



# **SOCIETY OF AUSTRALASIAN SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGISTS**

## **NEWSLETTER**

Newsletter Editors: Katie Greenaway & Tyler Okimoto

### **NOTES FROM THE EXECUTIVE**

#### **LETTER FROM THE SECRETARY**

Contributed by Rebecca Pinkus

Dear Colleagues,

Welcome to another edition of the SASP Newsletter. It was wonderful to see so many of you in Canberra for SASP 2014. We had another great conference this year, with high calibre research presentations. Congratulations to Outstanding Postgraduate Research Award winner Nicholas Harris and runners up Isabel Rossen and Joel Anderson, and to Early Career Research Award recipient Steve Loughnan. Please save the dates from 9-11 April 2015 for SASP 2015 in Newcastle; see Stefania Paolini's column in this issue for more details about the conference.

At the SASP AGM, we passed three important motions. First, we voted to support the new journal *Comprehensive Results in Social Psychology*. Second, we voted Craig McGarty to be SASP's Journals Officer. Please see Craig's column in this issue for more information about the new journal. Third, we voted to raise membership fees to \$100 per year for full members and \$50 per year for student members. Thank you to the members for voting on these key issues. We look forward to our Society's involvement in the new journal and to continuing the recent initiatives (e.g., Summer School, small grant scheme, Outstanding Postgraduate Research and ECR Awards) made possible by your membership fees.

SASP recently called for nominations for a new Treasurer, Secretary, and Postgraduate Representative. Stefano Occhipinti (Griffith

University) has become our new Treasurer, and Liz Jones (Griffith University) is our new Public Officer. Many thanks to them both for taking on these important roles in the Society.

Nominations are still open for Secretary and Postgraduate Representative, with the new term of office beginning after SASP 2015. Katie Greenaway and Tyler Okimoto will also be retiring as Newsletter Coordinators in 2015. We are also looking for teams interested in hosting the 2016 SASP Summer School. Please contact me for more information.

We are pleased to report that plans for the inaugural SASP/SPSSI Small Group Conference Series are moving forward. The first meeting will be taking place immediately prior to SASP 2015; we will advise of the details as they become available.

Enjoy the rest of the updates and information in this newsletter, and all the best for Spring and Summer!

Rebecca Pinkus

### **SASP SUPPORTS NEW JOURNAL**

#### **COMPREHENSIVE RESULTS IN SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY**

Contributed by Craig McGarty

Following discussions at the AGM our Society is involved in a partnership with the European Association of Social Psychology to help create a new journal to be published by Taylor and Francis.

This is the first time that SASP has been involved as a key player in a journal and it is fitting therefore that our first such involvement is to support the creation of a scientific journal that adopts an approach that is new to social psychology.

Comprehensive Results in Social Psychology (CRSP) is a preregistration journal. The idea of preregistration is that the author submits an introduction, method and plan for analysis. If this submission passes the rigorous peer review standards then CRSP guarantees to publish the results (whatever they may be) so long as the authors follow the preregistered plan.

The Chief Editors of CRSP are Kai Jonas (University of Amsterdam) and Joseph Cesario (Michigan State University). see [http://newsroom.taylorandfrancisgroup.com/new/press-release/comprehensive-results-social-psychology#.U\\_\\_gU7ySzu0](http://newsroom.taylorandfrancisgroup.com/new/press-release/comprehensive-results-social-psychology#.U__gU7ySzu0)  
The line up of associate editors will be announced soon.

The partnership will ensure the journal is available in online form to SASP members (this is useful if your library does not get the paper version) and that SASP has input into the selection of associate editors and in overseeing the direction of the journal. If the journal is a success it may even become a revenue source for SASP in future years. CRSP editors are already receiving expressions of interest for papers and the first hard copy issue will appear in 2016.

Preregistration may involve replication studies but replication is only one type of possible study. For example, teams from different theoretical camps can agree to preregister an agreed critical test of competing hypotheses. Researchers proposing expensive longitudinal studies (perhaps testing an intervention as in randomised clinical trials) can preregister their designs before they even apply for funding. The journal therefore encourages valuable and exciting forms of research while also helping to limit questionable research practices such as suppressing non-significant results and hypothesising after the results are known.

