WELCOME TO THE SIXTH ANNUAL SPR STUDENT NEWSLETTER

This newsletter is created by the SPR Committee to Promote Student Interests and is sent to current and recent student and full SPR members.

In our Spring '05 Edition, read about:

- The upcoming SPR conference in Lisbon, Portugal
  - Conference Poster Awards
  - Lisbon sight-seeing and merriment and SPR Conference events of interest to students
- Interview with SPR Member and prominent, psychophysiologist Peter Lang
- Postdoc "Student" Subcommittee: Plans for Lisbon/Useful links for Grantsmanship
- Clinical Psychophysiology: Coming attractions
- Promoting an international community of psychophysiologists
- How to contact members of the Committee to Promote Student Interests

I. ANNUAL SPR CONFERENCE: REGISTER NOW

This year, SPR will be held in Lisbon, Portugal USA from September 21-24, 2005 at FIL Meeting Centre. Registration, travel, and other conference-related information will be mailed out to members in May. Refer to the featured section below on Lisbon, Portugal highlights!

Click here for the Conference webpage

If you are looking for a roommate or if you have advice to share with others, the new message board on the SPR Student website can help.

Click here to access the Message Board.
II. STUDENT POSTER AWARDS

Looking for snazzy CV padding? If you submit a 250-word abstract by May 2, 2005, you are automatically eligible for a student poster award!
You are eligible for a student poster award as long as you are: 1) a full-time student, 2) an SPR student member, 3) first author on a poster, and 4) in attendance at the Lisbon conference. Students' winning poster awards also receive a cash prize. In addition, the names of all winners and the titles of their posters will be announced in *Psychophysiology* as soon as possible after the award.

Click on the link below for submission instructions and sample posters from past award winners.

How To Apply For the Student Poster Awards Instructions and Submission Deadline

Previous Student Poster Award Winners

III. LISBON HIGHLIGHTS AND SPR CONFERENCE EVENTS OF INTEREST TO STUDENTS

Here is a sampling of the city that awaits... (courtesy of http://www.portugaltravelguide.com)

Lisbon is a fascinating city of old-fashioned and funky art, architecture and traditions. Its one of Europe's most enjoyable capitals with its relaxed atmosphere, cultural diversity, reasonable prices and charming architecture. Lisbon is set on seven low hills next to the Tejo (Tagus) river. The city's atmosphere is rich with wonderful old buildings, Europe's longest suspension bridge, and fascinating museums and monuments. Despite the city's muscle-aching hills, Lisbon is compact
enough to explore on foot. If your legs get tired, Lisbon has very convenient, bus, tram and subway lines as well as funiculars to take you up the steeper hills.

• **Beaches:** Lisbon boasts two glorious stretches of golden sandy coastline, one to the north of the River Tagus (the Costa do Estoril) and the Costa Azul (Blue Coast) to the south. Both are blessed with an abundance of fine sandy beaches (praias), each with its own natural features and characteristics. Beginning 20 kilometres west of Lisbon and continuing past the famous Guincho Beach near Cascais, the Costa do Estoril is a cosmopolitan resort region easily accessible by train or car from the centre of Lisbon.

• **Shopping:** Shopping is often a main highlight for visitors to Lisbon. The wide range of reasonably priced products such as handmade leather shoes, bags and belts are difficult to resist. Other items to look out for include high-quality embroideries, tapestries and hand-painted glazed tiles called azulejos, which make excellent gifts for family and friends back home.

• **Nightlife:** Lisbon's nightlife is considered one of the most vibrant in Europe. On any night of the week visitors can drink until dawn, find dance music to suit, see a live band or enjoy a late-night meal. The city has an interesting variety of restaurants and bars to offer in the most popular areas like the Bairro Alto and Docas waterfront district. Nights out in Lisbon normally last until the next morning, given that most bars don't close before 2 am and discos are open until 6 am or later.

