

Society for Psychophysiological Research Student Newsletter



This newsletter was created by Grace Clements, Anna Finley, Katie Garrison, Julia McDonald, Lauren Neal, Natalie Ulrich, Ricardo Wilhelm, and Jolie Wormwood of the SPR committee to Promote Student Interests, with a big thank you to Matthias Sperl and the rest of the meeting events subcommittee for compiling a list of things to do in Vienna. This newsletter is sent to current student and general members. Please forward to your own students and any interested colleagues!

Upcoming Opportunities and Deadlines

SPR Call for Abstracts!

Are you excited about your latest research results and want to present them to the audience at the upcoming 57th annual SPR meeting in Vienna, Austria? The submission portal for abstracts for posters and symposia is **NOW OPEN!** Abstracts can be submitted **until Monday, April 3rd**. For further information, please visit the SPR website (https://www.sprweb.org/annual_meeting/abstract-details/). Think your research is top-notch? Posters by student authors can be considered for one of SPR's student poster awards (just select that you want your poster to be considered when you submit it). You can see the list of last year's recipients and read an interview with one recipient about his research in this edition of the newsletter!

SPR Student Travel Award

Are you a PhD student and want to attend the SPR meeting in Vienna but do not have travel funds? Apply for the student travel award when submitting your conference contribution! SPR has allocated funds for 30 travel awards. Fifteen of these are specifically reserved for award winners living closer to Vienna (such as European members residing at least 500 miles away), who will receive \$500 USD to assist with their travel accommodations. The other 15 awards are reserved for non-European members living further away from Vienna who will receive \$1000 USD while attending the SPR Annual Meeting. For more information on past recipients and eligibility criteria, visit the SPR website (<https://www.sprweb.org/about/grants-awards/>).

SPR Research Fellowship Training Awards

Would you like to visit the lab of an SPR member to learn new skills and techniques? Consider applying for an SPR Research Fellowship Training Award from The Education and Training Committee and the Committee to Promote Student Interests. These awards allow students or postdocs to obtain mentorship/training in psychophysiological assessment and analysis with experts in the field, which they could not get at their home institution. This could involve travel to a remote site or travel expenses for a remote mentor to visit the applicant's lab. Each application may include a budget of up to \$5,000 USD. (although smaller budgeted applications are encouraged and would allow for more applications to be funded). Up to \$500 of these funds can be used to defray SPR conference travel costs. The deadline for applications will be May 1, 2017, for funding to begin early September 2017. Applications are short (3-5 pages) but require that applicants, mentors and proposed training sponsors also submit biosketches. Award notices will be sent via email beginning June 1, 2017. If additional funds are available after June 1, 2017, a second application announcement will be made. Awardees will also be recognized at the Saturday Business Luncheon during the annual SPR meeting. Further information regarding eligibility criteria and the application process are available on the SPR website (<https://www.sprweb.org/about/grants-awards/>). See the list of 2016 recipients in this edition of the newsletter!

2016 Student Poster Award Recipients

Congratulations to our 2016 Student Poster Award Recipients!

Christopher Brush, Rutgers University: EFFECTS OF AN 8-WEEK MODERATE-INTENSITY AEROBIC EXERCISE INTERVENTION ON CONFLICT MONITORING PROCESSES IN MAJOR DEPRESSIVE DISORDER.

Ryan Hubbard, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign: AN ELECTROPHYSIOLOGICAL INVESTIGATION OF THE EFFECTS OF EXPECTEDNESS, SENTENTIAL CONSTRAINT, AND PLAUSIBILITY ON MEMORY FOR WORDS.

Julia Klawohn, Humboldt University, Berlin: TRAIT-INFLUENCES ON NEURAL CORRELATES OF PERFORMANCE MONITORING IN A DIMENSIONAL SAMPLE OF HEALTHY INDIVIDUALS AND PATIENTS WITH OCD.

Matthew Moore, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign: SPATIO-TEMPORAL DYNAMICS OF THE RESPONSE TO EMOTIONAL DISTRACTION: A MULTIMODAL BRAIN IMAGING INVESTIGATION.

