



THE SOCIETY FOR APPLIED RESEARCH
IN MEMORY AND COGNITION

SARMAC

SARMAC NEWS

January 2011

Enhancing collaboration and co-operation between basic and applied researchers in memory and cognition

MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Mike Toglia

In my July message 6 months ago, I confidently labeled 2010 a year of transitions, and it certainly was just that! These changes included Bob Belli taking office as our Secretary-Treasurer when Chris Meissner accepted a 2-year position with NSF; Leslie Miller completing a great run as Editor of this Newsletter and Lauren Shapiro moving into the role of Editor; significant revising of our bylaws; moving towards a new society publication-JARMAC; convening a new membership committee chaired by Deb Connolly; and Bryan Campbell's constructing new websites—one for the Society and another for our conference.

I see 2011 as a pivotal year as well. Movement to JARMAC will be in full swing with submissions before too long under the leadership of the Founding Editor, Ron Fisher of Florida International University. I will wind down a second term as your Executive Director, and we will convene in NYC for SARMAC 9 (see piece by Deryn Strange). Planning continues for our biennial conference to be held in New York City at the John Jay School of Criminal Justice on June 27-29, I look forward to seeing many of you there.

As always, I will speak briefly about membership. Despite getting off to a late start on the 2010 renewal process, about 200 members represented the society in 2010. For 2011 the renewal process began in the fall as is typical, and I anticipate a rebounding of our numbers. Our new Membership Committee will be instrumental here.

The biannual newsletters represent an important forum for the society. Our editor, Lauren Shapiro has suggested some new features to be considered for future newsletters; **please read her article concerning the innovations she has in mind.** Then please send your reactions and suggestions to both Lauren and myself. We would also like to receive your nominations for an Associate Editor of the newsletter. Self-nominations are welcome. Our emails can be found on the last page of this newsletter.

As we begin 2011, I wish you all a prosperous New Year both personally and professionally.

EDITOR ANNOUNCEMENT

Lauren R. Shapiro

Salutations in the new year. As a long term member of SARMAC, I am interested in finding a way to capture some of the energy and innovation typically generated during conferences. I thought that the newsletter could serve as forum for promoting discussion of applied solutions for problems examined in our field of research. Please consider the following two concepts and provide feedback on their feasibility for the newsletter.

“Its Debatable” This article would entail posting an opinion about a recent controversial issue related to law and psychology. The author would pose the topic and then write a 500 word paragraph.

“A Policy in Need” In this article, the author would propose a policy needed to resolve an issue or problem related to law and psychology or indicate how a policy should be changed to address the issue or problem better in a 500-word paragraph.

The purpose of both types of articles is to generate an ongoing discussion and challenge others to think about issues and policies in our field that may lead to much needed research and solutions.

**JARMAC IS A REALITY
THE SARMAC BOARD PRESIDENT
Maryanne Garry**

The Journal of Applied Research in Memory and Cognition is a reality. And, although it may look to many of you as though JARMAC appeared overnight, it actually took about two years of daily toil spearheaded by Kathy Pezdek and myself spearheaded this effort. There were other people who also deserve the Society's deepest appreciation, including the Publications Committee (Steve Lindsay, Lorraine Hope, Sean Lane, and Kathy Pezdek, Chair); longtime SARMAC Board members and former Board members including Bob Belli, Don Read, Steve Lindsay, and Neil Brewer, and our big wheel publishing consultants Alan Kraut and Larry Erlbaum.

I could go on and on about JARMAC's future, but nothing says it better than our new *Aims & Scope* statement:

The Journal of Applied Research in Memory and Cognition (JARMAC) publishes an engaging mix of the latest high quality, theoretically motivated research: empirical studies, review articles, and target papers with invited peer commentary. The goal of this unique journal is to reach not only psychological scientists working in this field and allied areas but also professionals and practitioners who seek to understand, apply, and benefit from research on memory and cognition. Therefore, each empirical article must include a section clearly describing the practical applications of the basic research. We encourage brevity and crisp, lively prose that appeals to a wide audience. JARMAC is an official journal of Society for Applied Research in Memory & Cognition.

Carrying out this vision is our Founding Editor, Ron Fisher. Ron is working hard with the Publications Committee to assemble our Editorial Board. I won't say much now, but I can promise you that you'll be delighted by the people who have agreed to serve on the Board.