• **Food:** Lisbon is still Europe's bargain city for eating out and difficult to beat for price, quality and levels of service. Being a large port, it's not surprising to find that fish predominates the restaurant menus, although the high quality of the many meat dishes available should never be underestimated. There's a great variety of international cuisine to choose from, including Italian, Indian, Brazilian, Spanish, Russian, Mexican, Chinese and African, not forgetting the ubiquitous Burger King, KFC and Pizza Hut franchises to be found all over town. Visitors should be
advised not to leave it too late before going out to dinner in Lisbon. Most restaurants open around 7 pm, which is much earlier than in neighbouring Spain.

• **Museums**: Lisbon's reputation as one of Europe's top culture capitals is due largely to an abundance of museums situated all around the city.

**In addition, there are the usual opportunities to meet and mingle with other students and SPR members:**

• **The Student Social**: time and date for this year's festivities remain to be determined, but if past years are any indication, it's an event not to be missed. Keep your eyes peeled for more information as it becomes available!

• **The Open Dinner Meeting with the Committee to Promote Student Interests**: time and date for this event will be posted in our fall newsletter. All SPR student members are welcome! Do you have suggestions for improvements in student outreach? Would you like to work with one of our many subcommittees on issues relevant to your research? Please come with your appetite and opinions!

• **Special Interest lunches and dinners**: these events are a wonderful way to connect with others who share your research interests. These events are organized on an ongoing basis and are announced in various ways (over email, on the website, and posted on the message board at the conference), so keep your eyes peeled for topics that pique your special interest. Remember, these are typically no-host meals, which means bring your own funds.

More information on the upcoming conference and on Lisbon to come from our Meeting Events Subcommittee in the Fall newsletter upcoming in late August, 2005!

**IV. OUR FEATURED INTERVIEW WITH PETER LANG**

For the SPR Student Newsletter's regular feature, "Interview with an SPR member," we bring you an exclusive interview with Peter Lang. Thanks to Peter and Greg for such an informative and compelling interview!
V. UPDATE FROM THE POSTDOCTORAL "STUDENT" SUBCOMMITTEE

Last year's Early Career Conversation Hour hosted by the postdoctoral "student" subcommittee was a great success! Thanks to everyone that participated. We're looking forward to developing a similar event at the 2005 meeting in Lisbon. If there seems to be enough interest, we may use the same structure as last year for an Early Careers Conversation Hour: a general Q&A session for the first hour, followed by smaller focus groups for the second hour. If you have ideas or suggestions for the conversation hour (i.e. small group topics, established researchers we might invite to participate), please contact any of the postdoctoral subcommittee members. There has also been some discussion about a special interest lunch/dinner specifically on funding opportunities for students/postdocs. If anyone is interested in helping to develop this event, or has specific ideas about it, please contact Rebecca Houston or any member of the Postdoctoral subcommittee know.

At last year's meeting we also hosted a symposium on grantsmanship. Click Here to view all of the talks to improve your chances at having a grant funded!

VI. SPECIAL INTERESTS: CLINICAL PSYCHOPHYSIOLOGY

If you are interested in the interface between psychophysiological research and clinical science, the Student Subcommittee on Clinical Psychophysiology may be for you. Specific topics germane to clinical psychophysiologists include how psychophysiological research lends itself to clinical ends (e.g., treatment, outcome, definitional/nosology issues), studying clinical populations, and balancing clinical and research domains. In addition, this subcommittee aims to bring together clinical psychophysiologists to facilitate networking and stimulate collaborations. At last year's SPR meeting, nearly a dozen students attended our special interest lunch to express their interest in these topics. Be on the lookout for another special interest lunch this year in Lisbon!
VII. **PSYCHOPHYSIOLOGY AROUND THE WORLD**

SPR is very much concerned about the needs of its non-US student members and, therefore, established the International Students Subcommittee. To assess the needs of non-US student members, the subcommittee's work has most recently focused on whether non-US student members feel integrated into the society, or whether they instead perceive national organizations as more valuable than SPR. We conducted an Internet survey 2 years ago to get at these questions and want to thank all respondents for taking the time to complete it. For a detailed description of the findings [click here](#).