**** [Read an interview with Matthew Moore on the next page!](#) ****

David Parker, University of Georgia: REDUCED BETA-BAND AUDITORY STEADY-STATE RESPONSE IN BIPOLAR DISORDER WITH OR WITHOUT PSYCHOSIS: FINDINGS FROM THE BIPOLAR & SCHIZOPHRENIA NETWORK ON INTERMEDIATE PHENOTYPES.

Emilio Valadez, University of Delaware: PRINCIPAL COMPONENTS ANALYSIS OF MOCK GAMBLING TASK ERPs REVEALED NEGATIVITY SPECIFIC TO NONREWARDS.

Noah Venables, Florida State University: ETIOLOGICAL OVERLAP BETWEEN SUICIDAL BEHAVIORS AND PSYCHONEUROMETRIC MEASURES OF DISINHIBITION AND THREAT SENSITIVITY.

Ashley Wright, University of Minnesota: HIGH TRAIT FEAR IS ASSOCIATED WITH OVER-GENERALIZATION AND IMPAIRED INHIBITION OF CLASSICALLY CONDITIONED FEAR.

James Yancey, Florida State University: TURNING UP THE HEAT ON COLD COGNITION: TASK SWITCHING UNDER THREAT.

2016 Research Fellowship Training Award Recipients

Research Fellowship Training Awards are given annually to SPR member students and postdocs. These awards allow recipients to receive mentorship and training in psychophysiological research from an expert in the field that is not a part of their home institution.



2016 Recipients *(from left to right):*

Alexander Puhalla, Temple University

Keisha Novak, Purdue University

Ann Haynos, University of Minnesota Medical Center

Ezra Smith, University of Arizona

Not pictured: **Sebastian Schindler**, University of Bielefeld

Congratulations to all recipients, and good luck in your training and research!

An Interview with Matthew Moore **Recipient of a 2016 Student Poster Award**

Matt, congratulations on receiving one of the 2016 SPR student poster awards! The members of SPR are interested in knowing a bit more about you and your lab. Can you tell us a bit more about that?

I am a 5th year graduate student at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (UIUC). I work in the lab of Drs. Florin and Sanda Dolcos. The main research topic in the Dolcos group is the investigation of the neural mechanisms underlying interactions between emotion and cognition. Our research capitalizes on psychophysiological methods (e.g., functional magnetic resonance imaging, fMRI; electroencephalography/event-related potentials, EEG/ERP) in conjunction with behavioral measurements (e.g., performance in cognitive tasks, personality questionnaires). My research interests primarily include the investigation of emotion processing, decision making, and individual differences related to these topics. Throughout my research career, my interest has been in using complementary methodologies to better understand the brain correlates of these processes at structural and functional levels.



What was the topic of your poster?

This poster described our project examining the spatio-temporal dynamics of the response to emotional distraction using multi-modal brain imaging. This investigation involves fMRI, EEG/ERP, and event-related optical signals (EROS). A key part of the study has involved implementing and validating the simultaneous acquisition of these techniques using several paradigms, including an emotional odd-ball task and a working memory-emotion regulation task with external and internal emotional distraction. Using these brain imaging techniques and tasks, we have demonstrated the feasibility of capturing responses in expected brain locations, using fMRI and EROS, and at expected timings, using EROS and ERP. We also demonstrated an example of integration of these techniques analytically, using ERP-informed fMRI. These results demonstrate remarkable parallels between these brain imaging modalities and point to ways in which techniques such as EROS could be used as a bridging tool to validate and clarify the nature of the brain signals captured in fMRI and EEG/ERP.

Your work involved coordination across many labs and many individuals. How did you navigate through them to foster such a successful collaboration?

