



1839 | 1989

BOSTON UNIVERSITY
SESQUICENTENNIAL

Boston University School of Medicine

Memory Disorders
Research Center at the
Boston Veterans
Administration
Medical Center

Laird S. Cermak, Ph.D.
Director

150 South Huntington Avenue
Boston, Massachusetts 02130
617 232-9500 (ext. 3214)

July 25, 1990

Dr. David Salmon
Psychology Service (116B)
San Diego VA Medical Center
3350 La Jolla Village Drive
La Jolla, CA 92161

Dear David:

Enclosed please find a conference registration form for the Memory Disorders Research Society meeting in Boston on October 25 - 26 at the Lafayette Hotel. As before, be sure to make your check payable to the Interdisciplinary Conferences, Inc., a nonprofit bank account I use for these purposes.

Two new presentation formats will be introduced this year along with the planned symposia and paper presentations. The first will be a forum on the topic of Memory Systems vs. Transfer Appropriate Processing. Dan Schacter and Roddy Roediger will highlight the issue, discuss the implications, and present some recent potential resolutions. The second new format will be a roundtable discussion organized by Larry Squire on the topic of Assessment Standardization. This discussion will have as its focus the question of whether or not investigators from different labs ought to agree on a standard set of descriptive measures for reporting patient and population characteristics. If so, then what ought these measures be? It is not expected that consensus on precise instruments and cut-off scores can be reached in one afternoon, but the need to do so might be established. To accomplish this discussion, we intend to form smaller groups which will, in addition to discussing the issue, instruct a spokesperson to report back to the group as a whole. If you are interested in serving as a spokesperson, please write to Larry Squire and let him know of your interest.

I feel that these two formats ought to provide lively debate and discussion setting the tone, along with the symposia, for a highly productive meeting. See you in October.

Best wishes,

Laird S. Cermak, Ph.D.
Professor of Neurology
(Neuropsychology)

Enclosures



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February 9, 1990

Dr. David Salmon
Psychology Service (116B)
San Diego VA Medical Center
3350 La Jolla Village Drive
La Jolla, CA 92161

Dear David:

This year's Memory Disorders Research Society meeting will be held on October 25 - 26, 1990, at the Lafayette Hotel in Boston. We have booked a slightly larger, wider room than last year which was a request during the business meeting. This year we will be meeting in the Adrienne room. Again, I have been able to get a special room rate at the hotel and the conference room is again inexpensive (important in determining registration fees). Since several members requested that I also send information on less expensive lodging, I have reserved space at another nearby facility as well. Information on these room rates will be sent with the registration and program announcements later.

Nominations for inclusion on our members roster came from several different sources and I also solicited names from an informal membership committee which included two young members; two mid-career and two statesmen. These sources resulted in the suggestion of the following individuals to whom I will extend letters of invitation this month: Hans Spinnler, Guiseppe Vallar, Felicia Huppert, Mark Moss, Helen Mahut, Susan Iverson, William Heindel, D.Y. von Cramon, Herb Crovitz, Elizabeth Glisky, Schlomo Bentin, and Adele Diamond. Suggestions have been solicited and made for symposium topics this year and I am enclosing a questionnaire for you to list your preferences. In some cases, the individual who suggested the topic will be asked to organize and chair; in other cases, an organizer will be recruited from volunteers. Selection of these symposium is critical as we intend to have fewer, longer symposia in order to allow discussion and we will have less in the way of individual papers. We will also be attempting to include one free forum in which two sides of an issue will be presented followed by general discussion. Suggestions for this topic are requested as well as nomination for the presenters.

I personally look forward to this year's meeting with enthusiasm. Last year's meeting was a success and the modifications we will try this year ought to be interesting.

Sincerely,

Laird S. Cermak, Ph.D.

Enclosure



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150 South Huntington Avenue
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617 232-9500 (ext. 3214)

May 14, 1990

Dr. David Salmon
Psychology Service (116B)
San Diego VA Medical Center
3350 La Jolla Village Drive
La Jolla, CA 92161

Dear David:

I am writing to give you the results of our most recent poll concerning topics for this year's Memory Disorders Research Society annual meeting. The meeting will be held on Thursday, October 25 and Friday, October 26 at the Lafayette Hotel in Boston, Massachusetts. A block of rooms is being held at that facility as well as at the Boston Park Plaza. A reservation card for the Lafayette is enclosed as well as information on the Park Plaza. Please make your reservations as soon as possible.

Four symposia, one forum, and one discussion are being planned for this year's meeting along with two general paper sessions and an evening banquet, so the days will be quite full. However, as before, I surely hope you will plan to stay an extra day or two in Boston to meet independently with colleagues or to visit New England which is particularly beautiful at that time of year.

