requirements include multicultural competence, knowledge of community based research, interest in community service and interpersonal skills. TENURE TRACK POSITIONS: Preference for these positions will be given to applicants with a coherent, applied (broadly defined) program of research. Candidates must demonstrate the potential to attract external funding. Area of specialization for the tenure track positions is open with the ability to fit well with one or more of our doctoral programs and to complement department strengths desired. 2) Assistant professor to teach required and elective (e.g., latent curve analysis, HLM, SEM) graduate courses in quantitative methods with a substantive program of research that complements department strengths. 3) Assistant professor to teach graduate and undergraduate biopsychology courses with a substantive program of research in applied human biopsychology, broadly defined. Applications, including a cover letter, research and teaching statements, CV, (p)reprints and 3 letters of recommendation, should be sent to: Search Coordinator, UNT, Department of Psychology, P.O. Box 311280, Denton, TX 76203-1280.

The Department of Experimental Psychology is seeking to make an appointment at the Lecturer level (equivalent to Assistant Professor in the USA) in the area of Social Psychology. We are a highly research active Department (highest possible rating of 5*A in the 2001 Research Assessment Exercise). We seek scholars with a strong research programme and a commitment to excellent teaching who will intersect with and add to our current strengths in social psychology. The specific area of social psychological research is open, but we are particularly interested in individuals who can strengthen the social group by contributing new domains of expertise (e.g. person perception, personality and individual differences, group processes, evolutionary approaches to social behaviour) and who have an interest in collaborating with other members of the social group and the department more generally. The closing date for application is 9am 3rd December, 2007. Interviews will be held on 18th January 2008. For further information relating to the post, informal enquiries may be made to: Dr. Angela Rowe (A.C.Rowe@bristol.ac.uk), Dr. Ian Penton-Voak (I.S.Penton-Voak@bristol.ac.uk) or the Head of Department, Prof. Iain Gilchrist (I.D.Gilchrist@bristol.ac.uk)

Job Listings:

Academic Keys for Social Science: http://socialsciences.academickeys.com/seeker_job.php

HBES: http://www.hbes.com/jobs___collaboration.htm

APA: <http://www.apa.org/jobs/>

PsycCareers (APA): <http://jobs.psyccareers.com/search/>

APS: <http://www.psychologicalscience.org/jobs/>

Nature: <http://www.nature.com/naturejobs/index.html>

Science: <http://sciencecareers.sciencemag.org/>

AAA: <http://www.aaanet.org/careers.htm>

Chronicle of Higher Education: http://chronicle.com/jobs/faculty_resources.htm

Announcements

Additional Announcements

APA announcement

Division 1 (General Psychology, President: Dr. Thomas J. Bouchard, Jr.) of the American Psychological Association will be emphasizing evolutionary psychological research in its 2008 program. This is a wonderful opportunity for researchers to showcase their findings. Individuals interested in submitting paper or posters, suggesting symposia or suggesting keynote speakers should contact the program Co-Chairs Dr. Nancy Segal (nsegal@fullerton.edu, 714-278-2142) or Dr. Jason Young (jason.young@earthlink.net, (212) 772-5566) by December 3, 2007. The APA will be meeting in Boston, MA, August 14-17, 2008.

Ethnographic Database Project

The Ethnographic Database Project (EDP) is a web-based interface for the standardisation of comparative ethnographic data. The EDP enables anthropologists to enter information about their field research using a set of standard codes developed for cross-cultural application; the codes relate to a society's organization, kinship and marriage practices, subsistence economy, and pattern of sexual division of labor. The EDP is in the form of a web-based questionnaire, which can be accessed from any computer connected to the internet. The EDP aims to complement widely-used comparative ethnographic datasets such as the Ethnographic Atlas and the Standard Cross-Cultural Sample by: (i) obtaining data directly from anthropologists who conducted field research in the societies of interest, (ii) using standard codes developed for cross-cultural application for all societies, (iii) expanding the range of societies for which coded ethnographic data are available. The first stage of the EDP includes societies speaking Indo-European languages, which are underrepresented in the existing ethnographic databases. We welcome contributions from researchers who have conducted fieldwork in societies speaking these languages. Visit the EDP website at <http://www.ucl.ac.uk/~ucsalf/EDP> to read more about this project, to view a sample version of the EDP, and to find out how to contribute. Please forward this link to anyone who may be interested in this project!

START AN EVOLUTIONARY STUDIES (EVOS) PROGRAM AT YOUR INSTITUTION

David Sloan Wilson (Binghamton University) and Glenn Geher (SUNY New Paltz)

As some members of HBES are aware, DSW and his colleagues at Binghamton University initiated a campus-wide evolutionary studies program called EvoS in 2002 (<http://evolution.binghamton.edu/evos/>). This program was recently replicated by GG and his colleagues at SUNY New Paltz (<http://www.newpaltz.edu/evos/>). Both programs allow students to take multiple evolution-related courses in parallel with any major, helping them to achieve both depth (increasing professional competence within their major) and breadth (applying a single explanatory framework across a diversity of subject areas). The programs also provides a way for faculty interested in evolution to interact across departments.

Numerous colleagues at other institutions have expressed an interest in starting EvoS programs on their campuses. To help facilitate this process, we have created "Start your own EvoS program" links on our respective websites (See: <http://evolution.binghamton.edu/evos/Startyourown.html> and <http://www.newpaltz.edu/evos/startown.html>).