This is truly a collaborative effort among the involved institutions and research groups, spearheaded by the Dolcos group, which has led to the recent implementation of multi-modal brain imaging at the UIUC. The initial efforts that led to this accomplishment started at Dr. Florin Dolcos's previous institution (University of Alberta, Canada) where bi-modal fMRI-EEG was implemented in collaboration with his graduate student (Andrea Shafer) and with Dr. Anthony Singhal. Then, this process continued at UIUC, in collaboration with other local PI's and researchers, including Drs. Gabriele Gratton, Monica Fabiani, Brad Sutton, Ryan Larsen, and Edward Maclin. In addition to these collaborators, Dr. Sanda Dolcos and multiple graduate students from the Dolcos Lab have been involved, including Alexandru Iordan and Yuta Katsumi. Andrea Shafer also visited UIUC and contributed to the transition, before moving on to her post-doctoral position. My involvement in the project started a few years ago, as part of my interdisciplinary training in the National Science Foundation's Integrative Graduate Education and Research Traineeship (IGERT) program. As part of the IGERT program, I led a project that involved testing simultaneous fMRI and EEG recording, which requires specialized equipment, training, and data processing techniques. During the program, Drs. Gratton and Fabiani provided support for initial testing of the equipment by providing access to the MR-compatible EEG system, and Dr. Sutton provided access to the MR scanner for development time. The bi-modal fMRI-EEG project stage also benefited from my two visits to the University of Birmingham, together with Alexandru Iordan, where I interacted with multi-modal brain imaging researchers, Drs. Andrew Bagshaw and Stephen Mayhew. This project progressed into grant-supported work led by Dr. Florin Dolcos that also incorporated optical imaging, which led to the involvement of additional fMRI and optical imaging experts (Drs. Larsen and Maclin, respectively) and Dolcos Lab members. Furthermore, the bi-modal imaging part of this project has also been implemented with other paradigms, including a social cognition task, and is currently ready for moving into tri-modal testing. Therefore, the project has developed and expanded over time, and our collaborators, both local and abroad, have been very helpful and supportive throughout the various stages. I am very grateful to have been a lead graduate researcher throughout the past few years at UIUC, and have benefited greatly from working with such a large group of experts.

How has your membership in SPR helped you to develop your career?

SPR has been a great community for developing this research on multi-modal brain imaging. There are many prominent experts in cognitive and affective neurosciences represented in this community, and there has been a clear interest in methodology and best practices. Importantly, the conference participation culminating with the award received last year was preceded by other presentations of the work at different stages that capitalized on feedback from the larger community. Therefore, it has been a fantastic opportunity for me to be a part of SPR, to develop connections with other psychophysiological researchers and receive such positive feedback on our multi-modal brain imaging work as it has progressed. I am sure these connections and feedback will be invaluable as my career continues.

The Upcoming 57th Annual SPR Conference in Vienna, Austria!

This year's SPR conference will be held in Vienna, Austria, from October 11-15, 2017. In this section, we have compiled some information for you regarding events for students at the conference and also things to do and see in Vienna. Take a minute to see what this year's SPR meeting and Vienna have to offer!

SOME EVENTS OF NOTE FOR STUDENTS

Pre-Conference Workshops:

Pre-Conference Workshop #1: Advanced EEG Single-Trial Analysis Techniques

This workshop will introduce ways in which model-based analysis techniques can be combined with single-trial EEG data. The workshop will be led by Adrian Fisher.

Pre-Conference Workshop #2: Multilevel Modeling

For this workshop, Elizabeth Page-Gould will be discussing various topics related to Multilevel Modeling (MLM) and its importance for psychophysicologists.

Pre-Conference Workshop #3: ANSLAB Workshop

Frank Wilhelm will be showing how to analyze physiological data using ANSLAB software.

More information about the workshops can be found at: https://www.sprweb.org/annual_meeting/program/

SPR Diversity Celebration Reception

The SPR Diversity Committee invites all those attending SPR's annual meeting to a reception that celebrates the diversity of perspectives that shape the field. The reception offers opportunities for networking and community-building with members of all levels. Details will be announced closer to the conference.

