

ISTP Newsletter

2018, Issue 2

Remarks from the President

If minds were topologically organised, then at the top of mine right now is a certain excited and indeed accelerating expectation concerning Copenhagen between the 19th and the 23rd August, 2019. Our next biennial Conference will be our 18th, but it will be our first conference in Denmark. Ditte Alexandra Winther-Lindqvist and her team of local organisers (based in Aarhus University) have announced what I think is an excellent and thought-provoking theme for the conference: 'Measured lives: theoretical psychology in an era of acceleration'.

Setting themes for our conferences is a way of lending a distinctive consistency and 'flavour' to each one, although it should be noted that papers which do not address the theme are not disqualified on that account. Let me offer a few words – in the form of three observations - about why I like the theme for Copenhagen 2019. First, to my mind, the main title 'measured lives' neatly sets up a productive ambiguity. On the one hand, it alludes to the idea of a human subject that has not only been 'quantified' as part of a quest for efficiency, optimisation and well-being, but has been *defined* by way of such measurement. Psychological science is by no means the only player here, but its role is surely rather significant. On the other hand, the title also suggests a critical response that might resist precisely to the extent that it is *measured* in the sense of balanced, harmonious, well-proportioned,

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Professor Paul Stenner, ISTP President

timely. It suggests, in other words, the importance of attending to something like an 'art of life'. Second, the subtitle sets us questioning about the nature of our era: do we, globally speaking, share an era, and if so, what happens when we characterise it as an era of acceleration? Third, in bringing title and subtitle together, we are encouraged to examine the ways in which some core problems of psychology, stress, depression, fatigue, anxiety and much more besides, participate in forces of acceleration that appear integral to globalising economy and society.

Importantly, this theme also has the virtue of making room for a wide range of issues, topics and approaches within theoretical psychology. It is not restrictive and does not require that contributors buy into a singular theoretical framework or belief system. We are a thoroughly international society, and it will be fascinating to learn how the theme 'shows up' from the perspectives offered by psychologists from different countries and continents. We are also a society that welcomes interdisciplinary collaboration, and so relevant contributions from colleagues based in other disciplines are also most welcome.

Although the deadline for the first call for papers, symposia and panels has now passed, there is still opportunity to submit in response to the second call (see the website <http://conferences.au.dk/istp2019/call-for-papers/>). Please also continue to spread the word to those who may be interested in attending and in joining ISTP.

Evan Shillabeer once again deserves our thanks for putting together this Newsletter. To make Evan's job a little easier, I would like to take this opportunity to encourage all members to send suggestions for content for the next Newsletter to Evan at your earliest convenience (newsletter.istp@gmail.com). This might take the form of announcements of forthcoming events, publications etc, or of topical discussion pieces relevant to theoretical psychology, reflections on current developments, and so on. For examples of such contributions from previous Newsletters, just click the Newsletters tab on the ISTP website, which is updated thanks to Susannah Mulvale (at <https://istp.wildapricot.org>). We certainly welcome contributions from PhD students and colleagues in the early phases of their career.

Paul Stenner, ISTP President

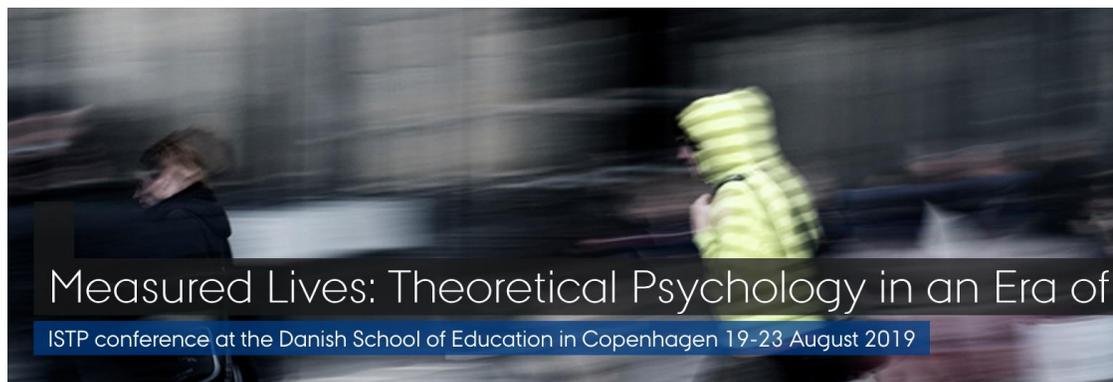
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The theme of the 18th biennial conference of the International Society for Theoretical Psychology is: Measured Lives- Theoretical Psychology in an Era of Acceleration