Both of our programs were created with intramural funding provided by our administrations. We are in the process of seeking external funding to create a national and international consortium of EvoS programs. Please review the material on our websites and contact us if you are interested in becoming involved (dwilson@binghamton.edu or geherg@newpaltz.edu).

Special Features

DOES EVOLUTIONARY TRAINING MAKE STUDENTS SMARTER?

David Sloan Wilson (Binghamton University)

A new graduate student in my department recently told me that “after I took my first evolution class in college, everything fell into place and I started to get all A’s.” I hear similar stories surprisingly often, leading me to suspect that evolutionary training can increase academic performance in some general sense, not just with respect to specific knowledge. If this is true, then it is something that we should document and publicize. Think of the headline in the Chronicle of Higher Education: “A New Reason to Accept Evolution--It Makes You Smarter!”

Why should evolutionary training make students smarter? The phrase “everything fell into place” provides a hint. Evolutionary theory provides a framework for understanding a diversity of phenomena in terms of a much smaller number of basic principles. Seeing many things as part of one big picture makes them easier to learn, remember, and work with creatively than if they seem disconnected from each other.

I am starting to test this hypothesis with my own students, with the help of an administrator who works on program assessment. We are giving a survey that measures different learning orientations to a number of introductory classes, including my “evolution for everyone” class, at the beginning and end of the semester. We are also beginning to track the academic performance of students who enroll in our multi-course EvoS program compared to other students with matched backgrounds. I am writing this note in part to enlist the interest of colleagues at other universities and colleges who teach evolution, especially in relation to human affairs, and who might have the means to conduct a similar assessment. If the phenomenon proves to be true and robust across institutions, then this will indeed be a result worth reporting. Please contact me (dwilson@binghamton.edu) if you have similar observations at the anecdotal level and especially if you wish to rigorously test the hypothesis.

More HBES Conference Photos



European Human Behaviour & Evolution Conference

2007 Conference Summary

by Sima Sandhu

The European Human Behaviour and Evolution (EHBE) Conferences were begun in 2006 by Tom Dickins (University of East London), in order to provide a much needed interdisciplinary European forum for discussing evolutionary research applied to the behavioural sciences, broadly interpreted. After the success of the first conference, held at the London School of Economics, the 2007 conference was designed to attract a much larger and more diverse audience and succeeded in drawing 130 delegates from 15 different countries, including the United States and New Zealand, as well as 13 European countries. This was a testament to the need for a European meeting of evolutionary behavioural scientists to exchange ideas and form collaborations. The 2007 conference was held again at the London School of Economics, organised by Rebecca Sear (London School of Economics), Tom Dickins and David Lawson (University College London), and was supported by the generosity of the Galton Institute and the British Academy. These conferences will continue to run annually, and next year will see the first continental EHBE conference, organised at Montpellier University in France by Michel Raymond and Charlotte Faurie. All information about EHBE conferences past, present and future can be found at the following link: <http://www.ehbes.com/>

EHBE 2007

The success of this conference was largely due to the genuinely interdisciplinary nature of the programme, ensuring that equal focus, consideration and discussion was given to the three main evolutionary perspectives in studying human behaviour; human behavioural ecology, evolutionary psychology and cultural evolution. In accordance with this, the three plenary sessions were given by three established academics working within one of these three approaches to the study of human behaviour. Many of the papers were presented by researchers working in these three fields, but other disciplines were also represented including evolutionary archaeology, sociology and medicine. This commitment to providing a multidisciplinary forum for this meeting was reflected in the diverse subject backgrounds of the attending delegates. The programme also managed to incorporate presentations and posters from researchers at different stages in their academic careers, from post-graduate students to leading academics and professors in their field. To promote communication and interaction between the

disciplines, the conference was serial, rather than parallel, and coffee breaks were long to encourage discussion.

A selection of papers from this conference will appear in a special issue of the Journal of Cultural and Evolutionary Psychology, together with an introductory article exploring the history and potential future of the application of evolutionary theory to human affairs by the conference organisers (Dickins, Lawson and Sear). Below, we provide a summary of the 31 thought-provoking papers presented at EHBE 2007. In addition to these oral presentations, 31 posters were presented.

Day 1: Human Behavioural Ecology

The first day of the conference focused on human behavioural ecology approaches to investigating various aspects of human behaviour. The plenary session was given by Ruth Mace (University College London) on the evolutionary puzzle of the demographic transition. Reflection was made on the



current paradoxical decline in fertility in countries where wealth is abundant. Consideration was given to how an evolved psychology could have shaped a consistent trend towards a reduction in family size, by applying the principles of optimisation to the study of cultural diversity in reproductive decline, and illustrated explicitly with examples from the

European Human Behaviour & Evolution Conference (cont.)

Gambia, Ethiopia and Europe. Ruth drew heavily on parental investment theory, and argued that competition was the key driver to investment in offspring: as our offspring will ultimately compete with their peers, so we do the same. Ruth concluded by discussing where this decline in fertility would ultimately end.

The morning session consisted of research papers themed around mothering and maternal influences. Beginning with the subject of “helping at the nest”, Alexander Pashos (Free University, Berlin) presented research on a US population suggesting that maternal aunts had a particular role as caregivers for children, in particular the mother’s last born or younger sister, irrespective of her emotional closeness to the mother. Moving on to the unusually long post-reproductive life of human females, Rufus Johnstone (University of Cambridge) proposed an explanation for the evolution of menopause based on the female-biased dispersal of great apes, together with non-local mating. Local relatedness increases with female age in species with female-biased dispersal and/or non-local mating, supporting the evolution of late-life helping in long-lived social mammals. Valerie Grant (University of Auckland) then changed the subject to sex ratios, by presenting evidence supporting the possible influence of mammalian maternal follicular testosterone on the consequent sex of offspring (Grant 2007).