Women in Science and Education (WISE) Luncheon

This luncheon presents a great opportunity to pose questions and discuss topics that relate to women in science. This year's WISE Lunch will address the topic of "Shattering the Glass Ceiling", with a special focus on achieving the rank of full professor and administrative positions. We will have a special panel discussion where women who have successfully been promoted to top positions in their departments will share insight on how they achieved success. The panel will be eager to answer questions and share their experience and ideas with the audience. The luncheon and panel discussion are inclusive and open to all, irrespective of gender or career level. An RSVP is required, but there is no fee. To register, please check the appropriate box on the SPR registration form or directly contact the SPR Registrar via email at spr@sprweb.org. Registration for this event is on a first come, first-served basis.

Saturday Night Social

This is a great time to socialize and wind down after the conference. The event will feature our very own SPR Blues Band. Be sure to come and have a great time with SPR members of all levels. We hope to see you there! Don't miss the **SPR Student**



Social on Friday night (October 13)! This is always one of the highlights of the conference and offers the opportunity to have a good time with fellow SPR student members. The SPR Student Social will take place at [BEFANA Club Stadl](#), directly next to the Hofburg Conference Center. The Student Social is put together



by members of the Committee to Promote Student Interests and typically includes a free drink ticket to the first 100 students and free food. Keep an eye out for more details in the Fall 2017 Student Newsletter!

Early Career Conversation Hour

If you have any questions or concerns regarding academia, this is the event to attend! Regardless of your academic level, you will have the opportunity to engage with a panel of SPR members, and receive great tips and advice for early career members. Advanced registration is required, so please register when more information becomes available for this year's SPR meeting. If you have any questions about this meeting or its committee, please contact the chair of the Early Career Subcommittee, Philip Gable (pagable@gmail.com).

Roundtable Discussions

The Education and Training Committee provides an opportunity to get more information on various methodological issues, all while having lunch in a small group! The topics of this year's meeting will be announced as time draws nearer to the conference, but previous luncheons have discussed a variety of topics, like "Simultaneous EEG and fMRI measurement."

THINGS TO DO IN VIENNA

**Special thanks to Matthias Sperl and Julia McDonald, members of the Committee to Promote Student Interests, for sharing their suggestions for things to do in Vienna!*



Vienna is a great city, and there are many reasons to visit this fascinating place! Our tip: Get your free copy of the "[Vienna Young & Clever](#)" [city map](#) at [Vienna Tourist Info](#), which will not only show you the location of important buildings and monuments, but will also give you information on trendy restaurants, shops, as well as places at which to dance after the conference. And check out some of our own suggestions for things to do, and see, and eat below! If you can't wait until October to explore Vienna, watch the [video clip "Vienna on a budget"](#)! See you there!

Getting around the city

The best way for to get from the Vienna International Airport to the Hofburg Conference Center is to use the [City Airport Train](#) (roundtrip: 17 Euros), which brings you non-stop to the center of Vienna. Alternatively, you can also take the suburban railway S7 and get off at "Wien Mitte". Vienna offers an excellent [subway system](#). The operating time of subways ends at midnight during weeknights, while there is 24 hours service on Fridays and Saturdays. You may also want to use [UBER](#) or [cabs](#) in Vienna. If you want to explore highlights of Vienna on track, the [Ring Tram](#) is a fun way to travel in a historical tram around the heart of Vienna.



Local Attractions



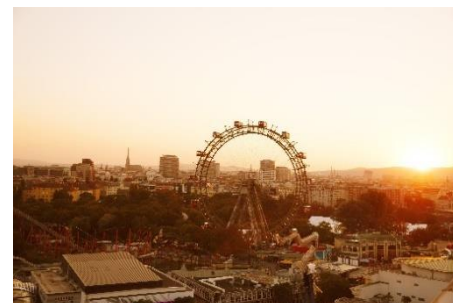
You will love Vienna! You should definitely explore the historical sites in Vienna, including [Hofburg Palace](#), [Schoenbrunn Palace and gardens](#), and don't miss the museums at [MuseumsQuartier](#), the eight largest cultural area in the world. Enjoy walking through the city center of Vienna and visit historic sites like [St. Stephen's Cathedral](#), and visit the [Mozarthaus Vienna](#), where Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart has lived between 1784 and 1787. Vienna is also full of the history of psychology! Be sure to visit the [Sigmund Freud Museum](#) (that consists of Freud's former house and practice) and the [Narrenturm](#) (also known as the Fool's Tower, built in 1784 as the first

