

# NEWSLETTER

## Spring 2015

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## Conference report

### Budapest CEU Conference on Cognitive Development

BCCCD, the only annual conference entirely focused on cognitive development in Europe, was organized between 8-10th January in Budapest, Hungary with keynote lectures, invited and regular symposia, paper sessions and over a hundred poster presentations. Here are some photographs of the conference. The next BCCCD will be organized between 7-9 January 2016. See you in Budapest! For more details, see the conference [website](#)



# Upcoming conferences and summer schools

## **The European Conference on Psychology and the Behavioural Sciences**

6-8 July 2015

Brighton, UK

Registration deadline: 1st June

## **Off the Lip: Transdisciplinary Approaches to Cognitive Innovation**

7-11 September 2015

Plymouth University, UK

There is no conference registration fee for students!

## **22nd International Summer School in Cognitive Science**

6-19 July 2015

Sofia, Bulgaria

Application deadline: 10th June 2015

## **17th European Conference on Developmental Psychology**

8-12 September 2015

Braga, Portugal

Registration is now open!

## **International Quantitative Morphology Association**

11-15 July 2015

Belgrade, Serbia

Course materials will be made available online!

## **Joint Meeting of the European Brain and Behaviour Society & the European Behavioural Pharmacology Society**

12-15 September 2015

Verona, Italy

Early registration deadline: 30th June 2015

## **23rd Annual Meeting of the European Society for Philosophy and Psychology**

24-27 July 2015

Tartu, Estonia

Registration is now open!

## **Summer School „Emotions in Motion - Interdisciplinary Approaches to Study Emotions”**

15-17 September 2015

Innsbruck, Austria

Application deadline: 1st June

## **Ninth Triennial Conference of the European Society for the Cognitive Sciences of Music**

17-22 August 2015

Manchester, UK

Registration deadline: 17th July 2015

## **Cognitive Aspects of Computational Language Learning**

17-18 September 2015

Lisbon, Portugal

Paper submission deadline: 28th June

## **17th International Conference on Cognitive Science and Psychology**

20-21 August 2015

London, UK

Final paper submission: 20th June

## **World Psychological Forum**

17-19 September 2015

Prague, Czech Republic

Last minute abstract submission is available now!

## **Association for the Study of Animal Behaviour Summer Conference**

26-27 August 2015

Lincoln, UK

Abstract submission deadline: 26th June

Grants are available to help postgraduate students attend ASAB meetings!

## **6th IEEE Conference on Cognitive Infocommunications**

19-21 October 2015

Győr, Hungary

Abstract submission deadline: 30th June

## **The 1st International Conference on Sleep Spindling**

12-14 May 2016

Budapest, Hungary

# Introducing research institutes in East-Central Europe

## Messerli Research Institute

Vienna, Austria

The Messerli Research Institute was founded in 2010 with support from the Messerli Foundation (Sörenberg, Switzerland) under the management of the University of Veterinary Medicine, Vienna in cooperation with the Medical University of Vienna and the University of Vienna.

The research is devoted to the interaction between humans and animals, as well as its theoretical principles in animal cognition and behaviour, comparative medicine and ethics. Its work is characterized by its broad interdisciplinary approach (biology, human medicine, veterinary medicine, philosophy, psychology, law) and strong international focus. Research findings are an integral part of the academic curriculum in a new Master's program and are also designed to provide guidelines for the responsible and acceptable treatment of animals. Thus, the Messerli Research Institute sees one of the main responsibilities in providing scientific information to help people responsible in the field of human-animal interactions.

The Comparative Cognition Research Unit focuses on current questions of cognition and emotions of animals from a comparative and integrative point of view. Cognitive abilities are not unique characteristics of humans but occur in many animals. To understand the various processes, their functions in the animals' lives, their evolutionary developing and their problem-solving competence, we do not restrict ourselves to a few model systems but examine different species, among others dogs and wolves, keas, pigeons, woodpeckers and even turtles. As we consider cognition as a complex biological phenomenon, we combine different biological and psychological methods and approaches and integrate studies on different levels of complexity (genetic, neuronal, individual, social, cultural level).

-- **Lisa Wallis**, Ph.D. candidate --



## Recent publications from this research group

Müller, C., Schmitt, K., Barber, A. L. A., Huber, L. (2015). Dogs can discriminate emotional expressions of human faces. *Current Biology*, 25, 601–5.

Mazzini, F.; Townsend, S.W.; Virányi, Z.; Range, F. (2013). Wolf howling is mediated by relationship quality rather than underlying emotional stress. *Current Biology*, 23, 1677–80.

Westphal Fitch, G.; Huber, L.; Gómez, J. C.; & Fitch, T. (2012). Production and perception rules underlying visual patterns: Effects of symmetry and hierarchy. *The Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society B*, 367, 2007–22.

Auersperg, A. M. I.; von Bayern, A. M. P., Gajdon, G. K., Huber, L., & Kacelnik, A. (2011). Flexibility in problem solving and tool use of kea and New Caledonian crows in a Multi Access Box paradigm. *PLoS ONE*, 6(6), e20231.

Wilkinson, A.; Specht, H. L.; & Huber, L. (2010). Pigeons can discriminate group mates from strangers using the concept of familiarity. *Animal Behaviour*, 80, 109–15.

<http://www.vetmeduni.ac.at/en/messerli/>