Following the plenary on fertility decline, the first of the afternoon sessions centred on life history theory and, in particular, our understanding of trade-offs in human reproductive strategies. Among the presentations was one of the first research studies to demonstrate a link between a development intervention and an increase in both birth rates and childhood malnutrition. Mhairi Gibson (University of Bristol) used demographic and anthropometric data from rural Ethiopia to explore the unintended consequences such labour saving

devices can have on nutritional status and demographic rates, as energetic trade-offs shift: in this case, energy appeared to be diverted to high birth rates (Gibson and Mace 2006). In contrast, Ilona Nenko (Jagiellonian University, Krakow) presented data in this session from rural Poland, suggesting that such energetic trade-offs may not necessarily be found in well-nourished populations. She found that women may not always pay a high cost for high reproductive effort. In her population, well-nourished women, with good nutritional status during development, could maintain a high number and weight of offspring, without showing deterioration in nutritional status during and after reproduction. The final paper in this session took a different tack at understanding reproductive behaviour by investigating the effects of perceived uncertainty. Based on longitudinal data from the US, Jeffrey Davis (California State University, Long Beach) showed that uncertainty about acquisition of resources was positively associated with fertility, while uncertainty about adult social status and quality of life for future generations were negatively associated with fertility.

The final afternoon session of the day concentrated on various aspects of group interaction and status. Steven Platek (University of Liverpool) discussed his recent findings which lend support to facial resemblance as a likely mechanism for kin recognition. The preliminary research presented indicated the impact of facial resemblance on decisions regarding sexual infidelity, and also used neuroimaging data to confirm that facial resemblance adjusts brain responses towards different groups of individuals. The benefits of applying evolutionary theory to understanding modern organisational behaviour also emerged in this session. Martin Fieder (University of Vienna) reported findings on the positive correlation between male reproductive success and status within an institutional hierarchy well known to conference delegates, that of a university (Fieder, Huber et al. 2005). There was no such positive correlation between the number of children women in this hierarchy had; if anything, women higher up the hierarchy had fewer children. This paper highlighted the significance of evolutionary predictions in the theoretical understanding of economic and administrative structures. Further analysis of hierarchies continued in this session with the discussion of the evolution of inequality by Eric Alden Smith (University of Washington), who used game theoretical and simulation models to develop an understanding of the processes by which socioeconomic inequality has come to emerge in egalitarian societies (Smith and Choi 2007). Plausible scenarios were presented showing how relatively small asymmetries can lead to larger inequality based on resource control and knowledge.

European Human Behaviour & Evolution Conference (cont.)

Day 2: Evolutionary Psychology

The second day of the conference was devoted to evolutionary psychology. The plenary was given by Daniel Nettle (University of Newcastle), who effectively validated the case for the study of individual differences in evolutionary psychology.

Heritable variation was discussed as ubiquitous, with abundant relevance to fitness in humans. Examples were given of the high heritability coefficients in intelligence, psychopathology and personality. Daniel focussed particularly on variations in handedness and empathy, with respect to their relationship with other traits and behaviours. He then suggested how these observations could generate hypotheses to explain observed variation based on trade-offs between differences in fitness costs and benefits.

The morning session centred on particular aspects of human cooperation and reciprocity. First, evidence highlighting human sensitivity to maintaining a good reputation was presented by Melissa Bateson (University of Newcastle). She used a naturalistic experiment on the significance of cues for being observed, in this case a picture of a pair of eyes, on the extent of cooperation (Bateson, Nettle et al. 2006). This research again demonstrated the applications of evolutionary theory outside the academic domain, as it has attracted considerable attention from potential users in both commercial and publicly funded bodies (e.g. manufacturers who use honesty boxes to sell their products; police keen to use such methods to cut crime). Masanori Takezawa (Tilburg University) changed the focus from empirical research to theoretical work, by presenting a mathematical model that attempted to challenge the Boyd and Richardson (1988) suggestion that reciprocity could not have evolved in sizeable groups. Tamás Bereczkei (University of Pécs) ended the session with evidence from Hungary which supports the hypothesis that generous actions are a form of costly signalling of trustworthiness in modern industrial societies.

The relationship between physical and behavioural displays of attractiveness and preference was the emphasis of the middle session of the day. This session showcased new methods in studying physical attractiveness, beyond the static composite images which are usually used in attractiveness studies. With advances in motion-capture software, bodily and facial movements can now also be studied for associations with behavioural and psychological traits. Will Brown (Brunel University) presented a study in rural Jamaica which involved participants evaluating athletic ability, dance ability and attractiveness from facial photographs, including themselves,

to provide a measure of self-deception (see Brown, Cronk et al. 2005 for a similar study on dance and asymmetry). The results indicated that male fluctuating asymmetry has a positive association with inflated self-perception, and were used to discuss the hypothesis that self-deception plays a role in deceit. Female bodily attractiveness was then addressed by Boguslaw Pawlowski (University of Wroclaw), who is interested in condition-dependent mate preferences. Using Polish data, he showed that a woman's phenotype does indeed influence her preferences for particular characteristics in sexual partners. Ed Morrison (University of Bristol) continued the theme of movement and attractiveness, this time focussing on facial movement. He extended the ecological validity of attractiveness research by examining mobile, rather than static, faces. He found evidence that facial movements distinguish male from female faces, and also evidence for a positive association between feminine motions and attractiveness (Morrison, Gralewski et al. 2007).