psychiatric hospital in the world and is now part of the [Natural History Museum](#)). And you should definitely not leave Vienna without having seen [Wurstelprater](#), the big amusement park which was opened to the public in 1766 by Joseph II. Enjoy Vienna "from the top" during a trip with the Vienna [Giant Ferris Wheel](#) (built for the first time in 1897), which was the world's tallest extant ferris wheel from 1920 until 1985. People interested in opera should try to get a ticket at [Vienna State Opera](#). Check for ongoing events in Vienna [here](#)!



Food

If you are looking for affordable food around the conference site, visit the following restaurants and snack bars: [Burg.ring1](#), [Volksgarten Pavillon](#), [Bitzinger Würstelstand](#) (sausage stand at Albertinaplatz, 6 mins from Hofburg), [Augustinerkeller](#), Vapiano (at [Walfischgasse](#) and [Herrengasse](#)), [MQ-kantine](#), [HALLE](#), [MQ-daily](#), [CORBACI](#), and [GlacisBeisl](#). And, of course, you should try the probably most famous Viennese culinary specialty, the [Sachertorte](#) at [Hotel Sacher](#), which was created for Prince Wenzel von Metternich in 1832. Make sure you try other local specialties, including Wiener Schnitzel, Apfelstrudel (apple strudel), and the pistachio marzipan treat known as the MozartKugel (Mozart Ball). People who like wine will love the traditional [wine taverns called "Heurige"](#), which are located in the [old Viennese wine villages like Grinzing](#).



Nightlife



You want to explore the nightlife of Vienna? We are sure you will have fun at the following clubs: [PRATER DOME](#) (located directly within the world-famous amusement park [Wurstelprater](#)), [Passage](#), [Volksgarten Clubdisco](#), and [Chaya Fuera](#). And you should definitely not miss the [Gürtel ring road](#), which is fast becoming the nerve center of Vienna's nightlife and where you can find exciting music venues in the arches under the elevated subway.

SPOTLIGHT INTERVIEW



Eight Questions with Matthias Wieser ***Professor at Erasmus University of Rotterdam***

1. What drew you to the field of psychophysiology?

My first encounter with psychophysiology not only on a theoretical level as in textbooks was during my diploma (master) studies back in the days of 1999/2000 or something at the University of Würzburg, Germany. I participated in a research lab course in which we investigated how stress influences the responses to pictures of violent and sexually arousing content. Our supervisor then, Martin Reuter, who is now a professor at the University of Bonn, made this whole first experience with setting up an experiment, collecting data, and even the sometimes boring job of data preparation so exciting that we didn't mind to spend hours in the lab, even late at night. I remember vividly how we manually counted R-waves on the kilometers of EKG recordings on paper (Yes, even in the late 90ies/early 00s there were still analogue psychophys recordings around!). I was intrigued by the possibility to investigate possible links between psychological and bodily processes. From this experiment and experience on, I was hooked and decided to do my diploma (masters') thesis in experimental clinical psychology and psychophysiology. A great chance opened when Paul Pauli and Andreas Mühlberger came to Würzburg and gave me the opportunity to do an ERP study on emotion processing in PD patients. Using the just published affective RSVP paradigm by Harald Schupp, I was able to show that PD patients showed intact early emotion discrimination as measured by ERPs, but showed reduced subjective affective arousal. Since then, I became increasingly interested in looking at brain signals as correlates of basic affective and cognitive processes. Today I am still fascinated by the insights especially EEG methods can provide about psychological processes and their perturbations in mental disorders such as anxiety.

2. What differences did you find between psychophysiology in North America compared to Europe? What could North American and European psychophysiologicalists learn from one another?

To be honest, the differences I found were almost non-existent. This may be due to the fact that the Lang lab in Florida has always been taking in a lot of European scientists, and also, that the Würzburg lab of Paul Pauli was heavily influenced by the works and ideas of Peter Lang and Niels Birbaumer. So the general scientific approach in both labs was very similar, very much based in experimental empirical psychology and psychophysiology. And there was the same attitude of hard thinking and working. The main differences I guess -and that's probably not a new story- is that the labs in the US are more non-hierarchical, and especially in Gainesville, the door of each lab member was always open so that you could easily just pop in for a question and discussion.

