



Canadian Psychological Association Social & Personality Section

Dear CPA Social-Personality Section members,

On behalf of the section executive, welcome to the Spring 2009 edition of the Section Newsletter. The Social-Personality section remains one of the most active and vital contributors to CPA! Our section continues to do well in terms of membership and financial standing. In this Newsletter we have several important announcements to share with you regarding the upcoming CPA Annual convention and section pre-conference in Montreal, updates to the section executive membership, and general section news.

But first some well-deserved thanks to those who have helped and/or contributed to this year's SP section pre-conference and the Annual Convention. Thanks to all who submitted work to the Annual Convention. We have another exciting program this year

and the details and highlights of the 2009 convention SP program are provided on the Program Highlights page (page 3). Thanks also to all those who took the time to review abstracts for the Annual convention, and a special thanks to Susan Boon for coordinating the review process. Finally, thanks to Aaron Kay for organizing the speaker lineup for this year's section pre-conference, and all those who agreed to present. More information about this year's stellar pre-conference line-up can be found on page 5.

And last but not least, thank-you to all who volunteered their time to the section by serving on the executive committee this past year, and/or anyone else who helped with the continuing success of the section.

Sean Moore
Chair, CPA Social-Personality Section

Section Announcements

Although most of the executive members have agreed to stay on for another year, there are two vacant positions on the section executive that need to be filled. One is for Chair-Elect, and the other for a Student Representative. Please see below for detailed descriptions of these positions and the responsibilities associated with each.

We would also like to invite and encourage members to attend and contribute to the Section Business Meeting on Thursday June 11, from 8:00 to 8:55 am. At this meeting we will present the Student Awards and discuss important issues affecting the section. Some of the issues that will be discussed include convention programming, proposed uses of section website, announcement of new executive members, and revisions to student awards processes. The meeting will also provide members an opportunity to brainstorm about possible speakers, nominations for Section fellows, or symposia for the 2010 Convention in Winnipeg. Hope to see you in Montreal in June!

Description of Vacant Executive Positions for 2009-10

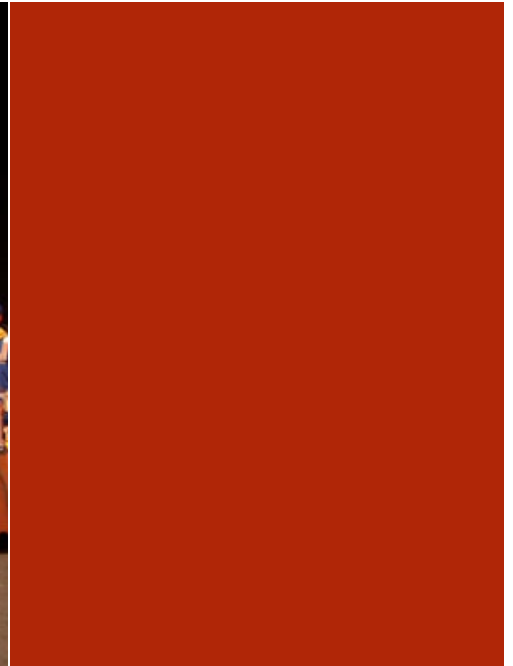
Chair Elect

The term for the Chair Elect is one year, and this position then becomes Chair in year two and Past Chair in year three. There are several key duties associated with this position. First, the Chair Elect is responsible for organizing the Social and Personality Pre-conference. This involves selecting speakers, with an aim to balance Social and Personality talks, finding a location for the pre-conference, and arranging catering. The 2010 preconference will be held in Winnipeg, Manitoba in early June. Second, the major tasks of the Chair include lobbying for a Section invited speaker, invited symposia, and Section fellow, when appropriate. The Chair also acts as the Section program coordinator and attends a CPA business meeting the day prior to the Convention. Please see the Operations Manual for Chairs of CPA Sections at <http://www.cpa.ca/sections/> for complete details. Finally, the Past Chair provides mentorship to the Chair and Chair Elect.

Student Representative

The student representative is primarily responsible for organizing a student and/or faculty Symposium for the Annual Convention. Please contact the outgoing student rep, Anne Bergen bergen@uoguelph.ca, for more information.





Convention Highlights

This year there were 176 Social and Personality section submissions for the Annual Convention. Of these, 10 were declined based on feedback from our team of reviewers, for a 94.3% acceptance rate. There will be 127 poster presentations - up roughly 25% from last year's convention - and 25 oral presentations spread across 7 symposia sessions. Thanks also to our Anne Bergen for organizing two of the symposia in her role as section student rep! We hope you will make the time to attend some of the following events:

Thursday, June 11th

- Section Business Meeting (8:00 - 8:55 am)
- Dr. Neal Roese's CPA & Section Invited Talk, "Regret and Counterfactual Thinking: Bias vs. Benefit" (12:00 - 12:55pm). See page 4 for abstract and more information.

