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***News and Reflections - 5/27/2008***  
**Federation of Behavioral,  
Psychological, and Cognitive Sciences**  
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**This email newsletter is sent to scientists who are members of Federation societies, affiliates, plus interested governmental agency officials. Its goal is to inform researchers in the field about Federation activities, federal funding issues, and other relevant topics.**

**If you would like to learn about the Federation's foundation, i.e., Foundation for the Advancement of Behavioral & Brain Sciences, please visit <http://www.fabbs.org>.**

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## **CRAIK HONORED IN FABBS' PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTING IMPORTANT SCIENTISTS**

Fergus Craik, PhD, a Senior Scientist at the Rotman Research Institute of Baycrest University and Professor Emeritus at the University of Toronto, is the current scientist featured in the FABBS' program which honors outstanding individuals. Drs. Elizabeth L. Glisky (University of Arizona) and Daniel Schacter (Harvard University) nominated Craik for this honor and contacted colleagues and friends to contribute to this effort. Craik's work has focused on characterizing basic processes of memory and how they change with age. His impact on the field includes theoretical and empirical work outlining and documenting the benefits of deep, semantic processing on memory which is now universally accepted as a fundamental principle.

To learn more about his career and contributions, please visit [http://www.fabbs.org/craik\\_honor.html](http://www.fabbs.org/craik_honor.html). Also note the gallery of scientists who have previously been honored in this way.

Congratulations to Fergus Craik on this honor.

## **SUPPLEMENTAL FUNDING BILL PASSES SENATE: YOUR ACTION NEEDED FOR U.S. HOUSE SUPPORT**

**IMPORTANT NEWS:** In a much watched (by science advocates) vote, the Senate passed a supplemental funding bill for the Iraq and Afghanistan wars (HR2642) that included additional funding for science programs at NSF, NIH, and DOE, as well as veteran's educational benefits. Under this bill, NSF would get an additional \$150 million for research and \$50 million additional for education in FY 2008; DOE science office would get \$100 million, and NIH would get \$400 million. Since this is the only new money that is likely to be appropriated before next spring, it is particularly important for science funding agencies.

The House, however, did not include the additional domestic spending in its version of the bill, and President Bush has threatened to veto the bill if it includes domestic spending. The bill now goes to conference in which the competing versions will be reconciled.

The Senate passed the bill with a big enough margin to overturn a presidential veto. It is important that the House not only support the Senate version, but pass it with a big enough

majority to overturn a veto.

Congress is now in recess until next week and Representatives are back in their districts listening to their constituents. Scientists who support this bill should contact their Representatives and urge them to support the Senate version of the bill.

## **HUMAN FACTORS SCIENTIST FEATURED EXPERT AT U.S. HOUSE TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION HEARING**

On April 24th, Dr. Colin Drury, Distinguished Professor, University of Buffalo, testified at a hearing on aviation safety R&D at the Department of Homeland Security held by the Subcommittee on Technology and Innovation of the House Committee on Science and Technology. Dr. Drury testified on the role of human factors engineering in the design and testing of aviation security technology.

Dr. Drury was joined on the expert witness panel by Dr. Susan Hallowell (Director, Transportation Security Laboratory, Department of Homeland Security), Mr. Adam Tsao (Chief of Staff, Transportation Security Administration), and Dr. Jimmie Oxley (Professor of Chemistry at University of Rhode Island and Co-director at DHS Center of Excellence for Explosives Detection, Mitigation, and Response). The Subcommittee, lead by Chairman David Wu (D-OR), stressed the importance of basic and applied research to the continued development of security technologies used at airports across the country and paid particular attention to the interface of users (airport employees) and consumers (the traveling public) with emerging technological developments.

More information about this hearing can be accessed at:

[http://www.science.house.gov/publications/hearings\\_markups\\_details.aspx?NewsID=2163](http://www.science.house.gov/publications/hearings_markups_details.aspx?NewsID=2163)

## **PEER REVIEW UPDATE FROM NIMH ADVISORY MEETING**

The National Institute of Mental Health held a National Advisory Mental Health Council (NAMHC) meeting on May 23rd. Dr Thomas Insel started the meeting by introducing NIH Roadmap initiatives, in particular the “Science of Behavior Change” pilot that was unveiled earlier this year and is an NIH-wide program focusing on behavior change and behavior economics as a way to impact public health.