The main differences were and still are structural ones. A huge difference is that the funding situation in terms of grant success rates was and still is much better in Germany than in the US (and also in the Netherlands). Another difference I noticed at that time was that the grad students in the US had to follow a curriculum with a lot of courses. At that time, in Germany, a grad student was basically doing his/her research project, sometimes teaching, but no formal curriculum. Any further formal training or courses were totally up to his/her own. With the rise of more formal graduate schools in Germany, that has changed since, though.

My experience in SPR is also that the ways of thinking and doing research do not differ a lot between North America and Europe; it's much more between labs. So I cannot really tell what North Americans and Europeans can learn from each other.

3. The Annual Meeting for SPR typically occurs in North America, but every 4th year is in an international location. This year, the meeting will take place in Vienna, Austria. What are you most looking forward to about this year's meeting?

Like for every SPR meeting, I am looking forward the most to meeting a lot of friends which I have luckily been making since attending my first SPR meeting in 2005 in Lisbon. I always have been looking forward to that. And as the SPR blues band notoriously covers artists from the city which hosts the meeting, I am totally looking forward to seeing them perform the works of Falco, Erste Allgemeine Verunsicherung (!), and Bilderbuch! I am counting on you guys! ☺☺☺

4. In 2015, you were selected as the recipient of the Distinguished Early Career Contributions to Psychophysiology award. What did receiving this award mean to you? How has involvement in SPR helped to further your career?

That was just the greatest honor! I mean, just take a look at the list of previous award winners! Being on this list with some of your scientific idols was just unbelievable. And especially, since this society was the first international society I ever joined and still is the scientific society where I feel home the most.

The involvement in SPR has helped to further my career mainly in several ways: First and foremost, it gave me the opportunity to get to know a lot of great scientists, who I was able to talk to and ask for feedback about my own research. Then, the SPR research training award helped me to go to the Lang Lab and improve my EEG skills set by training with Andreas Keil. Also, the chance to learn more about newest methods by attending the SPR pre-conference workshops has been very helpful. The involvement in SPR also gave me the great opportunity to review for Psychophysiology from the beginning of my career, which has helped sharpen my thinking about research designs, theoretical models, etc., and in the end, has made me also a better writer, I think. So overall it is fair to say that being a member of this community has helped me a lot!

5. As a Clinical Psychologist, your research program encompasses both basic and applied research questions. How has your work in basic science informed your research on clinical applications in fear, pain, and anxiety? How does using psychophysiological methods help you to answer your research questions?

First let me start with some clarification: I am not a "real" clinical psychologist in the sense that I received clinical training and see and treat patients. I consider myself rather an experimental clinical psychologist who uses experimental psychology and psychophysiology to better understand normal and abnormal affective and cognitive processes, especially with regards to anxiety and pain. I am convinced that experimental studies elucidating the emotional and cognitive differences between healthy persons and anxious persons or persons with chronic pain will ultimately lead to a translation from basic science to clinical practice: A better understanding of neurocognitive mechanisms in anxiety and pain may result in better personalized treatments of anxiety disorders and chronic pain. So a lot of our research is very basic in nature: How does fear learning and extinction learning change the visual processing of threat- or safety-related stimuli? Is there a difference in visuocortical processes underlying attention to predictable versus unpredictable threat? How does anticipation of different kinds of threat (social, bodily, etc.) influence our attention and perception? In a next step, we aim at using the findings from these basic studies to understand the potential abnormal processes in anxiety disorders. So for example, understanding the neurocognitive signature of attentional biases to threat in social anxiety may help us in developing individualized ABM trainings. Understanding of the neuroplasticity underlying fear learning and extinction learning may inform us about refined exposure-based therapies. In this line of research, we mainly use EEG as our psychophysiological measure of choice in order to unfold the temporal dynamics of emotional and cognitive processes. We use peripheral measures mostly to get a full picture of the emotional or fear response. Another important research line is how cognitive and affective processes alter pain. For example, we investigate how expectations and cognitive manipulations (e.g., cognitive control strategies such as re-appraisal) alter pain perception. Using affective psychophysiology, we try to make sure that our manipulations are not only successful due to response biases. I hope that our work will contribute at some stage to the specification of treatment, but I am fully aware that this basic research work of trying to understand the mechanisms underlying normal and abnormal cognitive and emotional processes takes a lot of time already. I think that especially the study of the brain will help us to understand better what ultimately does or does not change cognition, emotions, and behavior, and for whom.

