

Rapaport-Klein Study Group

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c/o Nadine Desautels

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**Please note: due to the COVID-19 pandemic
this meeting will be held in video-conference with Zoom**

March 2021

Dear *Rapaport-Klein Study Group* Members,

We are pleased to invite you to the 59th Annual Meeting of the *Rapaport-Klein Study Group*, which will be held on **June 4-6, 2021**. Like last year, unfortunately, due to the COVID-19 pandemic we will not be able to meet in person at the *Austen Riggs Center*, but we'll meet in video-conference (the program we'll use is *Zoom*, and all members will receive information on how to connect). Since we'll not have the traditional dinner at the *Red Lion Inn*, **Friday evening we'll begin at 7 pm rather than 8 pm**. Below are our speakers' descriptions of their presentations and biographical statements

Friday night, June 4, 2021

7:00-9:00 pm:

Cristina M. Alberini, “Remembering, Forgetting and the Neurobiological Bases of Identity” [this presentation will be introduced by Anne Erreich]

How are memories formed and stored? Can they be changed, weakened or strengthened? Are we the result of what we learn and remember? What happens during the first few years of life when memories are formed but rapidly lost, thus leading to infantile amnesia? I will discuss studies from my laboratory on the biological mechanisms of memories revealing very dynamic processes of memory storage and their critical modulation by emotions. I will discuss recent data indicating that infantile experiences are not forgotten, but stored in a latent form, and, in fact, they can be re-instated by recalls given later in life. The biological mechanisms underlying the formation of these latent infantile memories revealed the existence of critical periods of learning to learn and remember. These findings have important implications for the use of memory consolidation and reconsolidation in therapeutic settings, and for understanding how individuality and identity are shaped.

Cristina M. Alberini, Ph.D., graduated in *Immunological Sciences at the University of Genoa (Italy)*, and then trained in *neurobiology as a post-doctoral fellow at Columbia University*. From 1997 to 2000 she was an *Assistant Professor in the Department of Neuroscience at Brown University* and then *Associate and Full Professor at Mount Sinai School of Medicine in New York from 2001 to 2011*. In 2011 she joined the *Center for Neural Science at New York University (NYU)* where she is currently a *Professor in Neuroscience*. She trained as a *psychoanalyst at the National Psychological Association for Psychoanalysis (NPAP)* and became licensed in the state of New York in 2012. Prof. Alberini's research focuses on understanding the *molecular and brain plasticity mechanisms underlying long-term memory formation and retrieval*. Her studies target different ages of the lifespan. The results of her studies provide information for developing potential therapeutics against cognitive impairments and psychopathologies. Prof. Alberini received the *Hirschl-Weill Career Scientist Award*, the *National Alliance for Research on Schizophrenia and Depression (NARSAD) Independent Investigator Award*, the *Golgi Medal Award*, the *Athena Award*, the *Merit Award*, and the *2018 Jacob K. Javits NYU Award*.

Saturday, June 5, 2021

9.00-10:15 am: Informal go-around

Saturday morning will open with our traditional informal go-around to discuss members' current work and introduce guests. This will be followed by our two Saturday speakers.

10:30 am-1:00 pm:

Mark Solms, “Revision of Drive Theory” [this presentation will be introduced by David Olds]

This paper proposes deep revisions of Freud's theory of the drives. The main revisions are as follows: (1) Drives are conscious and are in fact the source of all consciousness; (2) Drive energy is equated with variational free energy and is therefore quantifiable in principle; (3) There are not two drives but many, seven of which may be described as “emotional” as opposed to “bodily” drives; (4) All drives are self-preservative or preservative of the species; there is no death drive at work in the mind. This means, at the mechanistic level, that all drives are homeostatic and anti-entropic; (5) The great task of mental development is to supplement instinctual predictions about how our multiple drive demands may be met and reconciled with each other. This work is done by learning from experience, mainly through voluntary behaviour, which is governed by conscious feelings.