Two dominant forces in contemporary capitalist societies are the concentration on something measurable and the quest for acceleration, efficiency, and speed. These may be a crucial part of increasing productivity, but the values and forms of life emerging from the ethnos of acceleration and efficiency may also place a burden on human suffering and in structuring that suffering as 'new pathologies'.

Key notes

- Hartmut Rosa (Friedrich-Schiller-Universität Jena)
- Dorte Marie Søndergaard (Danish School of Education, Aarhus University)
- Uffe Juul Jensen (Aarhus University)
- Pablo Oyarzún (Universidad de Chile)
- Ann Phoenix (University College London)

Time and place

Danish School of Education, Tuborgvej 164, 2400 Copenhagen, Denmark

Date: 19 to 23 August 2019

Important dates

Final call for papers, posters, symposium 1st February 2019 (response 1st March 2019)

Final call for panel discussions 21st January 2019 (response 1st March 2019)

Registration opens 1st March 2019

conferences.au.dk/istp2019

ISTP Membership Information

We are inviting membership applications.

Membership dues can be paid by means of credit card, cheque, or bank transfer.

The full membership fee is \$155 for a year whilst the reduced fee is \$60 (\$45 for students).

To register, please visit our website

<https://istp.wildapricot.org/Membership-Application/>

Money generated from memberships make it possible for us to offer students bursaries for ISTP conference attendance, award the Sigmund Koch Prize for best student member presentation, and facilitate the publication of conference proceedings- now also available in e-format.

Further Updates to our Privacy Policy

As you are probably aware, since May 25th 2018 the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) came into force. This constitutes a change in EU legislation that has required ISTP to write a new Privacy Policy and a new Privacy Statement. This regulation is designed to give the citizen more control over use of their personal data. We issued a Privacy Statement in the last Newsletter. We have since simplified this Privacy Statement to minimise the administration involved (see below).

ISTP Privacy Statement

With the introduction in May 2018 of a new European privacy law (the GDPR) to improve privacy protection for members of the EU, the International Society for Theoretical Psychology (ISTP) has devised a new Privacy Policy and associated Privacy Statement. Through this Privacy Statement we would like to inform you of the ways in which ISTP processes your personal data.

Personal data is collected and processed by the ISTP either as part of Membership subscriptions (i.e. if you are a member) or as part of Conference registration (some delegates may be non-members).

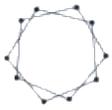
The ISTP collects personal information from members including:

- your name
- the name of the Department/School and University/educational institution in which you work, if relevant
- your postal address and/or email address, if you have provided us with these
- your membership subscriptions

In the case of membership subscriptions, these data are held securely and processed for administrative purposes, such as communicating with members about the Society's business (e.g. via the Newsletter) and maintaining the Society's records. ISTP has an Affiliation Agreement with Sage Publications, who publish the Journal *Theory and Psychology*. Full membership of ISTP includes print and online copies of *Theory and Psychology*, while reduced membership includes online access at an 80% discount. Sage also provide a £200 Student Travel Award for the Biennial Conference. ISTP's Affiliation Agreement with Sage authorizes Sage to process membership data in order to distribute copies of the Sage Journal *Theory and Psychology* to those who opt for Full Membership, to contact ISTP members for the purposes of explaining how to register for on-line access, and for other ISTP relevant business concerning *Theory and Psychology*.