The late afternoon session included papers addressing a diverse array of psychological phenomena from an evolutionary perspective. Randy Nesse (University of Michigan) promoted an evolutionary explanation for understanding mood disorders. His argument revolved around the gaps between available resources and aspirations, and has the ultimate intention of developing knowledge of motivational structures (Nesse 2006). Mark Sergeant (Nottingham Trent University) applied an evolutionary approach to understanding the effects of sexual orientation on social dominance and forms of aggression. Finally, Anna Rotkirch (Family Federation of Finland) presented an exploratory investigation of the phenomenon of "baby fever" in Finland, suggesting it may be an evolved mechanism to test and persuade male partners to commit.

The day ended with a rousing keynote speech from Robin Dunbar (University of Liverpool) on the social brain and multilevel societies, reflecting the substantial body of work on this subject produced throughout his career. Starting with a whistle-stop account of brain size in relation to mean group size among different species, focusing particularly on monogamous species and primates, network and grouping data were used to understand the hierarchical structure present in human groupings. Robin then discussed the social brain hypothesis, presenting evidence that primates form behaviourally different social bonds, involving two distant components. The first of these was described as an emotionally intense component, mediated, for example, by the release of endorphins during grooming. The second was described as

European Human Behaviour & Evolution Conference (cont.)

a cognitive component, creating a psycho-pharmacological environment for building trust. By extending bonding to non-reproductive relationships a hierarchically embedded group structure is created, though this produces a potential 'free-rider problem', particularly in dispersed social systems. Social time in humans (i.e. the equivalent interaction to grooming and contact time) involves conversations, but language does not produce endorphins in the same way that grooming does. In our species, laughter, music, dance and religion instead provide the same experience as grooming. During interactions which involve singing, dancing and laughter, endorphins are



released, triggering oxytocins to create a sense of "euphoric love". Then Robin moved on to theory of mind, and here raised the significance of fifth order intentionality, which he suggested might be necessary for religion. He concluded with a discussion of how inequality in groups could solve individual fitness problems. This wide-ranging keynote demonstrated neatly how the disparate strands of the evolutionary analysis of behaviour (e.g. evolutionary psychology, primatology, endocrinology) can be brought together to shed light on a particular problem in the field.

Day 3: Cultural Evolution

The final day of the conference brought cultural evolution to the forum: the investigation of human cultural development and transition using processes parallel to those underlying biological evolution. The plenary was given by Kevin Laland (University of St Andrews), exploring gene-culture interactions. The discussion was based on recent statistical analyses of genetic data, revealing numerous human genes showing signals of strong and recent selection, for example in response to malaria and dairy farming. The assertion was made that

humans have undergone strong recent selection for many different phenotypes. Based largely on the observation that most of these selective events were likely to have occurred in the last 10,000-40,000 years, Kevin suggested that gene-culture interactions, directly or indirectly, shaped our genomic architecture. He then addressed various applications of gene-culture models. In particular, he focussed on handedness, a behavioural trait which was addressed in the previous plenary from an evolutionary psychological perspective. This model attempted to account for the lower frequencies of left handedness in certain societies, where it is associated with negative qualities, such as clumsiness, evil or dirtiness. The model of handedness incorporated both genetic and cultural processes, based on assumptions that handedness has two phenotypic states; that the probability of becoming either left or right handed is influenced by alleles for dexterity and chance at a single locus; and that culturally transmitted biases also affect handedness. Models for sexual selection with culturally transmitted preferences and cultural niche construction were also presented to exemplify gene-culture co-evolution.

The first session of papers of the day epitomized methods for studying the transmission of culture. Laura Fortunato (University College London) presented the first of these papers, on "Galton's problem". This problem has been addressed by evolutionary researchers by applying phylogenetic comparative methods to cross-cultural data, to control for historical relatedness. However, Laura discussed the limitations of this approach, and proposed the solution of a web-based interface for collation of cross-cultural databases that could then be analysed using phylogenetic methods (see the Ethnographic Database Project: <http://www.ucl.ac.uk/~ucsalf/EDP/Welcome.html>). Fiona Jordan (University College London) then presented an empirical analysis that used a Bayesian phylogenetic approach, to support the hypothesis that changes in post-marital residence systems would result in changes to descent, using a sample of 67 Austronesian societies in the Pacific. Her analysis suggested that changes in descent practices lag behind changes in residence patterns over a thousand year time period. The final paper in this session, by Ben Jones (University of Aberdeen), proposed social transmission of mate preference helps perpetuate sexual selection of male traits. Observing positive attention from other women increased female preference for a male face, but decreased male preference for that man. These findings suggest that social transmission of mate preferences may influence judgements of facial attractiveness (Jones, DeBruine et al. 2007).

European Human Behaviour & Evolution Conference (cont.)