Here is an action shot of Maryanne Garry in the lab signing the Elsevier contract. The bottle of wine was opened immediately afterwards.

**2010 YEAR END REPORT ON APPLIED
COGNITIVE PSYCHOLOGY
Graham Davies and Emma Sleath**

Since the beginning of 2010, the Editors have processed a total of 219 original manuscripts and 131 revisions.

The decisions reached on these papers were as follows:

Decision	
Publish	76
Revise/resubmit	151
Reject	136

Using the APA standard formula, this gives an overall acceptance rate for the year of 33%: somewhat down from last year's figure of 39%. For new manuscripts, the mean number of weeks from submission to date of action letter to the author(s) from an editor was again, approximately 14 weeks. Accepted and processed manuscripts are available online on [Wiley Interscience](http://www.interscience.wiley.com), with publication in hardcopy in the Journal averaging around a year

from acceptance. The journal's online submission and peer review system, which requires authors to submit their articles online <http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/acp> continues to function efficiently. The latest impact factor for the journal showed a solid improvement to 1.452.

The new thematically-based Editorial system is working effectively and all have made a great contribution to the continuing success of the journal over the year. A special thank you, too, to all our reviewers for their continuing support and hard work. Next year marks the 25th Anniversary of the founding of ACP and a special Virtual Issue will be available on open access on the web, containing a special Editorial and examples of prominent papers selected by past and present members of the Editorial team. It can be assessed via the [Journal's home page](#). As you will be aware, from this issue we will also cease our affiliation to the SARMAC. SARMAC has been affiliated with ACP since the Society was formed in 1994. Following discussions with SARMAC over issues of editorial policy and control, SARMAC has decided to terminate their association with ACP and launch their own journal in 2012: *The Journal of Applied Research on Memory and Cognition*. We hope individual members will continue to be associated with ACP and we continue to welcome articles from the Society's members for publication in *Applied Cognitive Psychology*. Members who wish to continue to receive ACP may find subscription details on the home page of the journal given above.

COGNITIVE TECHNOLOGY

Steve Fiore

Cognitive Technology is pleased to announce that Dr. Dee H. Andrews, of the Air Force Research Laboratory, and Dr. Robert R. Hoffman, of the Institute for Human and Machine Cognition, are guest editing a special issue on the *Contributions of Cognitive Technology to Accelerated Learning and Expertise*. This special issue will address the following topics:

- Workforce challenges in government and the private sector, including how to train young

workers to master content quickly, and how an aging workforce creates a pressing national need for understanding how to accelerate learning.

- The importance of long term learning retention, especially for workers who must leave their primary duties for a lengthy (months to years) period time and speculations of how cognitive technologies (e.g., distance learning tools) might offset this problem.
- Methodological challenges of developing and demonstrating techniques for increasing learning and retention; the necessity and difficulty of performing research on long term learning retention and how cognitive technologies can help to attenuate this difficulty; broadly applicable methods for accelerating the achievement of high levels of proficiency, and how cognitive technologies (e.g., embedded training and performance gathering systems) might help to address this challenge.
- The theoretical challenges of accommodating technology and work methods to the constraints of complex cognitive work; the rationale, methodologies, and opportunities of knowledge management as a critical cognitive technology to address these challenges

Upcoming regular articles for the journal covers topics such as the use of self-reports in memory experiments, information technology and older adults, as well as methods for knowledge structure assessment. We will also publish a commentary on the ethical, legal, and societal issues associated with the increasing use of neurotechnologies. More generally, the journal is seeking submissions in the area of Cognitive Aids focused on the design, development, and/or testing of technologies that either support learning or scaffold everyday cognitive processes.

We also welcome articles in Cognitive Systems Engineering where researchers consider a blend of concepts and methods arising from cognitive and computer science. We also are considering research and development in the area of Cognitive Models and Agent Technologies which addresses the design, development, and validation of quantitative models of human cognition (e.g., GOMS, ACT-R, SOAR,

neural networks, Bayesian models, etc.). More broadly, we encourage work which examines the interaction of humans with machines which includes how our understanding of cognition influences research issues associated with design, safety, and training.

Submissions from Modeling and Simulation are also appropriate when addressing the design and development of simulations for the purposes of learning and training or decision making and problem solving. Finally, the journal encourages work in the area of Cognitive Rehabilitation, which focuses on the design, development, and/or testing of procedures or technologies that support training and retraining of cognitive deficits in the brain-injured and others with cognitive impairment.