Mark Solms, Ph.D., was born in 1961. He was educated at Pretoria Boys High School and the University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg. He emigrated to England in 1988. There he worked at the Department of Psychology of University College London (UCL) and the Department of Neurosurgery of the Royal London Hospital while he trained at the Institute of Psychoanalysis. He returned to South Africa in 2002, and now holds the Chair of Neuropsychology at the Neuroscience Institute of the University of Cape Town and Groote Schuur Hospital. His rating by the National Research Foundation is “A1” and he is a Member of the Academy of Science of South Africa. He has received numerous prizes and honours, such as the Sigourney Award, the International Psychoanalytic Association's (IPA) Outstanding Scientific Achievement Award and Honorary Fellowship of the American College of Psychiatrists. He is Training Director of the South African Psychoanalytical Association, Director of the Science Department of the American Psychoanalytic Association and Research Chair of the IPA. He has published 350 articles in both neuroscientific and psychoanalytic journals, and he has authored eight books. The Brain and the Inner World: An Introduction to the Neuroscience of the Subjective Experience (New York: Other Press, 2003) was translated into 13 languages. His collected papers were published recently as The Feeling Brain (London: Routledge, 2015) His latest book is The Hidden Spring: A Journey to the Source of Consciousness (New York: Norton, 2021). He is the editor and translator of the forthcoming Revised Standard Edition of the Complete Psychological Works of Sigmund Freud (24 volumes) and Complete Neuroscientific Works of Sigmund Freud (4 volumes).

Saturday, June 5, 2021

2:30-5:00 pm:

Michael Tomasello, “Origins of Human Cooperation” [this presentation will be introduced by Mauricio Cortina]

Humans are biologically adapted for cultural life in ways that other primates are not. Humans have unique motivations and cognitive skills for sharing emotions, experience, and collaborative actions (shared intentionality). These motivations and skills first emerge in human ontogeny at around one year of age, as infants begin to participate with other persons in various kinds of collaborative and joint attentional activities, including linguistic communication. Our nearest primate relatives understand important aspects of intentional action – especially in competitive situations – but they do not seem to have the motivations and cognitive skills necessary to engage in activities involving collaboration, shared intentionality, and, in general, things cultural.

Michael Tomasello, Ph.D., is Professor of Psychology and Neuroscience at Duke University, and emeritus director at the Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology, Leipzig, Germany. His research interests focus on processes of cooperation, communication, and cultural learning in human children and great apes. His recent books include Origins of Human Communication (Cambridge, MA: MIT Press, 2008); Why We Cooperate (Cambridge, MA: MIT Press, 2009); A Natural History of Human Thinking (Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 2014); A Natural History of Human Morality (Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 2016); and Becoming Human: A Theory of Ontogeny (Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 2019).

Sunday, June 6, 2021

9:00-10:00 am: Members’ Business Meeting

10:00 am-12:30 pm:

Wilma Bucci, Ph.D., Charles M. Jaffe, M.D., and Sean Murphy, Ph.D., with the participation of Bernard Maskit, Ph.D., and Leon Hoffman, M.D., “The Mind of the Therapist and the Measures of Research: A Clinician-Researcher Collaboration for the Study of Psychotherapy Process” [this presentation will be introduced by Chris Christian]

The presentation will be based on the ongoing Clinician-Researcher Seminar that has been an innovative activity at the *New York Psychoanalytic Society and Institute* for the past several years and has included senior clinicians from several institutes as well as researchers and students. The seminar includes the treating clinician who presents his perspective on the treatment, clinicians who comment on the material, and researchers applying computerized process measures developed in the context of Multiple Code Theory. The goal of the seminar is to see how research can help in understanding the treatment process and for clinicians to provide ideas for new research approaches. In this presentation, Wilma Bucci will outline the theoretical framework and describe the research measures developed in that context; Charles Jaffe will describe the sample case to be discussed, present videos of segments of sessions and provide his own reactions to the process; and Sean Murphy will present application of the measures to the case material. The discussion will focus on the points that the measures suggest are important and on the clinical points of interest that the measures did not pick up; we will call for the views of the audience concerning their perspectives on these points and other aspects of the clinical material. Leon Hoffman and Bernie Maskit will participate in the presentation.