Conformity bias and the extent of conformist transmission in cultural traits was the theme running through the first of the afternoon sessions. Jamie Tehrani (University of Durham) began the session with a paper on the co-evolution of craft traditions and ethno-linguistic groups in rural Iran, using a cladistic analysis of 150 craft traits to explore the processes that generate cultural variation among populations. This approach concluded that patterns of cultural diversity may arise by branching processes of descent, but their relationship to ethno-linguistic differences are a reflection of more complex processes of inheritance, not just population history. Peter Schauer (University College London) then moved on to evolutionary archaeology and presented research on drift and selection in the evolution of Greek pottery motifs. A neutral model approach was applied to over 3,000 painted cups from 600 to 300 BC. The findings suggested that drift (rather than selection) could explain the distribution of motifs in early and late periods, with a strong conformity bias in the middle period. This supports conformist transmission in selection in the middle period, and a trade-off between risk and invention during the periods where drift predominated. In the final presentation, however, Kimmo Eriksson (Mälardalen University, Sweden) cast doubt on the existence of a generalised conformity bias. He discussed the adaptive value of conformity bias in cumulative culture by reviewing mathematical models of frequency dependent transmission. His synthesis suggests that conformist bias is adaptive when cultural traits are already common, but otherwise other adaptive processes are needed to explain how the dominant culture came about.

The final session of the conference brought together three quite diverse papers. Michel Raymond (Montpellier University) presented a stimulation model which incorporated cultural factors to explain the evolution of male homosexuality. His model suggested that where male primogeniture and female hypergyny are common, the cost of the two known biological determinants of homosexuality are probably reduced, therefore supporting their evolution. Jeroen Smaers (University of Cambridge) then presented a paper which provided support for the social brain hypothesis in a study of comparative socioecology of primate brain component evolution. Findings supported an association between overall relative brain size and different periods of developmental timing, a different locomotion pattern and different behavioural traits. Andy Wells (London School of Economics) ended the session and the conference with a stimulating presentation exploring the interactions between evolved capacities in humans and the cultural resources developed since the invention of writing.

In this particular treatise of the new framework of ecological functionalism, he discussed the successes and failures of human cultural development as being underpinned by an interplay between Darwinian and formal types of rationality (see also Wells 2006).

The programme of the 2007 conference, including full paper and poster titles, can be found on the EHBE conferences website <http://www.ehbes.com/>.

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North Eastern Evolutionary Psychology Society

Thoughts on the Formation of the NorthEastern Evolutionary Psychology Society (NEEPS)

by Glenn Geher

In June of 2006, I attended my first-ever meeting of HBES in Philadelphia (along with three of my students). As is true of so many behavioral scientists who are passionate about the evolutionary perspective, I was hooked immediately. At HBES, the hostility toward evolutionary psychology that I'd experienced so vividly at my home institution only weeks before seemed a vague and irrelevant memory.

While disagreement borne of healthy scientific skepticism permeates conversations at HBES, you don't hear people defensively arguing against mischaracterized and vilified portraits of the evolutionary approach. As Susan Hughes put it to me once, "everyone at HBES gets it."

At HBES 2006, it struck me that so many of the great evolutionary psychologists I was meeting were in my neck of the woods. They're at other SUNY institutions such as Albany, Binghamton, and Oswego. They're in Maine, Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, and Vermont. Even New Jersey! Clearly, I thought, we have enough of a critical mass to launch a regional, Northeastern society for evolutionary psychologists.

Further, it was apparent that the benefits of a regional evolutionary psychology society would be many. Such a society would afford scholars and students the opportunity to interact in a relatively informal and intimate setting. Opportunities to develop collaborations would emerge. Our ability to foster and strengthen our field would be honed. Perhaps most importantly, we'd be able to interact with others who "get it."

I'm hopeful that this article will encourage folks from other locations to seriously consider starting additional regional evolutionary psychology societies. As a model, here's how NEEPS was formed:

Step 1: Building the Foundation

I started by speaking with several of my students who are interested in evolutionary psychology—they were with me. I then emailed HBES president David Buss to get his thoughts and he responded with enthusiastic support. Other evolutionary psychologists in my neck of the woods – including Becky Burch, Maryanne Fisher, and Rob Kurzban – were also thumbs up. David Sloan Wilson was quite willing to serve as our initial keynote speaker—a major step. When I asked Gordon Gallup to help me launch this initiative, he was immediately on board. I knew this was one of my better ideas—and I knew this project was going somewhere.

Step 2: Organizing the Conference

At this point, my students (Mike Camargo, Michelle Coombs, and Heather Mangione) and I started sending out emails to potentially interested individuals – predominantly in Northeastern states and nearby Canadian provinces. Within a month, more than 70 people from more than 20 different schools expressed interest in attending our inaugural conference.

During this stage, I received a serendipitous series of emails from two up-and-coming evolutionary psychologists, Rosemarie Sokol and Sarah Strout. They contacted me to see if I'd be interested in joining the editorial board of a new journal they were launching: the Journal of Social, Evolutionary, and Cultural Psychology. I looked into it and was immediately impressed by the quality of their work in launching this journal and by the strength of the editorial board. Further, as luck would have it, they were both stationed in the Northeast. In no time, they were on the NEEPS team.

In fact, given how dedicated people are to evolutionary psychology, it was actually quite easy to put together a team of sharp minds to serve on the programming committee. In no time at all, we had a committee of 18. People totally stood up to the plate when it came to sending out the call for papers, reviewing proposals, and creating the program book. The conference was set for mid-April and things were on-target.

Step 3: NEEPS Comes to Life



Glenn Geher introducing NEEPS
(photo courtesy of Gordon Bear)

North Eastern Evolutionary Psychology Society (continued)

By the morning of April 13, all the numbers provided reason for optimism. 85 people had registered for the conference. They represented more than 30 institutions. They traveled from near and far – representing the states in the Northeast as well as more distant places such as Halifax, Michigan, and London. Kaja Perina and Nando Pelusi of Psychology Today were also in attendance.