If you are not a member, or no longer a member, but have attended a recent ISTP Biennial Conference and have consented to use of your data, ISTP may have access to essentially the same data (name, email and terrestrial address and other data relevant to your registration). Following our Privacy Policy updated after the introduction of GDPR, this data will be held on a listserve which may be used only for relevant communications about ISTP and its activities. Those who wish to unsubscribe from this listserve can do so using a link that appears at the end of each email sent from the listserve.

Should you at any time wish to review, revise or delete the details we hold about you, or should you have any queries concerning data protection including notifications of breaches, please contact the ISTP Secretary at: istp.society@gmail.com.



NIELS BOHR
PROFESSORSHIP CENTRE FOR
CULTURAL PSYCHOLOGY



AALBORG UNIVERSITY
DENMARK



THE UNIVERSITY OF
SYDNEY

Early bid call

3rd International Winter School “The method of Imagination”

The decolonization of imagination: The dynamics of voicing, silencing, ventriloquing and speaking on behalf

University of Sydney, 2-5 December 2019

Topic and goal

The general topic of the winter school is the notion of the imaginative process as higher mental function. It means that imaginative processes can be studied in their ontogenesis and sociogenesis, as in the case of other higher functions, and in relation to the cultural mediation of imagining. What is then the relationship between imaginative processes and value-systems, materialities, practices, communication, imaginaries and power dynamics? All these issues are today central in the field of social justice, decolonization, cultural psychology and social human sciences at large.

The specific goal of the 3rd winter school will be to explore the cultural processes of inhibiting and promoting imaginative forms, how psychology works in voicing (promote the expression), silencing (making invisible), ventriloquing (projecting its own values) or speaking on behalf of (inhibiting autonomous expression) diversity, its legitimation and power dynamics in the current colonization, decolonization and recolonization collective processes. The participants will reflect theoretically and practically on the role of imagining as access to radical otherness and production of “othering”. For instance, how dominant power dynamics have inhibited some forms (rejecting imagining as form of legitimate knowledge creation in the name of primitive superstition, as for instance in the case of Aboriginal cultures, creating divides between rationality and imagination, judging as indecent fantasies in the case of woman sexuality, to mention but few), or promoted some others (e.g. imagination and creativity and innovation as commodities, the dictatorship of desires, etc.). The answers to these questions can bring new hints to different fields: social psychology, psychology of communication, decolonizing studies, cultural studies, culture-sensitive therapy, just to mention but few.

Significance

This event serves as unique interdisciplinary and international collaboration between clinical and cultural psychology interrogating a critical issue in academic reform. Now more than ever University programs must co-produce knowledge with diverse and marginalized populations, asking critical questions about the effects of the colonial legacy on what is taught. This includes deconstructing the philosophical frameworks that inform how psychology is understood by and enacted on both those who practice and consume it. Rather than apply superficial policies regarding decolonization, however, we need to develop imaginative responses, encouraging PhD students and early-stage researchers to ask questions about themselves and social processes, in order to take up creative leadership roles. There needs to be a move away from cultural diversity as the study of the “exotic other” towards reflexive practice about so-called mainstream cultures by those who are privileged.

Activities and participants

The winter school "The decolonization of imagination" will take place over three days (2-5 December 2019) in Sydney and will be organized by the Centre for Cultural Psychology of Aalborg University and the University of Sydney. The number of participants will be max 20, including PhD students and early stage researcher, who will have theoretical discussions, field works and collective writing sessions. There will be a preparation phase including a number of preliminary reading and a follow up phase that will result in a collective publication. The organizers of the winter school are Luca Tateo (Aalborg University), Paul Rhodes (Sydney University) and Pina Marsico (Salerno University).