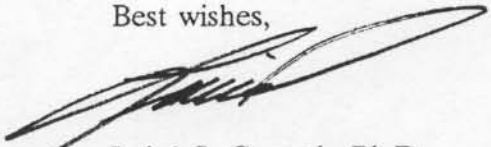
The four symposia that received the most interest were: 1) Nonverbal Priming, 2) Contextual Encoding, 3) Thalamic Amnesia, and 4) Theories. I have asked a few individuals to help plan these symposia, so I suggest that if you have an interest in one of them, that you write directly to that person. I have asked Suzanne Corkin to coordinate Nonverbal Priming, William Hirst to do Context, Art Shimamura for Thalamic Amnesia, and I will do Theories of Amnesia. The Forum topic that was chosen will contrast a Systems Theory of Memory to Transfer Appropriate Processing Models. Dan Schacter has agreed to present and Roddy Rodiger has also been scheduled (tentatively). The Discussion topic will be headed by Larry Squire on the need for greater Definition, Classification and Assessment Standards in reporting results with amnesics. More information on the nature of this discussion will be forthcoming. Finally, there will be room for 14 - 16, ten or fifteen minute papers so it would be appropriate for you to send me a title if you wish to present. Please send it by July 1, 1990.

May 14, 1990

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Registration for the meeting and banquet will be sent along with a more finalized program at a time closer to the actual meeting. Last year was an obvious success, and I anticipate that this year will attain the same high standards. The second meeting is the real test of interest since curiosity spurs the initial, and expectations drive the second. Hopefully, the level will achieve our expectations.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Laird S. Cermak", written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

Laird S. Cermak, Ph.D.

MEMORY DISORDERS RESEARCH SOCIETY

*Second Annual Meeting
Boston, MA, October 25 - 26, 1990
Lafayette Hotel
Adrienne Room*

Program

Thursday, October 25

8:00 PAPER SESSION - Russell Bauer, Chair

Nari Kapur

"Dense retrograde amnesia with mild anterograde memory impairment: A neuropsychological and magnetic resonance study."

~~8:20 Peter Graf~~

~~"Attention deficits in dementia."~~

8:40 David Salmon

"Stem completion and paired-associate priming in Alzheimer's Disease: Relationship to other neuropsychological deficits."

9:00 Ray Kesner and Mona Hopkins

"Stem and order recognition memory in humans with hypoxia."

9:20 Bill Milberg

"Priming Spatial Configurations in Korsakoff's Patients."

9:40 Break

10:00

SYMPOSIUM

Thalamic Amnesia - Arthur Shimamura, Chair

Morris Moscovitch
& Gordon Winocur -

"Amnesia with Sparing of Most Frontal Functions in Patients with Bilateral Lesions of the Dorsomedial Nucleus of the Thalamus."

Stuart Zola Morgan -

"The Components of the Memory System Damage in Amnesics: Mediodorsal Nucleus of the Thalamus vs. Mamillary Nuclei."

Andrew Mayes -

"The Pattern of Memory Deficit in Korsakoff Patients: Implications for Thalamic Amnesia."

Arthur Shimamura -

"Thalamic Amnesia: What, Where and How?"

12:00

LUNCH

2:00

FORUM

Memory Systems contrasted with Transfer Appropriate Processing - N. Butters, Chair

Daniel Schacter -

"Memory Systems"

H. Roediger -

"Transfer Appropriate Processing"

4:00

BUSINESS MEETING

6:00

BANQUET - Duxbury Room

Friday, October 26

8:00 PAPER SESSION - John Gabrieli, Chair

William Beatty

"Metamemory in multiple sclerosis."

8:20 Hans Markowitsch, M. Peper, U. Seier, and D. Krieger

"Impairment of memory and affect in a patient with reversible bilateral thalamic lesions due to thrombosis."

8:40 Felicia Huppert

"Why study memory disorders in the elderly."

9:00 Ennio DeRenzi

"Study of learning and forgetting with a two stage stochastic model."

9:20 Guiseppe Vallar

"The role of phonological short-term memory in verbal learning: Converging evidence from neuropsychological patients and normal subjects."

9:40 ~~Break~~ Keplerman

10:00 SYMPOSIUM

Theories of Memory and Amnesia - Laird Cermak, Chair

— Marcia Johnson
& William Hirst

"MEM: Cognitive Subsystems as Processes."

— Larry Jacoby -

"Dissociations and Automaticity."

— Laird Cermak -

"Toward an Experimental Psychology of Amnesia."

12:00 Introduction and Organization of Discussion

12:15 LUNCH

1:30 DISCUSSION

Assessment and Standardization - Larry Squire, Chair

Discussant Leaders - Marilyn Albert, Russell Bauer, John Gabrieli, Andrew Mayes, Alex Martin, Art Shimamura

4:00

SYMPOSIUM

Context Memory - William Hirst, Chair

Michael Kopelman -

"Frontal Dysfunction and Contextual Memory Impairment
in Amnesia and Dementia."

~~William Hirst & Marcia Johnson - "What is Context Anyway?"~~

5:00

ADJOURN