<http://nihroadmap.nih.gov/behaviorchange>.

Mention was also made of the NIH peer review process and recommendations that are being presented. The current peer review process as NIH has been used for decades and there may be improvements that can be made to the process. A draft report identifying enhancements to the peer review process was presented in April (and can be found at <http://enhancing-peer-review.nih.gov/meetings/NIHPeerReviewReportFINALDRAFT.pdf>). Changes to this process are aimed at reducing the administrative burden of the process, enhancing rating systems, enhancing review and reviewer quality, optimizing support at different career stages, and optimizing support for different approaches and types of grants. These recommendations are based on core themes: excellence of reviewers, fairness and clarity of the peer review process, and supporting scientists at different stages of their careers. Recommendations are scheduled to be presented to Institute Directors in June. Look for an editorial in Science Magazine on June 13th on this topic.

Information about this and previous NAMHC meetings can be found at:

<http://www.nimh.nih.gov/about/advisory-boards-and-groups/namhc/past-namhc-meetings.shtml>

## **INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF COMPARITIVE PSYCHOLOGY INCLUDES SPECIAL SECTION ON ADVOCACY**

The International Journal of Comparative Psychology, published by the International Society for

Comparative Psychology, has included in their most recent volume a special section entitled, "Speaking Up, Speaking Out: Views on Advocating for Our Science." You can read these essays by visiting <http://www2.gsu.edu/~wwwscp/ijcp-vol20-1-2007/ijcp-vol20-1.pdf>.

## **REPORTS & GRANT OPPORTUNITIES**

### **NATIONAL INSTITUTES HEALTH**

Clues to Role of Brain Development as Risk for Mental Disorders May Also Lead to Better Treatments

<http://www.nimh.nih.gov/science-news/2008/clues-to-role-of-brain-development-as-risk-for-mental-disorders-may-also-lead-to-better-treatments.shtml>

Human Brain Appears "Hard-Wired" for Hierarchy Scans Hint at Why It Can Be Unhealthy Even at the Top

<http://www.nimh.nih.gov/science-news/2008/human-brain-appears-hard-wired-for-hierarchy.shtml>

Imaging Identifies Brain Regions and Chemicals Underlying Mood Disorders; May Lead to Better Treatments

<http://www.nimh.nih.gov/science-news/2008/imaging-identifies-brain-regions-and-chemicals-underlying-mood-disorders-may-lead-to-better-treatments.shtml>

NIH Support for Conferences and Scientific Meetings (Parent R13/U13) (PA-08-149)

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-08-149.html>

Mouse Models Containing Human Alleles: Novel Tools to Study Brain Function (R21/R33) (PAR-08-158)

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-08-158.html>

Request for Information (RFI): To Solicit Ideas for Common Fund / Roadmap Trans-NIH Strategic Initiatives (NOT-RM-08-014)

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-RM-08-014.html>

Special Review to Support Projects Using Systems Science and Methodologies to Protect and Improve Population Health

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-08-068.html>

Studies Identify Subtle Genetic Changes' Risk for Mental Disorders; May Lead to Targets for New, Better, Therapies

<http://www.nimh.nih.gov/science-news/2008/studies-identify-subtle-genetic-changes-risk-for-mental-disorders-may-lead-to-targets-for-new-better-therapies.shtml>

Virtual Reality, Psychotherapy, Show Promise in Treating PTSD Symptoms; Civilian Access to Care Remains a Concern

<http://www.nimh.nih.gov/science-news/2008/virtual-reality-psychotherapy-show-promise-in-treating-ptsd-symptoms-civilian-access-to-care-remains-a-concern.shtml>

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## **FEDERATION SOCIETIES' UPCOMING ANNUAL MEETINGS FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2008**

### ***JUNE***

#### **INTERNATIONAL BEHAVIORAL NEUROSCIENCE SOCIETY**

St. Thomas, VI: June 17 - 22

[www.ibnshomepage.org](http://www.ibnshomepage.org)

#### **BEHAVIOR GENETICS ASSOCIATION**

Louisville, KY: June 25 - 28

[www.bga.org](http://www.bga.org)