International teaching staff

- Cynthia Langtiw (Chicago School of Professional Psychology, USA)
- Pina Marsico (Salerno University, Italy)
- Paul Rhodes (Sydney University, Australia)
- Luca Tateo (Aalborg University, Denmark)
- Omid Tophigian (American University of Cairo, Egypt)

Participants and registration

Early stage researchers (advanced students, PhD, Post-doc, young researchers) in all disciplines are welcome, with particular focus on psychology, philosophy and history of ideas. Participation is open to max20 participants, who need to provide a short (approx. 250 words) description of their research interests/projects.

There will be two registration deadlines with different participant fees:

- Early bid: for those registered before 30 June 2019 the fee will be 1000 Australian Dollars (around 620 Euros) including 3 nights accommodation at Sydney University, coffee break and lunch.
- Regular registration: for those registered before 30 October 2019 the fee will be 1200 Australian Dollars (around 745 Euros) including 3 nights accommodation at Sydney University, coffee break and lunch.

All the information on registration and payment, scientific program and invited lectures will be available from 1st February 2019 until October 30, 2019 on the Centre for Cultural Psychology website (www.ccp.aau.dk). For further inquiries, please write to luca@hum.aau.dk

What is the winter school "The method of imagination"

The goal of the cycle of International Winter School on "The method of imagination" is to introduce and develop the new multidisciplinary field of study of imaginative process among early-stage researchers and advanced students. As a peculiar form of knowing, imaginative activity is at work in several contexts of everyday life and it is related to other higher mental processes and functions (memory, emotion, judgment, problem solving, etc.). It is also a process through which we construct collective products that become social realities and through which we construct our relationship with the environment. The winter school aims at establishing the interdisciplinary field of imaginative processes studies and to train early stage researchers from different disciplines.

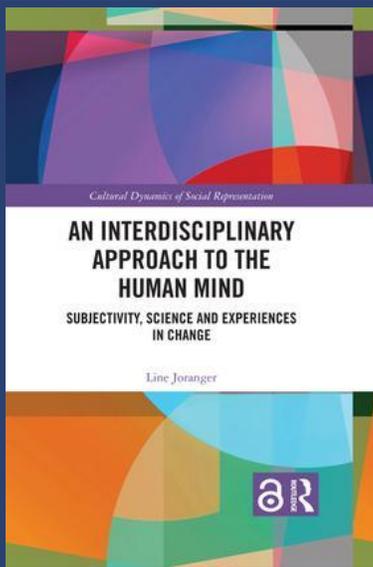
The winter schools are organized every two years by the Centre for Cultural Psychology (www.ccp.aau.dk), Aalborg University, which is a world-leading location in the field of cultural psychology, in collaboration with other higher education institutions.

The first international winter school "The method of imagination", took place 18-21 February 2015 in Klitgaarden Residence in Skagen, Denmark. The goal was to open the field of study of imagination as higher mental function and to begin the training of a new generation of students. The outcome was a collective volume "The Method of Imagination. Multidisciplinary explorations" published in 2018 by Information Age. The second edition took place in Vienna in 18-20 December 2017, and was organized with the Sigmund Freud University. The topic was "Hidden present and visible absent", focusing on the theoretical and applied issues of imagination as a resource for the researcher. The outcome was a collective autoethnography published on the Springer journal "Human Arenas. An Interdisciplinary Journal of Psychology, Culture, and Meaning" in 2018.

Research at the 3rd International Winter School "The method of imagination" The decolonization of Imagination

One aspect of the school will be to conduct a collective auto-ethnography of the experience of participants for the interdisciplinary journal Human Arenas. This innovative form of research aims at knowledge production through ethnographic collective writing with mixed media and aims to capture the introspections of the group in creative form, allowing for the results to be disseminated to the wider academic audience. This study has already precedents (Rhodes, et al. (2018) Hidden Present, Visible Absent in The City of Dreams: Assembling the Collective Imagination. *Human Arenas*, 1(2), pp 151-165; Tateo et. al. (2018) Five Gazes on the Border: A Collective Auto-Ethnographic Writing. *Human Arenas*, 1(2), pp 113-133) having been produced as a result on the second edition of the Winter School in Vienna.