**And now for a special note to our European student members from the International Student Subcommittee:**

The SPR meeting in Lisbon, Portugal is a great opportunity for European Student Members to attend the meeting, as travel costs will be affordable for many. But affordability is not the only reason to attend. We think that the participation of many European Student Members will have an impact on SPR, as much of its future potential also lies in Europe. As was stated at the last meeting in Santa Fe, a great proportion of authors publishing in *Psychophysiology* (official journal of the society) are Europeans. Results of a survey undertaken two years before indicated that many European Student Members do not think that national societies represent them very well, and that they wish more SPR meetings would take place in Europe. Shortly after that survey, SPR decided to hold more frequent meetings at non-North American sites. Thus, this year's meeting is a great opportunity for European Student members to participate in an international meeting of one of the most student-friendly international societies. Looking ahead to the meeting in September, in addition to the scientific offerings, watch for an informal meeting of European Student Members where we will discuss establishing a European student network. One goal of this informal meeting is to recruit volunteers in each European country as contact persons who would gather or spread information (e.g. grant possibilities, regulations concerning clinical training, PhD Programs, etc.) in their European country. Finally, we ask you to promote the upcoming meeting in Lisbon to nonmembers you know from your institution or laboratory.
Please feel free to contact any members of the International Subcommittee or the Committee to Promote Student Interests with questions or ideas (please see contact info below). We hope to see you at the upcoming meeting in Lisbon.

Sincerely,
International Student Subcommittee

**Be part of an international exchange.** Thanks to the efforts of Stephan Moratti from the University of Konstanz, Germany, we are proud to continue featuring the International Exchange Opportunities section of the SPR student web page. The aim of this section is to identify laboratories and graduate students who may be interested in participating in an international exchange. The principle of such an exchange is that interested graduate students would simply swap his/her work place with that of a student from another country. Thus, with the cooperation of the participating laboratories and graduate institutions, students can be financed by their graduate program during the exchange. Of course, besides swapping work places with someone else, you can organize your own "international exchange" by contacting one of the labs that is interested in hosting a graduate researcher. Especially if you have your own funding, it is often quite easy to initiate a visit. Use the listing of labs here (see below link) to help you find a research place of interest!

**Enter your profile!** We encourage psychophysiological laboratories supporting international exchange to go to the link below and enter their profile. Once a list of laboratory profiles is established, graduate students can search for labs that match their geographical and research interests, and international exchange can be facilitated! Students: talk to your advisors about opening your lab to collaborators internationally!

Please enter your laboratory profile by visiting: **The SPR International Exchange Forum**

This is one more step toward improving international exchange and collaboration. The planning of other international sections (e.g., postings of international workshops; including this link on the main SPR web page) is underway, so stay
VIII. MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE TO PROMOTE STUDENT INTERESTS

Are your needs being met? Please feel free to contact members of the committee below with suggestions, questions, comments, or to bond with a fellow psychophysicologist:

Faculty Chair
John JB Allen, University of Arizona, jallen@email.arizona.edu

Web Subcommittee
This subcommittee maintains and develops the SPR student website. They integrate content from other subcommittees, as well as develop new content as appropriate.

Andrea Chambers (Chair), University of Arizona, andreach@email.arizona.edu
Jennifer Robinson, Case Western Reserve University, jennifer.l.robinson@case.edu
James A Coan (postdoctoral student), University of Wisconsin/Virginia, jacoan@wisc.edu

Newsletter Subcommittee
This subcommittee updates and prepares the semi-annual newsletter. The newsletter highlights items of special interest to students, and is timed to go out to members in electronic form in April, and again in August. These deadlines are timed with respect to two major SPR events that the newsletter can highlight for students: May 1 is the deadline for submitting an abstract, and the fall SPR meeting is in most often October, with student poster competition deadlines about one month prior to the meeting. The newsletter will highlight activities of other committees (e.g., Interview), as well as develop content as the committee sees fit.
Interview Subcommittee
This subcommittee will interview two SPR members per year. Stephan Moratti conducted a very nice interview with Brigitte Rockstroh, our first interviewee. We have a list of questions that was developed with the assistance of many members, and one that can form the core of any interview, with additional questions to be added as appropriate. At our recent meeting in DC, committee members suggested that it would be good to interview a post-doctoral fellow or new faculty member, and also to specifically inquire about the job market and interview/hiring experiences. The interviews ideally should be completed in time to highlight in each newsletter.