6. What are your research and career goals in the next five years? What are your long-term professional goals, dreams, and hopes?

Since I just started in Rotterdam 9 months ago, my main and foremost goals in the next years are of course the establishment and extension of my research lines on pain and anxiety here. This includes of course also getting funding grants. Long-term career goals, dreams, hm ... The most important thing is actually to be able to continue doing what I am very lucky to do right now: Working with smart colleagues and students, being curious and addressing the most interesting research questions in creative ways, advising students and do teaching, which makes the students being excited about psychophysiology. As mentioned above, my long-term research goal is to better understand people and their brains, and finally being able to inform the treatments of anxiety and pain. My more general dreams and hopes especially in the current political environment across the world are that science will be appreciated and great again in the end, with decent funding opportunities, with the power to actually inform and guide policy making, and thus the potential to actually keep on improving the world we live in. In short, I dream of a society which thinks of science rather as an asset than as a nuisance or alternative fact. I know, but hey, you asked about my dreams...

7. How important has mentorship been in helping you be successful in your career? As a mentor, how do you train your students for success in psychophysiology?

Mentorship has been incredibly important for my career. It starts with my advisors Paul Pauli and Andreas Mühlberger, who gave me guidance in how to write a paper, a grant proposal, etc., early on. They also encouraged me from the beginning to apply for scholarships for prestigious research schools and to present at scientific meetings (In fact, they made me present in a symposium at my first SPR meeting already, which was intimidating and exciting at the same time). Also, they gave me the freedom to do what I wanted to do, which was extremely helpful in finding my own path. Then, my mentor in the Lang lab during my post-doc, Andreas Keil, was extremely helpful in advancing my understanding of EEG methods and extending my EEG methods repertoire. All of them gave a lot of invaluable feedback on my plans, ideas, and research. So a big thank you to all of you, guys! In my own role as being a mentor, I always try to set an example by being passionate about science, work hard, and also prepare students to deal with the usual setbacks you have to deal with in academia (such as getting rejected). Furthermore, I try to have an open-door policy as much as I can so that I am approachable with questions etc. And I try to encourage my students to go and present their work at conferences. But to be honest, that's what I think I am doing, to get the full picture here, you'll need to ask my students!

8. What advice do you have for young psychophysiologicalists (e.g., regarding training, job preparation, publication, etc.)?

The most important one, I guess, is: *Be passionate about your research!* Don't do any research project because it's just there, it is the hottest thing around the block right now, or it is easily funded (if there is any of this kind). Do the research because you really care about the research question and are genuinely interested in! You will work you're a** off for it, most likely make sacrifices, you will spend hours in the lab or in the office when your friends are having fun elsewhere. So be sure that you really care about your research! This will also help you to persevere, as working in academia is a road paved with setbacks and almost no immediate rewards. Second: *Get exposed!* As soon as you have your first results, data, but sometimes even just plans, try to get as much feedback as you can get. Go to conferences, present your stuff! Initiate a research colloquium if there is none at your department! Nothing beats the feedback of peers and experts outside of your own group. Third: *Get involved!* Try to attend meetings, ask for external mentoring programs, meet your peers and try to build your own scientific network. Try to be able to write papers early on and to be part of the review process. Many journals desperately look for reviewers, so why not offer your service. And last but not least: *Get skilled!* Improve your programming skills, improve your data analysis skills. The field of psychophysiology has always been quickly evolving, so the approach of today may be outdated tomorrow. That's easier said than done, but believe me, you will not really have the time for this after your post-doc. That's probably what I miss the most nowadays being faculty.

