

NEWSLETTER

Summer 2015

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Conference report

7th Dubrovnik Conference on Cognitive Science, Croatia

The Central European Cognitive Science Association organized its 7th Annual conference between the 21-23 May in Dubrovnik. This year's theme was *Metacognition and Reasoning*. Here is what participants say:

“DuCog 2015 was a nice small-scale conference with high profile plenary speakers and plenty of opportunities to socialize. While the line-up of plenary talks provided an overview of the state of the art of important research programs on Metacognition and Reasoning, poster sessions encompassed a broad range of interesting research beyond that background. The program density was

just right, with a good balance of talks, poster sessions, and breaks in which coffee and lunch were provided. In my opinion, the organizers' aim to make DuCog a conference that especially fosters communication between junior and senior scientists, worked out nicely. Everybody was very open and interested in the diverse research topics of all participants and the conference provided a communicative atmosphere with enough room for scientific (and non-scientific) exchange.”

Stefanie Keupp

German Primate Center, Göttingen



“I really enjoyed the seminar. The most important part was to expand and update my knowledge on meta-cognition, especially on decision making and how that is measured. I came to the conference directly from EAWOP, where some of the same themes were discussed, especially how limited peoples decision making capabilities are and how mechanical assessment methods yield much more accurate judgement/assessments. Really enjoyed your conference and beautiful Dubrovnik.”

Matti Jaakola
cut-e, Finland

Mark your calendar for next year’s the Dubrovnik Conference on Cognitive Science held between 28th April - 1st May 2016, with the theme of *Comparative Cognition, from Ethology to Cognitive Science*. We are happy to announce our keynote speakers:



Irene Pepperberg
Harvard University, USA



Josep Call
Max Planck Institute, Germany



Tecumseh Fitch
University of Vienna, Austria



Redouan Bshary
Université de Neuchâtel, Switzerland



Márta Gácsi
MTA-ELTE, Hungary



Anna Wilkinson
University of Lincoln, UK

The following DuCog conferences will include the themes of “Social mind from babies through the life course” on (25-28 May 2017) and “Conversation and theory of mind” (24-28 May 2018). Members of the Central European Cognitive Science Association can register at a reduced fee. See the <http://cecog.eu/> website for details.

Upcoming conferences and summer schools

**6th IEEE Conference on
Cognitive Infocommunications**

19-21 October 2015
Győr, Hungary

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

12-14 May 2016
Budapest, Hungary

**Donders
Discussions**

5-6 November 2015
Nijmegen, the Netherlands

**ATINER 10th Annual International Conference on
Psychology**

23-26 May 2016
Athens, Greece

**ASAB Winter meeting 2015: Animal Social
Learning and Culture**

3-4 December 2015
London, UK

**6th International Conference
on Memory**

17-22 July 2016
Budapest, Hungary

**Budapest CEU Conference on Cognitive
Development**

7-9 January 2016
Budapest, Hungary

**Biennial Meeting of the International Society for
the Study of Behavioural Development**

10-14 July 2016
Vilnius, Lithuania

Introducing research institutes in East-Central Europe

Institute of Experimental Psychology, Slovak Academy of Sciences, Bratislava, Slovakia

The Institute of Experimental Psychology at Slovak Academy of Sciences (IEP SAS) was founded in April, 1955 and it represented the first centre of basic (theoretical) psychology research in Slovakia. Until 1990 it has been determining the direction of psychological research in Slovakia: as a training centre for young research candidates, teaching, development of psychological methods and instruments, organizing scientific events, connecting domestic research with scientific activities abroad, by popularizing science, etc. IEP SAS publishes the psychological journal named *Studia Psychologica* focusing on original articles in the area of psychology of cognitive processes in personality and social context. The journal is published in English and contains 4 issues per year.

Cognitive processes and how they are embedded in personality and interaction with social surrounding have been always in the focus of research interest at IEP SAS. Since 2008 its concentrated emphasis is on psychological aspects of judgment and decision-making. At the moment, research teams at IEP SAS concentrate on studying decision-making in professionals – research group led by Associate Professor Peter Halama, PhD. Research of decision-making in professionals is performed by four general research teams focusing on financial decision-making, intuition and rationality in decision-making of experts and non-experts, naturalistic decision-making in emergency situations (paramedics, rescuers, etc.), and social influences in decision-making



(with focus on decision-making about immunization). The financial decision-making research group is led by Professor Viera Bačová, DrSc. and focuses on experience and information search patterns in complex decision making. The research group led by Vladimíra Čavojová, PhD., focuses on intuition and rationality in decision-making of experts and non-experts and the effect of situational manipulations (inducing time stress, giving instruction to think intuitively) Now, research focus is on exploring of development of intuition and rationality.

The research group focusing on naturalistic decision-making in emergency situations (paramedics, rescuers, etc.) is led by Lucia Adamovová, PhD., and examines among other topics how the need for structure and the Big Five personality traits predict decision making styles in health professionals. This team cooperates with International EMS Competition “Ralley Rejvíz” where they observed, recorded and now analyze decision-making of paramedics and rescuers in simulated interventions and tasks for EMS.

The research group studying social influences in

decision-making (with focus on decision-making about immunization), is led by Radomír Masaryk, PhD. and Mária Hatoková, PhD., concentrates on variables entering into pediatric -- parents communication (specifically, practice of pediatrician, the environment, the maternal stress and anxiety, the tendency of pediatrician to communicate only the basic side effects of vaccines, the parents' need for the individualized approach to the child vaccination). Their current research focuses on the pediatricians' decision making process and their reasons; why/how they choose information that they communicate to parents.

Eva Ballová Mikušková
Vladimíra Čavojová
researchers in IEP SAS

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News: change in the CECOG organizing committee

From this summer *Paula Fischer* (Central European University, Budapest, Hungary) acts as the managing secretary of the Central European Cognitive Science Association replacing the former secretary, Dóra Kampis. Otherwise all organizational matters and our intellectual goals remain the same.



in Central Europe. The association was initiated at a meeting in August 2008 by the Budapest University of Technology and Economics and the University of Zagreb. The CECOG organizing committee: Melita Kovacevic, Ilona Kovács, and Csaba Pléh; president: Csaba Pléh; managing organizers and local hosts of the DuCog series: Nevena Padovan and Paula Fischer; managing secretary of the association: Paula Fischer.

About CECOG: The Central European Cognitive Science Association (CECOG) is a civil association promoting cooperation in the field of cognitive science

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