Given the diversity of approaches in the SASP membership the Editors are particularly keen to receive submissions from SASP members.

## AWARDS

### EASP KURT LEWIN MEDAL

Congratulations to Professor Jolanda Jetten who has been awarded the European Association for Social Psychology's Kurt Lewin Medal 2014. This award recognises mid-career researchers who have made outstanding contributions to European social psychology through excellence in individual scholarship and through support for the scholarship of others. Well done, Jolanda!



### EARLY CAREER RESEARCHER AWARD

Stephen Loughnan was awarded the 2014 SASP Early Career Researcher Award. The award committee chose Stephen from a strong field of candidates to receive the award because of his outstanding publication track record for his early career stage. Congratulations, Stephen!



## POSTGRADUATE RESEARCH AWARD

We are excited to announce the winner of the 2014 SASP Postgraduate Award: Nicholas Harris of the University of Newcastle! Nicholas presented his work: "Now and then: A learning approach to episodic and chronic intergroup anxiety." Nicholas' work demonstrates that chronic anxiety, past contact quality, and similarity to the outgroup combine dynamically impact intergroup anxiety. Nicholas' program of studies utilise sophisticated methodology and analysis. Nicholas delivered a presentation that was incredibly engaging, and successfully conveyed the degree to which he is a true scholar in this area of research. Congratulations, Nicholas!

We would also like to thank all applicants for the 2014 SASP Postgraduate Award as well as congratulate our two Runners-Up: Isabel Rossen (University of Western Australia) and Joel Anderson (Australian Catholic University). It was truly a great field of applicants.

Join us next year at the Postgraduate Award session during the SASP conference and see for yourself the high-quality and diverse research being carried out by the next generation of Australasian social psychologists!

## PAST CONFERENCE REPORTS

### 43<sup>rd</sup> ANNUAL SASP CONFERENCE

Contributed by Michael Platow

The 43rd Annual SASP Conference was held this year from 10 – 12 April, in Canberra, Australia. It was jointly organized by social psychologists at the Australian National University and the University of Canberra. The conference hosted 152 oral presentations and posters ranging from themes that have defined the field of social psychology (e.g., prejudice, social cognition, justice, social change) to emerging interests and topics (e.g., climate change, virtual social behaviour). There was also expansion into cross-disciplinary domains (e.g., education, health, politics) while maintaining an eye on our own history (e.g.,

Milgram at 50). We could not help but have a sense of group-based pride in our collective efforts and the contributions that all the presenters made.

The conference itself was opened with a Welcome to Country by local Ngunnawal Elder, Aunty Agnes Shea, AO. Her opening words and explanation of traditional ceremony were greatly appreciated, reflecting a sense of commitment that was echoed in a number of conference sessions.

The invited keynote address was given by Dr. Tim Soutphommasane, Race Discrimination Commissioner. Inviting Tim to give the SASP keynote address further confirmed our interest as a Society in the connections between social psychology, related fields, and the policy and practice of tackling discrimination. Tim's keynote also was perfectly timed given the debate in April 2014 on proposed changes to the Federal Racial Discrimination Act. We all heard the Attorney-General George Brandis in Parliament say that people had the right to be bigots. In this keynote address we heard why racial tolerance needs to continue to be defended through multiculturalism policy and legislation. The whole address can be accessed at <http://www.sasp.org.au/index.php/news/featured-articles-mainmenu-58/153-conference-keynote-address>.

The Presidential Address was given by Bill von Hippel, who presented an engaging (as always!) talk on capacities that enable social intelligence. In it, he argued that there are three key components of social intelligence: (i) social and emotional knowledge, (ii) personality, and (iii) the capacity to use one's knowledge and personality to achieve social goals. In doing so, he presented a series of creative and interesting laboratory experiments.