MEMBERSHIP

Deb Connolly and Heather Price

We are here to talk to you about membership in SARMAC. Why? Well, first, because SARMAC is a tremendous Society that provides countless advantages to its members--- but you already knew that. Second, because we are Chairs of the Membership Committee and it is our job to recruit, retain, and recruit. Who do you have to blame for this? Most recently, it was Kathy Pezdek who invited us to take on this important responsibility. You might also want to consider Steve Lindsay's role, he trained both of us! Now, given Steve's hand in our training, you probably expect this article to be very long and crushingly precise. We will attempt to meet your "crushingly precise" expectation, but it will not be long.

A lot has been happening in the past short while. Most notably, the creation of a new online journal called Journal of Applied Research in Memory and Cognition (JARMAC) that is scheduled to launch in 2012. And, SARMAC has a swanky new website. If you have not already done so, we strongly encourage you to visit it at <http://www.sarmac.org>.

Why join SARMAC? As a member of SARMAC, you have access to contact information and a

summary of the research interests of hundreds of other researchers who are also members of the Society. Members receive substantial discounts on conference registration fees, including, of course, the upcoming conference in New York. Members also have access to the online resource library that contains valuable information about teaching, research, and grant opportunities as well as a list of current jobs in our field. And, starting in 2012, when JARMAC launches, members will have online access to it.

Never has so much been available for so little! (We may have slipped a bit on the "crushingly precise" promise with this one).

You may be wondering why we are telling you things you already know. We hope that by highlighting the advantages of SARMAC membership, you will consider telling your non-SARMAC colleagues and students about our Society. In fact, you could just cut and paste the above paragraph it into an email to the not-yet-a-member-of-SARMAC colleague or student. We also hope that you will renew your membership for 2011, if you have not already done so...although we find Maryanne's email pleas to renew membership enormously entertaining. Thanks for taking the time to read this short article. Remember, recruit, retain, and recruit!!

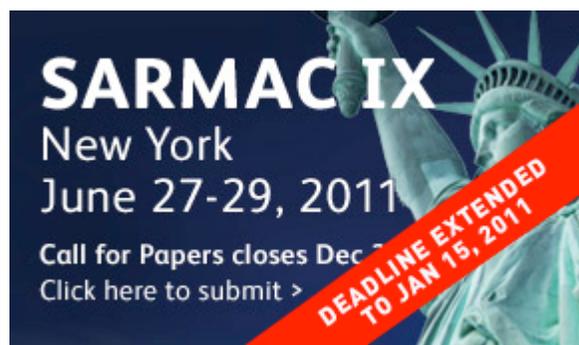
A NOTE FROM THE PRESS OFFICER

Linda Henkel

Greetings! The call for papers for SARMAC IX in New York City during the Summer of 2011 is out. Keep in mind as you are reading this newsletter, the deadline for submissions had been extended to January 15. Whether you will be presenting or just attending to check out all the wonderful work we all have been up to the past 2 years, please think about who else you might want to tell about the conference -- colleagues in your department, in other departments, interested people in law, education, medicine, etc., and your students. The more we all work together to get the word out about the exciting research we do, the more successful our Society will be! I welcome any suggestions on

ways that I can better promote the Society and the upcoming conference. Please contact me at: lhenkel@fairfield.edu

There is no place on earth like New York City -- you don't want to miss this. Hope to see you all there in the summer!



SARMAC IX
Deryn Strange

Reasons to come to NYC for SARMAC (as if you needed more) ...

Tired of your urban hustle and bustle?

Come to NYC for SARMAC and..... between sessions relax in nearby [Central Park](#) where on 770 acres of verdant tranquility you can watch the [lions, tigers, bears and coyotes...](#) [get your face painted...](#) check out [honeybear sculptures at the conservancy...](#) have fun on [school](#)

[playgrounds...](#)

You can always find something delicious—it is NY after all...who wants a nice slice? NYC yellow pages list 1795 pizza shops (including some top-rated ones within easy walking distance from the SARMAC meeting!). Desire something fancier? Zagats NY has 4500 other possibilities. Check out the tastes from the melting pot...chinese, italian, korean, russian....