International Students Subcommittee
International students comprise a substantial proportion of the student membership, but also appear to be less likely to remain members after graduation. There are likely a variety of factors responsible, but the International Students Subcommittee can examine ways in which SPR can better address the needs of international students. Stephan Moratti developed an international exchange web page that allows interested labs to host students from other laboratories. Worth considering is that the 2005 meeting is in Lisbon Portugal. As that meeting draws near, one of the things the subcommittee can do
is to make sure that student needs and interests are anticipated for this European meeting. The last European meeting in Granada, Spain was very popular and appeared to attract many European students.

Stephan Moratti (Chair), University of Konstanz, Stephan.Moratti@uni-konstanz.de
Allison Waters (nonstudent), Griffith University, Queensland, Australia, a.waters@griffith.edu.au
Rogier B. Mars, FC Donders Centre for Cognitive Neuroimaging, rogier.mars@fcdonders.kun.nl
Terrance Williams, University of California-Los Angeles, twilliam@ucla.edu
Greg Hajcak, University of Delaware, hajcak@UDel.Edu
Anna Goudriaan, University of Amsterdam, The Netherlands, AE.Goudriaan@psy.vu.nl

Post-doctoral "Student" Subcommittee
Postdoctoral students have specific needs that overlap with those of student members. Recent efforts of our committee led to a reduced fee structure for recent graduates, but surely there are other issues that our committee might address.

Rebecca J. Houston (Chair; nonstudent member), University of Buffalo, rhoustan@ria.buffalo.edu
James A. Coan (postdoctoral student), University of Wisconsin/Virginia, jacoan@wisc.edu
Catherine J. Norris (postdoctoral student), University of Wisconsin, norrisl@wiscmail.wisc.edu
Augusta Shestyuk, Harvard University, shestyuk@wjh.harvard.edu

Meeting Events Subcommittee
Each year we attempt to find a local student host for the annual meeting. This local host finds info on cheap eats, cheap excursions, and cheap transportation to the hotel. The student host also assists in finding a place for the SPR sponsored student social, and does whatever else seems appropriate to make the conference fun, informative, and affordable for students.
Paula Carneiro (Chair), Universidade Lusófona de Humanidades e Tecnologias, mpcarneiro@hotmail.com
Eynav Elgavish, University of Arizona (past Chair), eynav@email.arizona.edu
Catherine J. Norris (postdoctoral student), University of Wisconsin, norris1@wiscmail.wisc.edu
Becky Levin, University of Illinois, rllevin@uiuc.edu
Colleen Brenner, Indiana University, cobrenne@indiana.edu
Sarah Sass, University of Illinois, ssass@uiuc.edu
Jennifer L. Stewart, University of Illinois, jlstewar@s.psych.uiuc.edu
Kim Anderson, University of Florida, linkette@ufl.edu

Program Committee Representative
Each year one of our student members sits on the program committee to ensure that the student voice is represented. This position also allows the student member to get an inside glimpse of the meeting planning, involves reviewing abstracts, and begets the immense gratitude of the membership.

Andrea Chambers, University of Arizona, andreach@email.arizona.edu

Membership Retention Subcommittee
Works to identify issues affecting the retention of members, especially those of relevance for women.

Becky Levin (Chair), University of Illinois, rllevin@uiuc.edu
Sarah Sass, University of Illinois, ssass@uiuc.edu
Andrea Chambers, University of Arizona, andreach@email.arizona.edu
Anna Engels, University of Illinois, aengels@uiuc.edu
James A. Coan (postdoctoral student), University of Wisconsin/Virginia, jacoan@wisc.edu

Clinical Psychophysiology Subcommittee
Students enrolled in clinical programs face an additional set of demands and concerns, and this new subcommittee is working to provide a forum for
discussing these issues. Topics of interest include discussing clinical applications of psychophysiology (especially new paradigms, etc) and issues specific to being in clinical programs while conducting psychophysiological research (e.g., accruing clinical hours, applying for internships, post-docs, etc.). The committee is hosting a special interest lunch at this year's annual meeting.

Nicole McDonald (Chair), University of Arizona, ncm@email.arizona.edu
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