We also continued the SASP tradition of having both a Post-Graduate Workshop, and a Post-Graduate Award Session. The Workshop is described below (by organizer, Andrew Frain). The Award Session was held as a plenary session, allowing eight Australian and New Zealand post-graduate students to present their work to the whole Society. They were excellent presentations, and allow us all to rest assured that the future of the field is in good hands.

The conference dinner was held in Old Parliament House. This was accompanied by private guided tours of various chambers and offices in the building. I think all who attended had a fantastic time. On Sunday, a few SASP members continued their tours of Canberra with a boat ride across Lake Burley Griffin, and private guided tours of the Australian National Gallery.

Thanks to everyone who helped organize the conference. And, especially, thanks to all SASP members who attended, presented their work, engaged in the academic discussions, and, in general, made it a highly successful conference.

*Your organising team:*

*Michael Platow, Diana Grace, Kate Reynolds, Dirk van Rooy, Tricia Brown, Boris Bizumic, Luisa Batalha, Andrew Frain, Daniel Skorich, and Li Lim*

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### **SASP 2014 CONFERENCE POST-GRADUATE WORKSHOP**

Contributed by Andrew Frain

I, as chief organizer of the 2014 postgraduate events, can report without any conflict of interest at all that this year's postgraduate events were a highlight of SASP. At the Postgraduate Workshop, Michael Smithson's statistics min-seminar not only woke people up, but put the fear of god in anyone testing for moderated regression without looking out for heterogeneity of variance. Calm returned with the appearance of Nick Haslam, who provided some insights and pro-tips on the not-at-all lucrative practise of book writing. Finally, Léan OBrien, Tyler Okimoto, and Daniel Skorich, took students through the ups and downs of life post submission. What that did to the mood of the room is unclear, but I can report that drinks at the Postgraduate Dinner were well received. Speaking of drinks, the Elk & Pea put on a high quality spread that night and students emerged well fed and keen to sample the Canberra night life. What events followed that is the stuff or rumour, as it should be.

### **EASP SUMMER SCHOOL REPORT**

Contributed by Lydia Hayward and Helena Radke (University of Queensland) with Ryan McMullan (University of Western Sydney), Hugh Webb (Australian National University) and Hanne Watkins (Melbourne University)

We arrived in Lisbon on the 17<sup>th</sup> of August to attend the EASP Summer School. We were assigned to five different workshops including *Socially Situated Cognition, Implicit Prejudice, Social Identity and Deviance, Social Justice, and Research Theory and Methods.*

In each of our workshops we have been participating in a number of different activities such as presenting our research, engaging in intellectually stimulating discussions and developing collaborative research projects with people from around the world. We have also attended a number of keynote lectures and "hot topic" discussions about everything from new ways to think about racism to improving research practices.

In addition to all this hard work, we have participated in a number of exciting social activities such as sightseeing around Lisbon, going to the beach, and visiting Sintra. We are so grateful to SASP for giving us this wonderful opportunity to attend the EASP summer school. Our research has benefited greatly from our time in Lisbon and we have made lifelong friends and collaborators.



## UPCOMING CONFERENCES

### COME TO NEWCASTLE FOR SASP 2015!

Contributed by Stefania Paolini, Mark Rubin, & Emina Subasic (the University of Newcastle)



No, this is not a Tourism Australia ad. We still hope you will join us in Newcastle, NSW, for SASP's Annual Conference between Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> and Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> April 2015!

Why should you come to Newcastle? You probably know about Newcastle's industrial past, but perhaps you are less familiar with its fine collection of heritage buildings, the fact that Newcastle lies on one of the most beautiful stretches of surf beaches in Australia and its peaceful backdrop of the Hunter valley's beautiful vineyards. (We will do our best so that the social program samples some of the best of what there is to enjoy here).

We chose Noah's on the beach hotel in Newcastle East as the conference venue for SASP2015 because of its ocean view conference facilities, its mid-range costs, and its proximity

to public transport -- literally 5 minutes walking distance from the central train and bus stations. If this does not suit, there's plenty of choice: Those who want flashy accommodation will find a brand new Novotel 3 minutes walk away as well as a fully-equipped youth hostel for those on a budget.