Friday, June 12th

- Dr. Beth Loftus's The Family of Psychology Keynote Address, "Rich False Memories" (1:30 - 2:55 pm)
- Social-Personality Student-Organized Faculty Symposium, "Applications of Social Cognition to Health: Now, Maybe, and Later" (3:30 - 4:55 pm)

Saturday, June 13th

- Social and Personality Poster Session (9:00 - 10:55 am)
- Social-Personality Student-Organized Symposium, "Social and Personality Psychology Online: Motivation, Passion, & Identity (11:00 am - 12:25 pm)

CPA and Social-Personality Section Invited Speaker

Regret and Counterfactual Thinking: Bias vs. Benefit

Dr. Neal J. Roese

Date: Thursday June, 11, 2009

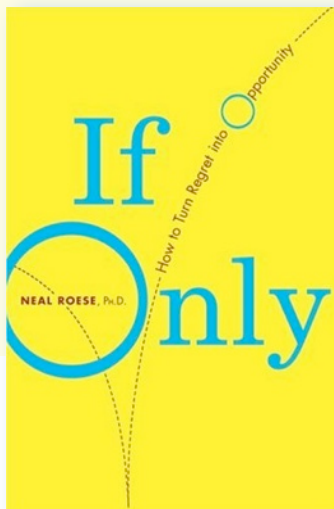
Time: 12:00-12:55PM

Location: Mackenzie Room, Fairmont Queen Elizabeth Hotel

Regret is a commonly felt negative emotion, and of interest to diverse fields in psychology. Regret may be defined in terms of its cognitive basis in counterfactual inference, meaning that regrets stems from the recognition that the past might have been better, had a different decision been made. Early research on regret emphasized its detrimental or biasing consequences for judgment and behavior. By contrast, a functional theoretical view places those drawbacks within the larger context of benefits for behavioral regulation and performance improvement. I will discuss recent research from my lab that illustrates the beneficial side of regret and counterfactual thinking.



[Neal Roese](#) is professor at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. He is an expert on judgment and decision making. Neal Roese is an Associate of the Center for Advanced Study at the University of Illinois, and is a Fellow of Association for Psychological Science. During his term as associate professor at Simon Fraser University he was awarded the first endowed Canada Research Chair in Social Psychology. His 2005 book "[If Only](#)" is about the psychology of regret and counterfactual thinking, and has appeared in four languages. His current research examines the intersection of reasoning, emotion, and mental health.



Section Preconference 2009

Date: Wednesday, June 10th, 2009

Time: 8:45-3:30PM

Location: New Residence Hall, McGill University, 3625 Avenue du Parc, Montreal

Room: Prince Arthur Ballroom B (see pre-conference web site for directions and a map)

<http://www.cpass.ca/precon.htm>

Last year's pre-conference was well attended, with approximately 50 attendees. We have another amazing speaker lineup for this year's pre-conference. The schedule includes a stellar lineup of speakers from across Canada as well as a keynote address by Dr. Harry Reis from the University of Rochester. We will once again host a "Swap and Talk" poster session for faculty and students to share recent research findings. The pre-conference will also include a served lunch.

8:45-9:15 **Name tag Pickup, Morning Coffee, & Welcome**

9:15-9:45 **Thoughts Versus Deeds: Isolating Key Ingredients of Moral Judgment.**
Jason Plaks, University of Toronto

9:45-10:15 **Existential Group-Based Anxiety: Collective Angst as a Motivator for Ingroup Strengthening Behaviours.**
Michael Wohl, Carleton University

10:15-10:45 **Can Money Buy Happiness if You Spend it Right?**
Liz Dunn, University of British Columbia

10:45-11:00 *Coffee Break*

11:00-11:30 **Social Group Influences on Facial Expressivity in Conflict Situations.**
Ursula Hess, Université du Québec à Montréal

11:30-12:00 **On Designing "Serious" Videogames to Boost Self-Esteem and Reduce Stress.**
Mark Baldwin, McGill University

12:00-1:30 **Lunch (Buffet Served in Lounge Area)**

1:30-2:30 **Research Swap n' Talk (Poster Session)**

2:30-3:30 **Are You Happy for Me? Capitalizing on Positive Events in a Relationship Context.**
Harry Reis, University of Rochester
(Preconference Keynote Address)

Due to the good financial standing of our section, we have once again opted to waive any registration fees for the pre-conference. Although the pre-conference is free, we still ask that you confirm your attendance by registering on the pre-conference web site so that we can get a rough idea of how many people will attend and can make the appropriate meal and hosting plans.

<http://www.cpass.ca/precon.htm>

Registration for the pre-conference is open until Friday, May 22, 2009. Interested parties can also submit abstracts for this poster *Swap'N'Talk* session on the registration page.



Section Website and Listserve

The CPA Social-Personality is still going strong and serves as the main point of communication between the executive and our membership. Thanks to our webmaster, Johanna Peetz, for maintaining the site! Johanna has worked hard to keep the website up to date with the most current information available to us and is currently working on developing a mirror site in French to permit better communication with our francophone membership. Thanks to Vanessa Buote and her family for assisting in the translation process.

For up to the date information on all section happenings, please point your browser to the section web site, <http://www.cpaspc.ca>

We also encourage you to use the section listserv, maintained by John Ellard to communicate any significant happenings to our membership. Instructions on how to subscribe and post to the listserv are included on the section website.

Section Executive

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<p>Past Chair Dr. Katherine Starzyk Department of Psychology University of Manitoba P404 Duff Roblin Building Winnipeg, MB, R3T 2N2 Phone: (204) 474-9006 Email: starzyk@cc.umanitoba.ca</p>	<p>Awards Coordinator Dr. Susan Boon (see above)</p>	<p>Newsletter -Faculty Coordinator Dr. Fuschia Sirois Department of Psychology University of Windsor 401 Sunset Avenue Windsor, Ontario N9B 3P4 Phone: (519)253-3000 ext. 2224 E-mail: fsirois@uwindsor.ca</p>
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