After introductions by myself and SUNY New Paltz President Steven Poskanzer, we started with the keynote address by David Sloan Wilson on the evolution of religion. This presentation was free and open to the public – and at least 250 people were in attendance. If any evolutionary psychologist can speak to a multi-faceted audience in a compelling and non-threatening way, it's David!



David Sloan Wilson right before keynote address at NEEPS
(photo courtesy of Krystle Hearn)

Across two days, we had more than 20 oral presentations and 20 posters focusing on such topics as the evolution of superstitious behavior, competitive altruism, the relationship between dental symmetry and fitness, bullying as an adaptation, life-history strategies, mating strategies, operationalizing mating success, etc.



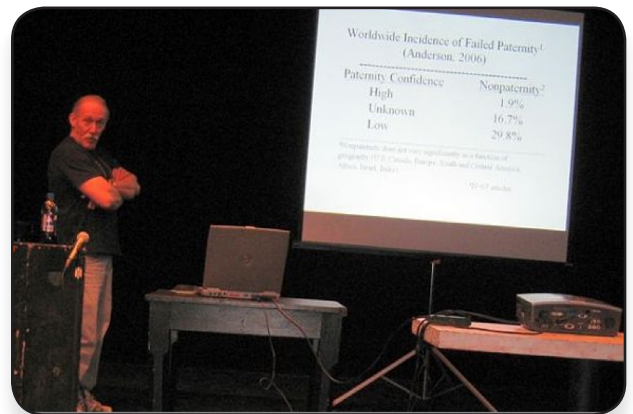
(photo courtesy of Jay Landolfi)

Additionally, Dan Kruger led an informal panel discussion on Friday evening focusing on entering the world of academia as an evolutionary psychologist. Other panelists included Becky Burch, Rob Deaner, and Maryanne Fisher.



Panel Discussion Regarding Evolutionary Psychology in Academia
(photo courtesy of Jay Landolfi)

The final presentation was a plenary address by the one-and-only Gordon Gallup. If you haven't heard Gordon's presentation on the evolution of human penis morphology and corresponding behavioral adaptations, you're missing out! While some of the slides (and videos ...) were a bit graphic, the compelling and coherent nature of his presentation were unparalleled – what a way to end our inaugural conference!



Gordon Gallup's plenary address at NEEPS
(photo courtesy of Jay Landolfi)

Step 4: An Eye toward the Future

So what of the future of NEEPS? And, more generally, what of the future of regional evolutionary psychology societies? To speak to these questions, I draw your attention to the business meeting that took place Saturday morning at 9. In my mind, attendance at this meeting, more than any other marker, would speak to the future of NEEPS. As it turned out, in spite of the

NEEPS (cont.)

fact that we were pretty much all out at the pub until 1 a.m., more than 20 people showed up. This was a great sign!

At this meeting, we laid much of the groundwork for the future of NEEPS. Officers for the first 3 years were determined. Jon Springer agreed to draft by-laws of the society. Sarah Strout and Julian Keenan volunteered to host NEEPS at their institutions through 2009. Further, we discussed the possibility of having the fledgling Journal of Social, Evolutionary, and Cultural Psychology serve as the official journal of NEEPS. We unanimously endorsed this resolution – a fact that should surely help each of these initiatives as they, in turn, foster the future of evolutionary psychology.

Evolutionary psychology needs people to rally behind it. In modern intellectual circles, the only thing that seems to be growing as quickly as Evolutionary Psychology is the resistance to it. In a particularly telling passage Richard Dawkins (2005) recently wrote, “Evolutionary psychology (is) ... subject to a level of implacable hostility which seems far out of proportion to anything even sober reason or common politeness might sanction” (p. 975).

With the simple truth of “Think Globally, Act Locally” in mind, the creation of NEEPS is designed to be an important step toward helping our field reach its potential in enabling us to understand human nature. Further, perhaps the existence of NEEPS can open the door to other regional societies. Think “SEEPS” (SouthEastern Evolutionary Psychology Society), “WEPS” (Western Evolutionary Psychology Society), “MEPS” (Midwestern Evolutionary Psychology Society), etc.

If anyone’s interested in starting a similar grassroots effort, don’t hesitate to contact me (geherg@newpaltz.edu). To find out about attending NEEPS 2008 (April 25-27 at Southern New Hampshire University), contact Sarah Strout, conference organizer, at s.strout@snhu.edu. Our keynote speaker will be Steven Pinker.

Reference

Dawkins, R. (2005). Afterword. In D.M. Buss (Ed.), *The handbook of evolutionary psychology*. New York: Wiley.

More HBES 2007 Conference Photos



Letters From the Editors

Letter from the Editors of Evolution & Human Behavior

Counting the years that it was published under the title *Ethology & Sociobiology*, edited by Michael McGuire, *Evolution & Human Behavior* is presently in its 28th year of publication. Brought to prominence over the past ten years under the visionary editorship of Martin Daly and Margo Wilson, the journal presently boasts an impact factor of 2.814. (The impact factor represents the mean number of citations per article during the first 2 years after its publication, a stern cut-off considering the inevitable time lags to publication for any citing papers.) Based on its impact factor, the Journal is presently ranked in three fields and enjoys high standing in each: 1 of 27 in Biomedical Social Sciences, 4 of 14 in Biological Psychology, and 15 of 42 in Behavioral Sciences.