It is you and all of those who decide to come and present at the conference who will make the quality of the scientific programme (watch this space for a call for abstract in a few months). However, there are already some 'cherries on the cake' that will surely make the experience extra enjoyable: John Dixon from the Open University in the UK will be our key note speaker. John is well known for his high profile research on intergroup contact and informal segregation in South Africa. With his work bridging social psychology with human geography and his quite radical positions on collective and political action, we are confident that he will bring a fresh perspective and provide a thought-provoking key note address. Plus, this year, we will have celebrations around the recipients of the John Turner life-time career award, early career award and Margaret Foddy award.

Getting to Newcastle and enjoy your time here is easy. Newcastle has a very well-resourced regional airport; and it is 1.5hrs car or train ride from Sydney along the North Coast line. As the climate is excellent, in April you will still be able to have a swim around the conference schedule and in the evening enjoy one of the liveliest atmosphere for restaurants, cafes, wine bars and evening entertainment.

In a nutshell, come to SASP 2015 in Newcastle. We look forward to welcoming you here.



## INVITATION TO SUBMIT PROPOSALS FOR A NEW SPSSI-SASP SMALL GROUP CONFERENCE SERIES

Contributed by David Livert & Stefania Paolini  
SASP and SASP Small Group Conference  
representatives

Proposals/Letters of Interest are invited by  
October 2014 for a new small group conference  
series jointly sponsored by the Society for the  
Psychological Study of Social Issues (SPSSI)  
and the Society of Australasian Social  
Psychologists (SASP).

A total of \$7,000 in support is available for each  
meeting as part of a collaboration between  
SPSSI and SASP. The purpose of the  
collaboration is to help strengthen links between  
the two organizations so that members of each  
may have opportunities to discuss research  
questions of mutual interest. This new series is  
modeled after the successful SPSSI-EASP small  
group conference series.

SPSSI and SASP wish to hold two small group  
conferences in 2015: one in the Eastern Pacific  
(anywhere in North America) and one in the  
Western Pacific (anywhere in Australia, New  
Zealand or another East Asian location) and to  
hold future meetings in alternative locations.

Those interested in submitting a proposal for the  
2015 Western Pacific meeting have the option of  
planning the small group meeting as a pre-  
conference or post-conference event around the  
SASP Annual Meeting in Newcastle, NSW,  
Australia, but this is not required.

**Deadline for 2015 Small Group Conferences'  
Proposals:  
October 1, 2014 with a November 1, 2014  
decision**

*Conference Proposal Guidelines:*

In most cases:

- This program will support one meeting a  
year.
- Conference themes will be related to  
social issues and have international  
relevance (i.e., not focused on intra-  
national issues).

- At least 80% of persons attending the  
conference will be members of one or  
both organizations
- Representation from the two societies  
will be balanced: with no more than two-  
thirds of the participants being members  
of one of the organizations.
- Each conference will have two (or more)  
organizers; at least one will be a member  
of SPSSI and one a member of SASP.  
Preferably one organizer will be located  
in Australasia and the other in North  
America.
- Conference organizers are encouraged to  
facilitate publication of material on the  
conference topic through the Journal of  
Social Issues or SPSSI's book series.

*Questions:*

This new series will parallel the already-  
established SPSSI-EASP Small Group Series.  
Please see the SPSSI website for additional  
details:

<http://www.spssi.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=page.viewPage&pageID=970&nodeID=1>.

Those interested in submitting a proposal are  
strongly encouraged to send a short email with  
an Expression of Interest to David Livert  
[livert@psu.edu](mailto:livert@psu.edu) and Stefania Paolini  
[stefania.paolini@newcastle.edu.au](mailto:stefania.paolini@newcastle.edu.au) so that we  
can answer any questions and provide assistance  
in developing your proposal.

*The SASP Member News section of the  
newsletter has been temporarily  
suspended due to paltry participation  
(and/or an inflated avoidance of being  
seen as a "tall poppy"). Be on the lookout  
for the revamped format for member news  
in future issues of the newsletter...*

- *The Editors*