***JULY***

**COGNITIVE SCIENCE SOCIETY**

Washington, DC: July 23 - 26

[www.cognitivesciencesociety.org](http://www.cognitivesciencesociety.org)

**SOCIETY FOR BEHAVIORAL NEUROENDOCRINOLOGY**

Groningen, Netherlands: July 7 - 10

[www.sbn.org](http://www.sbn.org)

**SOCIETY FOR MATHEMATICAL PSYCHOLOGY**

Washington, DC: July 26 - 29

[www.cogs.indiana.edu/socmathpsych](http://www.cogs.indiana.edu/socmathpsych)

***AUGUST***

**AMERICAN PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION**

Boston, MA: August 14 - 17

[www.apa.org](http://www.apa.org)

***SEPTEMBER***

**HUMAN FACTORS AND ERGONOMICS SOCIETY**

New York, NY: September 22 - 26

[www.hfes.org](http://www.hfes.org)

**SOCIETY FOR RESEARCH IN PSYCHOPATHOLOGY**

Pittsburgh, PA: September 25 - 28

[www.psychopathology.org](http://www.psychopathology.org)

**SOCIETY OF MULTIVARIATE EXPERIMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY**

Montreal, Canada: September 25 - 27

[www.smep.org](http://www.smep.org)

***OCTOBER***

**SOCIETY FOR PSYCHOPHYSIOLOGICAL RESEARCH**

Austin, TX: October 1 - 5

[www.sprweb.org](http://www.sprweb.org)

**NATIONAL ACADEMY OF NEUROPSYCHOLOGY**

New York, NY: October 22 - 25

[www.nanonline.org](http://www.nanonline.org)

**SOCIETY FOR EXPERIMENTAL SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY**

Sacramento, CA: October 24 - 25

[www.sesp.org](http://www.sesp.org)

***NOVEMBER***

**INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR DEVELOPMENTAL PSYCHOBIOLOGY**

Washington, DC: November 12 - 15

[www.isdp.org](http://www.isdp.org)

**PSYCHONOMIC SOCIETY**

Chicago, IL: November 13 - 16

[www.psychonomic.org](http://www.psychonomic.org)

**SOCIETY FOR JUDGMENT AND DECISION MAKING**

Chicago, IL: November 22 - 24

[www.sjdm.org](http://www.sjdm.org)

## **SOCIETY FOR COMPUTERS IN PSYCHOLOGY**

Chicago, IL: November 13

<http://home.scip.ws>

***TO BE ANNOUNCED SOON...***

## **MASSACHUSETTS NEUROPSYCHOLOGICAL SOCIETY**

TBA

[www.massneuropsychology.org](http://www.massneuropsychology.org)

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## **PLEASE SUPPORT THE BEHAVIORAL & BRAIN SCIENCES**

The Foundation for the Advancement of Behavioral and Brain Sciences (FABBS) is an educational, non-profit organization established to promote and enhance understanding of the behavioral, psychological, cognitive, and brain sciences. Created to take over a substantial part of the educational mission of the Federation of Behavioral, Psychological, and Cognitive Sciences on behalf of its constituent sciences, FABBS focuses its efforts in three directions. One is to educate the public about the contributions of these important fields to the well-being of individuals and society. A second is to educate Congressional staff and others in the Federal Government about our sciences (as distinct from lobbying them, which is the sole purview of the Federation). The third is to facilitate productive dialogue between scientists and relevant stakeholders in the public and private sector on topics at the intersection of science and public policy, such as human subject protections and new but risky scientific directions. We urge you to respond generously as the future health of our scientific enterprise is at stake. The President of FABBS is Susan Fiske (Princeton University).

Please visit: <http://www.fabbs.org>

**NOTE: The current featured scientist on the FABBS site is Dr. Fergus Craik. To learn more about him, visit: [http://www.fabbs.org/craik\\_honor.html](http://www.fabbs.org/craik_honor.html)**

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### **Norman M. Bradburn, PhD**

*Interim Executive Director*

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**For a list of our complete leadership, visit: <http://www.fbpcs.org/leadership.php>**

### **Federation Executive Committee**

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