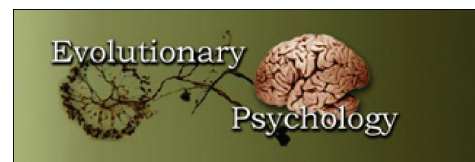
EHB's submission rate has been roughly stable at approximately 150 new manuscripts per year for the past 5 years. Acceptance rates have been hovering around 28% and the large majority of accepted manuscripts go through at least one revision. Looking at the distribution of submissions over the past 5 years, about 45% of manuscripts had first authors who were psychologists. Anthropologists and biologists each comprised about 12% of first authors, with the remaining manuscripts scattered across a wide array of disciplines. From the perspective of accepted manuscripts the landscape is a bit different. For more than 10 years anthropologists have enjoyed the highest acceptance rates, with biologists generally in second place. We take this opportunity to emphasize that the editors of EHB welcome high quality, evolutionarily motivated manuscripts from authors in all fields of science and the humanities.

Letter from the Editors of Evolutionary Psychology

Evolutionary Psychology (<http://www.epjournal.net>) invites submissions of empirical, theoretical, and review articles from the HBES community. Evolutionary Psychology is an open-access, peer-reviewed journal that aims for high impact with a minimum of bureaucracy for authors. The Journal receives more than 15 000 hits per month, and is indexed by PsycINFO and EBSCOhost. Authors can expect rapid turnaround, with most submissions receiving initial decisions with reviews in 4-6 weeks.

Evolutionary Psychology recently welcomed Daniel Kruger (djk2012@gmail.com) as Media Relations Officer, in keeping with the Journal's strategy of maximizing the visibility of published content. A recent publication by Gallup and Gallup (2007; <http://www.epjournal.net/filestore/ep0592101.pdf>) on the function of yawning generated considerable attention, being the subject of articles in both *The New York Times* and *New Scientist*.

The editorial team is headed by Todd Shackelford (tshackel@fau.edu), with Steven Platek (splatek@liv.ac.uk) and Catherine Salmon (catherine_salmon@redlands.edu) as Associate Editors, and David Barash (dpbarash@u.washington.edu) as Book Review Editor. To receive ToC notifications of forthcoming editions, please send an email to evolutionary.psychology.journal@gmail.com with the word "subscribe" in the subject line.



Letters From the Editors (continued)

Letter from the Editor of Human Nature

SpringerScience has bought Human Nature from Transaction Publications. This was unexpected and a very advantageous turn of events. It looks like Human Nature has finally found a home with a full-service publisher. SpringerScience offers all the advantages of full electronic publishing that were not available to us through previous owners, Aldine de Gruyter and Transaction Publications. These advantages include complete electronic submission and handling of the review process, article-based submission and Online First publication for authors as soon as the final version has been accepted, greatly expanded international marketing, an online version available to most libraries in the US through a library consortium agreement, and access on line to all issues of Human Nature going back to Volume 1(1990). The journal will have a major expansion in distribution to both an international readership and to libraries. The transfer of the journal began with Volume 18(2) of 2007.

Human Nature (2006) published four issues, for a total of 21 articles distributed in two general and two special issues (Human Sperm Competition edited by Todd K. Shackelford and Aaron T. Goetz and Human Fertility edited by Jeffrey Schank). Special issues forthcoming in 2007 are Evolutionary Cognitive Neuroscience edited by Stephen Platek and Human Behavioral Ecology: Public Policy and International Development edited by Bram Tucker.

SpringerScience offers a discounted subscription for 2008 to HBES members. You can phone Springer at 1-800-Springer, e-mail at service-ny@springer.com or go to the website www.springer.com to place a subscription.

Jane B. Lancaster, Editor, Human Nature
Professor of Anthropology, University of New Mexico

Journal of Social, Evolutionary, and Cultural Psychology

The Journal of Social, Evolutionary, and Cultural Psychology (JSEC) is an open-access, peer reviewed journal designed to bridge sub-disciplines of psychology and related fields of study in order to gain holistic insights into human behavior, emotion, cognition, and motivation. JSEC is the affiliate journal of the NorthEastern Evolutionary Psychology Society (NEEPS), the first regional sister organization of HBES.

Since the first issue published in January of this year, JSEC has received support and submissions from scholars with a wide variety of backgrounds, including social, evolutionary and cultural psychologists, economists, sociologists, and emotions researchers. What each of these scholars has in common is the desire to incorporate many perspectives in their explorations and explanations of human behavior.

The most recent issue of JSEC was published in September. The articles included are:

Anna Wierzbicka's original article 'Moral Sense'

Dan Rempala's & Kilian Garvey's original article Sex differences in the effects of incremental changes in WHR

Thomas Scheff's original article Catharsis and other heresies: A theory of emotion

Rhiannon West's book review Waking sleep: The struggle of science and dreaming

You may view these and articles from the first and second issue by visiting www.jsecjournal.com/Articles.htm.

Submissions may be sent to editor@jsecjournal.com, following the guidelines at www.jsecjournal.com/submissions.htm.

Letters From the Editors (continued)

Letter from the Newsletter Editor

Dear HBES Members,

I hope you enjoy this installment of the HBES newsletter. I have a few thank yous to say. First, a special thank you to Griet Vandermassen for providing a number of the photographs from the HBES conference. Second, many thanks to all the folks who attended the banquet for letting me play photographer. Third, thanks to Robert Oum & Mary DeLaveaga for their help preparing materials for this edition. And last but certainly not least, thanks to Brent for helping to bring the newsletter alive (and for taking the time to teach me Adobe InDesign).