Updates from the Committee to Promote Student Interests

Are your needs being met? Want to get involved? Please feel free to contact members of the committee with suggestions, questions, comments, or to bond with a fellow psychophysiological (Contact information available at: <https://www.sprweb.org/about/officers-board-members-staff/committees/>).

International Students Subcommittee: The International Students Subcommittee is currently working together with Karen Quigley and the Rees Group to integrate the student exchange website and forum into the new SPR homepage. After this integration we will officially launch and promote this section of the website. Related to this we also plan different events for students at the SPR meeting in Vienna. More information will be included in the Fall Newsletter before the conference.

Meeting Events Subcommittee: Do you want to get to know the best possibilities to explore Vienna? What are the places in this beautiful city which every student should see? You can look forward to a great Student Social party on Friday night at [BEFANA Club Stadl](#), directly next to the Hofburg Conference Center. For more information about the Student Social and other things to do in Vienna, see the section “**THINGS TO DO IN VIENNA**” of this newsletter. If you have ideas about things to do in Vienna which we haven't mentioned yet, and you would like to get involved in our planning, please contact Matthias Sperl (matthias.sperl@staff.uni-marburg.de). We are looking forward to seeing you in Vienna! “Baba!” for now (this is how you say “Goodbye” in Vienna!).

Membership Retention Subcommittee: The planned analysis on membership status across the years and the potential influence of factors such as receiving travel or poster awards will be postponed for some time. Until now, the awards and the membership data have been stored in separate databases, thus merging the data for this project costs more than we are willing to invest at the moment. From now on, data on travel awards, poster awards and research fellowships will be tracked in the membership database, so the planned analysis can be conducted without additional costs in the future.

Post-doctoral/Early Career Subcommittee: The Post-Doctoral/Early Career Subcommittee has been working on collecting feedback from last semester about the Early Career Conversation Hour (ECCH) and making changes to the event for next year. If you attended the ECCH and would like to submit any feedback or recommend changes, please send them to Philip Gable (pagable@ua.edu).

Public Relations Subcommittee: The PR subcommittee is hard at work starting a program for members to be able to trace their academic “family tree” on SPR's website. Here, members of SPR will be able to add information regarding academic mentorship in order to gauge how their research came to be by means of viewing the ancestry of their specific line of work, as well as to find connections leading to collaborations that otherwise would have gone unnoticed. We hope to have this functionality added to the website and available to the public by the commencement of the annual conference in October. Be watching SPR's Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/Society-for-Psychophysiological-Research-SPR-10150148772625319/>) and Twitter account (@TheRealSPR) for the official launch of the SPR family tree!

Primarily Undergraduate Institution Subcommittee: The PUI (Primarily Undergraduate Institution) Subcommittee is working on a proposal that will further a number of their initiatives, including a competitive travel grant program for faculty and students from PUIs, a delayed abstract submission deadline for undergraduates seeking to present posters at the annual conference, a dedicated symposium for PUI faculty, and summer research opportunities that would unite motivated undergraduates with laboratories that could provide them with experience (methodological or otherwise) with which they might not otherwise have access. We are also looking for a senior, experienced member of SPR to serve as a mentor and advisor for future initiatives. If you are interested in getting involved, have ideas for PUI initiatives, or have a suggestion for a PUI advisor, please contact Cat Norris (cnorris2@swarthmore.edu) or attend the meeting of the Committee to Promote Student Interests in October!

Women in Science Committee: This year's WISE Lunch will address the topic of “Shattering the Glass Ceiling”, with a special focus on achieving the rank of full professor and administrative positions. We will have a special panel discussion where women who have successfully been promoted to top positions in their departments will share insight on how they achieved success. As always, the WISE Lunch is open to all who would like to attend.



Have an exciting opportunity for our student members or a fun student event planned for the 57th annual SPR conference in Vienna? We'd love to highlight it in our next newsletter! Contact Jolie Wormwood at: jbwormwood@gmail.com