Wilma Bucci, Ph.D., is Professor Emerita, Derner Institute, Adelphi University; Honorary Member of the American Psychoanalytic Association (APsaA), the New York Psychoanalytic Society & Institute (NYPSI), and the Institute for Psychoanalytic Training and Research (IPTAR); Co-Director of Research at the Pacella Research Center; author of *Psychoanalysis and Cognitive Science: A Multiple Code Theory* (New York: Guilford, 1997), and many clinical, theoretical and research papers.

Charles M. Jaffe, M.D., is Training and Supervising Analyst at the Chicago Institute for Psychoanalysis and Assistant Professor of Psychiatry (retired) at Rush University Medical Center. He has been a four-time recipient of the Residents' Award for Outstanding Psychotherapy Teacher in the Psychiatric Residency at Rush University Medical Center. His writings focus on psychoanalytic theory, adolescent development, theory of therapeutic action, and integration of clinical work and research. He is also the drummer in the trio Second City Jazz. Dr. Jaffe is in private practice in Chicago.

Sean Murphy, Ph.D., is the Senior Data Scientist at Vibrant Emotional Health, the organization behind the US National Suicide Prevention Lifeline, New York City's NYC Well program, and various other emotional health programs and services. He has a Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology from Adelphi University, teaches statistics and research methods at John Jay College of Criminal Justice, and conducts psychotherapy process research with collaborators at the New York Psychoanalytic Society & Institute (NYPSI).

Leon Hoffman, M.D., is Training and Supervising Analyst, Supervisor in Child and Adolescent Psychoanalysis, and Co-Director of the Pacella Research Center at the New York Psychoanalytic Society & Institute (NYPSI); Faculty, Icahn School of Medicine, Mount Sinai; and Chief Psychiatrist/Psychoanalyst West End Day School. He is senior author of *Manual of Regulation-Focused Psychotherapy for Children with Externalizing Behaviors (RFP-C): A Psychodynamic Approach* (New York: Routledge, 2016), and many clinical, theoretical and research publications

Bernard Maskit, Ph.D., is Leading Professor Emeritus of Mathematics at Stony Brook University and the author of many mathematics research articles. He is currently a member of the Pacella Research Center of the New York Psychoanalytic Society & Institute (NYPSI), and is the chair of their IRB. He is the originator of the Discourse Attributes Analysis Program (DAAP) computer program, which produces many psycholinguistic measures related to the study of psychotherapy process.

Website, Guests, and Dues

Our website remains <www.psychomedia.it/rapaport-klein> to review the history of every meeting since the beginning of our group including many of the papers presented (this year program's web page is <www.psychomedia.it/rapaport-klein/june2021.htm>). If there are any changes in your e-mail address, please notify Paolo at <migone@unipr.it>. We will post on our web site the documents that speakers would like to pre-circulate (Michael Tomasello already posted one of his articles). We will post also the video and audio recordings of all sessions. Any suggestions for improving our website are welcome and should be directed to Paolo.

Given that this year's meeting will again be remote, dues for Members and Guests is reduced to \$50.00. This is intended to cover the cost of the \$500.00 honorarium we are giving guest speakers and other miscellaneous expenses. If we were meeting in person this year we would follow our normal practice of not offering an honorarium, opting instead to cover the cost of a stay at the *Red Lion Inn*, travel, and food for guest speakers. But alas, this is not a typical year. For members who paid full dues for last year's meeting (several of you did for 2020), Craig will apply that amount to your 2022 dues – we do have a record of your payment, so no worries. If you have any questions, feel free to ask Craig. We request no more than one guest per member. Kindly email Craig (<cpiers@williams.edu>) to let us know if you are inviting a guest

We look forward to seeing you once again and enjoying the weekend together, this time, for the second time, in video-conference.

Warm regards,
Paolo Migone and Craig Piers, *Co-Chairs*