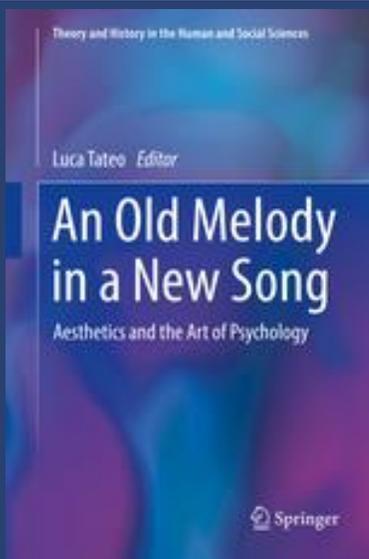
Hot off the Press!



An Interdisciplinary Approach to the Human Mind: Subjectivity, Science and Experiences in Change

By Line Joranger

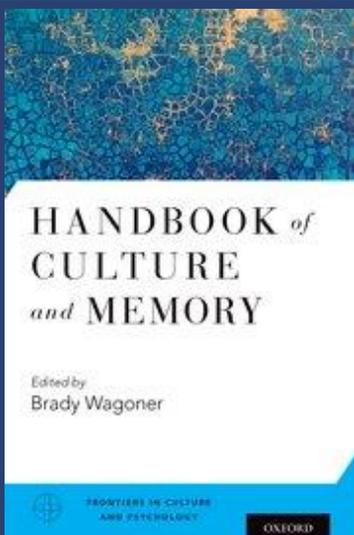
“One of the main aims of modern mental health care is to understand a person's explicit and implicit ways of thinking and acting. So, it may seem like the ultimate paradox that mental health care services are currently overflowing with brain concepts belonging to the external, visible brain-world and that neuroscientists are poised to become new experts on human conduct. *An Interdisciplinary Approach to the Human Mind* shows that to create care that is truly innovative, mental health care workers must not only ask questions about how their conceptions of human beings and psychological phenomena came into being, but should also see themselves as co-creators of the mystery they seek to solve. Looking at the human being as a being with a biological body and unique subjective experiences, living in a reciprocal relationship with its sociocultural and historical environment, the book will provide examples and theories that show the necessity of an innovating, interdisciplinary mental health care service that manages to adapt its theory and methods to environmental, biological, and subjective changes. To this end, the book will provide an innovating psychology that offers a broad kaleidoscope of perspectives about the relations between the history of psychology, as a scientific discipline oriented to interpret and explain subject and subjectivity phenomenon, and the social construction of subjectified experience.” Find out more [here](#).



An Old Melody in a New Song: Aesthetics and the Art of Psychology

By Luca Tateo

“This book explores the relationship between cultural psychology and aesthetics, by integrating the historical, theoretical and phenomenological perspectives. It offers a comprehensive discussion of the history of aesthetics and psychology from an international perspective, with contributions by leading researchers from Serbia, Austria, Portugal, Norway, Denmark, and Brazil. The first section of the book aims at summarizing the debate of where the song comes from. It discusses undeveloped topics, methodological hints, and epistemological questions in the different areas of contemporary psychological sciences. The second section of the book presents concrete examples of case-studies and methodological issues (the new melodies in psychological research) to stimulate further explorations. The book aims to bring art back into psychology, to provide an understanding for the art of psychology. *An Old Melody in a New Song* will be of interest to advanced students and researchers in the fields of educational and developmental psychology, cultural psychology, history of ideas, aesthetics, and art-based research.” Find out more [here](#).