But most importantly, remember the season...it's Summer! There are Beaches! Cruises! Well, yes-- SARMAC is your entry point for all of that--though with [14 miles of beaches in the city...](#) you may want to do some advance scouting by [Circle line.....](#)

Looking for a challenge? Maybe you can visit all 468 [NYC subway stations](#) in under 22 hours and 51 minutes and set a new record!!

Need something to sing and dance about? You'll probably miss Pee-Wee Herman (<http://www.peewee.com/broadway/>) and Spiderman for that matter (since they seem to be harming the actors so regularly) but there will be a vast array of back-ups waiting for you on [Broadway.....](#)

See you in New York!

CONFERENCE ANNOUNCEMENT

Perspectives on Autobiographical Memory Development

Dorthe Berntsen

June 16-17, 2011, Aarhus University, Denmark Abstract Submission Deadline - February 15th, 2011

Over the last 10-15 years, the interest in autobiographical memory research has been dramatically increasing. From being a somewhat exotic field outside of mainstream psychology, it is now widely recognized as an important area of memory research. While the majority of the research conducted on autobiographical memory has been with adults, it is important to carefully consider the origin and emergence of the different abilities and their complicated interactions paving the way for full blown autobiographical memories.

The development of autobiographical memory is not only a truly fascinating area of research in its own right; it is also mandatory when attempting to understand autobiographical memories as they appear in adults. As indicated by the title – Perspectives on Autobiographical Memory Development – the upcoming conference will attempt to address exactly such developmental aspects. The first word in the title ‘perspectives’ should be taken seriously though: we would like to keep the approach to the development of autobiographical memories fairly broad by having an open-minded attitude

towards related areas rather than a restricted and excluding one. We believe that this approach is reflected in the line of outstanding keynote speakers.

Keynote speakers include:

- Patricia Bauer, Emory University
- Robyn Fivush, Emory University
- William J. Friedman, Oberlin College
- Thomas Suddendorf, University of Queensland
- Jeffrey Zacks, Washington University

We invite all researchers in the field to submit poster presentations describing some of their most recent and exciting findings concerning perspectives on autobiographical memory development. For more information, please go to <http://psy.au.dk/developmentalpsychology>

Congratulations to our Fellow SARMAC Members

Congratulations to our fellow SARMAC members for earning the following awards and honors—appearing in the media—publishing and making some outstanding presentations!

NAME	Key Dismukes
PUBLICATIONS	<p>Remembrance of things future: Prospective memory in laboratory, workplace, and everyday settings. In D. H. Harris (Ed), <i>Reviews of Human Factors and Ergonomics</i>, 6, 79-122. Santa Monica, CA: Human Factors and Ergonomics Society.</p> <p>Prospective memory involves remembering (and sometimes forgetting) to perform tasks that must be deferred. This chapter summarizes and provides a perspective on research and theory in this new and rapidly growing field. I explore the limits of existing experimental paradigms, which fail to capture some critical aspects of performance outside of laboratory settings, and review the relatively few studies in workplace and everyday settings. I suggest countermeasures to reduce vulnerability to forgetting to perform deferred tasks, identify roles for human factors practitioners, and propose a research agenda that would extend our understanding of prospective memory performance.</p> <p>The book is available from the Human Factors and Ergonomics Society site http://www.hfes.org/Publications/ProductDetail.aspx?ProductID=139 However, the chapter can be downloaded at http://human-factors.arc.nasa.gov/ihs/flightcognition/</p>

NAME	Mike Toglia
PUBLICATIONS	<p>Brainerd, C. J. , Reyna, V. , Holliday, R., Toglia, M. P. & Yang, Y. (2010). Developmental reversals in false memory: Effects of emotional valence and arousal. <i>Journal of Experimental Child Psychology</i>, 107, 137-154.</p>

SARMAC Newsletter Submissions

We encourage you to send us information to share with your SARMAC colleagues. We are interested in recent publications, job announcements, calls for papers – or anything else you’d like to share with your colleagues. If you would like to include information in the next newsletter (July, 2010) please email Lauren at lshapiro@monroecollege.edu

For more information about SARMAC Contact:

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Helping to Increase SARMAC Membership

Please invite your students and colleagues who do cognitive psychology research that spans applied and basic interests to join the Society for Applied Research in Memory and Cognition (SARMAC).

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