To help make the newsletter even better, I have a few requests:

- Please send URLs of members in the news to newsletter@hbesociety.com.
- If you would like to suggest (or conduct) an interview, please submit your suggestions to the email listed above.
- Also, if you have suggestions for additional content in future newsletters (e.g., illustrations, photographs, poetry, or otherwise), please drop me a line at newsletter@hbesociety.com.
- As always, your comments and feedback are welcome!

Debra Lieberman, Editor

HBES Officers & Council Members

President-Elect: Pete Richerson

President: Steven Gangestad

Past-President: David Buss

Treasurer: Raymond Hames

Secretary/Archivist: Lee Kirkpatrick

Publications Committee Chair: Bill Irons

Student Representative: Aaron Blackwell

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Steven Pinker (2009)

Douglas Kenrick (2009)

Martie Haselton (2011)

Debra Lieberman (2011)

Larry Sugiyama (2013)

Sara Hrdy (2013)



Resources

Conferences

American Anthropological Association
November 28 - December 2, 2007, Washington, DC
<http://www.aaanet.org/mtgs/mtgs.htm>

American College of Epidemiology Annual Meeting
“The Dawn of Evolutionary Epidemiology”
September 15-16, 2008 Tucson, Arizona
<http://www.acepidemiology2.org/documents/2008MeetingFlyer.pdf>

American Psychological Association
August 14-17, 2008, Boston, MA
<http://www.apa.org/>

Animal Behavior Society
August 14-19, 2008, Snowbird, UT
<http://www.animalbehavior.org/ABSM Meetings/site-content>

Association for Psychological Science
May 22-25, 2008, Chicago, IL
<http://www.psychologicalscience.org/convention/index.cfm>

Behavior Genetics Association
June 25-28, 2008, Louisville, KY
<http://www.bga.org/pages/1/Home.html>

Cognitive Neuroscience Society
April 12-15, 2008, San Francisco, CA
<http://www.cnsmeeting.org/>

Cognitive Science Society
July 23-26, 2008, Washington, D.C.
<http://www.cognitivesciencesociety.org/cogsci.html>

European Conference on Complex Systems
<http://www.trafficforum.org/dresden>

European Human Behavior and Evolution
April 2-4, 2008, Montpellier, France
<http://www.ehbes.com/conf/2008/>

European Society for Evolutionary Biology
August 20-25, 2009, Torino, Italy
<http://www.eseb.org/>

The Evolutionary Epic: Science's Story & Humanity's Response
January 3-8, 2008, Waianae, Oahu, Hawaii
<http://www.evolutionaryepic.org/EE%20Home.htm>

Human Behavior & Evolution Society
June 4-8, 2008, Kyoto, Japan
<http://beep.c.u-tokyo.ac.jp/~hb2008/index.htm>

Human Mind – Human Kind
<http://www.psy.au.dk/humankind>

International Academy of Linguistics, Behavioral & Social Sciences
Marriott Key Bridge, Washington D.C.
November 15 - 18, 2007

International Conference on Cognitive, Psychological and Behavioral Sciences
July 4-6, 2008, Paris, France
<http://wahss.org/cpbs08/>

International Conference on Complex Systems
October 28-November 2, 2008, Quincy, MA
<http://www.necsi.org/events/iccs7/>

International Society for Human Ethology
July 15-19, 2008, Bologna
<http://www.ishe08.org/>

International Society for Intelligence Research
December 13-15, 2007 Amsterdam, The Netherlands
<http://www.isironline.org/>

NorthEastern Evolutionary Psychology Society (NEEPS)
May 2-4, 2008, Manchester, NH
<http://www.neepsociety.com>

Organization for Computational Neuroscience
July 20-24, 2008, Portland, OR
http://www.cnsorg.org/cns_meeting.htm

Primate Behavior and Human Universals
December 11 - 14, 2007, Gottingen, Germany
<http://www.soziobio.uni-goettingen.de/welcome.html>

Religion & Violence Symposium: Evolutionary & Political Perspectives
October 11-13, 2007, St. Louis, MO
<http://www.webster.edu/religion-violence/index.html>

Society for Cross-Cultural Research
Feb. 20-23, 2007, New Orleans, LA
<http://meeting.sccr.org/>

Society for Evolutionary Analysis in Law (S.E.A.L.)
October 26-27, 2007 Bloomington, IN
<http://www.sealsite.org>

Society for the Study of Evolution
June 20-24, 2008, Minneapolis, MN
<http://www.evolutionarysociety.org/meetings.asp>

Theory in Cognitive Neuroscience
November 4-7, 2007, Wildbad Kreuth, Germany
<http://www.upd.unibe.ch/research/symposien/HA14.html>

Predoctoral Fellowships/Grants

NSF: Graduate Research Fellowship Program
<https://www.fastlane.nsf.gov/grfp/>

Ford Foundation: Diversity Fellowships
<http://www7.nationalacademies.org/fellowships/>

NIH: Predoctoral Fellowship for Minority Students
<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-00-069.html>

APA: Predoctoral Fellowship in the Neurosciences
<http://www.apa.org/mfp/prprogram.html>

AAUW: American Fellowships (women)
http://www.aauw.org/fga/fellowships_grants/american.cfm

Guggenheim: <http://www.hfg.org/df/guidelines.htm>