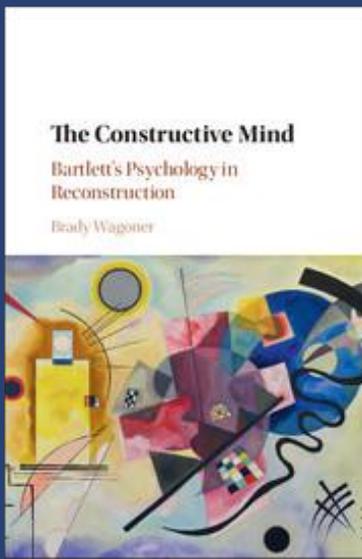


Handbook of Culture and Memory

Edited by Brady Wagoner

“In the *Handbook of Culture and Memory*, Brady Wagoner and his team of international contributors explore how memory is deeply entwined with social relationships, stories in film and literature, group history, ritual practices, material artifacts, and a host of other cultural devices. Culture is seen as the medium through which people live and make meaning of their lives. In this book, analyses focus on the mutual constitution of people's memories and the social-cultural worlds to which they belong. The complex relationship between culture and memory is explored in: the concept of memory and its relation to evolution, neurology and history; life course changes in memory from its development in childhood to its decline in old age; and the national and transnational organization of collective memory and identity through narratives propagated in political discourse, the classroom, and the media.” Find out more [here](#).

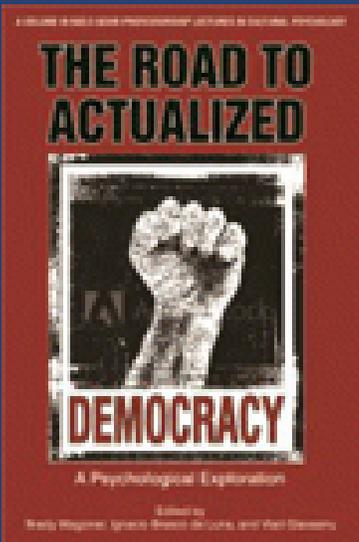
Hot off the Press!



The Constructive Mind: Bartlett's Psychology in Reconstruction

By Brady Wagoner

"The Constructive Mind is an integrative study of the psychologist Frederic Bartlett's (1886–1969) life, work and legacy. Bartlett is most famous for the idea that remembering is constructive and for the concept of schema; for him, 'constructive' meant that human beings are future-oriented and flexibly adaptive to new circumstances. This book shows how his notion of construction is also central to understanding social psychology and cultural dynamics, as well as other psychological processes such as perceiving, imagining and thinking. Wagoner contextualises the development of Bartlett's key ideas in relation to his predecessors and contemporaries. Furthermore, he applies Bartlett's constructive analysis of cultural transmission in order to chart how his ideas were appropriated and transformed by others that followed. As such this book can also be read as a case study in the continuous reconstruction of ideas in science." Find out more [here](#).



The Road to Actualized Democracy: A Psychological Exploration

Edited by Brady Wagoner, Ignacio Bresco de Luna, Vlad Glăveanu

"Democracy is the worst form of government, except for all the others" once remarked Winston Churchill. In this day and age this quotation resonates more than ever. This book explores democracy from the perspective of social and cultural psychology, highlighting the importance of the everyday basis of democratic practices. This approach takes us beyond the simple understanding of democracy in its institutional guise of free elections and public accountability, and towards a focus on group dynamics and personal characteristics of the democratic citizen, including their mentalities, habits and ways of relating to others. The book features discussions of the two-way street between democracy and dictatorship; conflicts within protests, ideology and public debate; and the psychological profile of a democratic citizen and its critique. While acknowledging the limitations of today's democratic systems, this volume aims to re-invigorate democracy by bringing psychology to the table of current debates on social change and citizenship." Find out more [here](#).



Street Art of Resistance

Edited by Sarah Awad & Brady Wagoner

"This book explores how street art has been used as a tool of resistance to express opposition to political systems and social issues around the world. Aesthetic devices such as murals, tags, posters, street performances and caricatures are discussed in terms of how they are employed to occupy urban spaces and present alternative visions of social reality. Based on empirical research, the authors use the framework of creative psychology to explore the aesthetic dimensions of resistance that can be found in graffiti, art, music, poetry and other creative cultural forms. Chapters include case studies from countries including Brazil, Canada, Chile, Denmark, Egypt, Ireland, Mexico and Spain to shed new light on the social, cultural and political dynamics of street art not only locally, but globally. This innovative collection will be of particular interest to scholars of social and political psychology, urban studies and the wider sociologies and is essential reading for all those interested in the role of art in social change." Find out more [here](#).

Hot off the Press!

The Psychology of Radical Social Change

From Rage to Revolution

Edited by Brady Wagoner,
Fathali M. Moghaddam and Jaan Valsiner



The Psychology of Radical Social Change

Edited by Brady Wagoner, Fathali Moghaddam, & Jaan Valsiner

“Since 2011 the world has experienced an explosion of popular uprisings that began in the Middle East and quickly spread to other regions. What are the different social-psychological conditions for these events to emerge, what different trajectories do they take, and how are they represented to the public? To answer these questions, this book applies the latest social psychological theories to contextualized cases of revolutions and uprisings from the eighteenth to the twenty-first century in countries around the world. In so doing, it explores continuities and discontinuities between past and present uprisings, and foregrounds such issues as the crowds, collective action, identity changes, globalization, radicalization, the plasticity of political behaviour, and public communication.” Find out more [here](#).

International and Cultural Psychology
Series Editor: Anthony J. Marsella, Ph.D.

Carl Ratner

Neoliberal Psychology

Springer

Neoliberal Psychology

By Carl Ratner

“This provocative monograph defines the elusive concept of neoliberal psychology, focusing on its form, content, and cultural contexts and establishing it as a core feature of modern society. Its cross-cultural analysis examines the reality of neoliberal psychology in the globalized world, asserting that neoliberalism influences individuals’ sense of self, identity, and—regardless of country of origin—concept of nationality. Macro cultural psychological theory opens out neoliberal psychology in its most visible aspects, such as work life, sexuality, consumer behavior, and the shared vision of the good life. At the same time, the author identifies profound social inequities and other negative aspects of neoliberal society and discusses how they may be corrected. Since neoliberalism is the dominant social system in today’s world, and because it commands both strong support and strong criticism from diverse interest groups, *Neoliberal Psychology* will be of general interest to a wide readership. The book’s psychological focus is a new window into neoliberalism that is more accessible than more technical accounts of its economics and politics, and it should appeal especially to social science students and professors.” Find out more [here](#).



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Note from the Editor

Evan Shillabeer

Graduate Student

University of Alberta, Canada

Thank you for reading this newsletter, and thanks to those who sent in contributions. As we begin to approach the next major ISTP conference, I would like to encourage contributions to the newsletter. There have been fewer contributions submitted for the last several issues, and I would like to receive more contributions that we can include upcoming issues.

The ISTP newsletter is an important forum to share information relevant to the practice of theoretical psychology, such as recent book publications that may be of interest to fellow members and friends. Moreover, the newsletter is a space to exchange ideas and reflections among researchers. Going forward, I would like to encourage all our readers to consider writing up a short reflection on the experience of conducting theoretical research in psychology or perspectives on the status of the field. These kinds of contributions can help open dialogue among colleagues as we approach our next major conference in Copenhagen.

Please continue to also use the newsletter to advertise conferences, seminars, and workshops; information on pertinent job postings; and updates on recent events relevant to theory and psychology.

Please contact us at our new email address (newsletter.istp@gmail.com) if you would like to contribute to the ISTP newsletter or have any questions about this and/or future issues.

Best wishes,

Evan Shillabeer