

PERSON MEMORY INTEREST GROUP 2008

**Institute of Noetic Sciences
Petaluma, California**

OCTOBER 20-23, 2008

Dear PMIGers:

It is time once again to make plans to attend this year's Person Memory Interest Group meeting, prior to the SESP conference in Sacramento. Our meeting this year will be held at the Institute of Noetic Sciences Retreat Center in Petaluma, California. The Institute, founded by former astronaut Edgar Mitchell, "conducts and sponsors leading-edge research into the potentials and powers of consciousness—including perceptions, beliefs, attention, intention, and intuition. The Institute explores phenomena that do not necessarily fit conventional scientific models, while maintaining a commitment to scientific rigor." Thus, they share an interest in many of the topics studied by members of the PMIG. Their retreat facility offers 200 acres of beautiful rolling hills with pristine live oak woodlands, meandering hiking trails, and endless panoramic vistas of the California landscape. You can get more information at <http://www.noetic.org/index.cfm>

Last year's conference was held at the Illinois Beach Resort and Conference Center in Zion, Illinois, one of the best conference facilities we have ever had. More than 55 people attended, our largest group in recent years, and heard some excellent talks on a variety of topics relating to social cognition. A major highlight of the conference was the presentation of the Thomas M. Ostrom Award for the year 2007 to Marilyn B. Brewer. This award is presented annually at our meetings.

As is our tradition, the formal program sessions will be held all day Wednesday (October 22) and Thursday morning (October 23). After lunch on Thursday we'll leave for the SESP convention in Sacramento. However, we strongly encourage people to arrive on Monday (October 20) if possible, to enjoy a full day Tuesday of exploring the outdoors, sightseeing, talking with long-time friends, getting to know newcomers to our meetings, and general informal activity. This aspect of our schedule has become a valued hallmark of PMIG meetings and people find that it's much more than a day of relaxation; it's also a time of merging science with nature, of informal sharing of ideas, of learning about others' research in one-to-one conversations, etc.

IMPORTANT: PROCEDURES FOR REGISTRATION AND ACCOMMODATION ARE DIFFERENT THIS YEAR. Unlike previous years, registration will occur in two separate phases. Registration for room accommodations must be made directly (on-line) with the conference center. Registration for the meeting, including indicating a desire to give a talk, will be via a registration form to be sent to Dave Hamilton, as usual. ***You must take both of these steps to be fully registered for the conference!***

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Accommodations. Costs of attending PMIG will once again be quite reasonable this year. **Registration for rooms and meals will be made directly with the conference center.** All accommodation fees include room plus meals. As in the past, fees for people arriving on Monday will include room plus all meals beginning with dinner on Monday; for people arriving Tuesday, fees include room plus all meals beginning with dinner on Tuesday. Both meal plans extend through lunch on Thursday, after which we transfer to the SESP Convention in Sacramento. The costs will be as follows:

For Monday Arrivals:

Double Room + Meals = \$380 per person

Single Room + Meals = \$460 per person

*Couple Room + Meals for Two = \$700

For Tuesday Arrivals:

Double Room + Meals = \$265 per person

Single Room + Meals = \$315 per person

*Couple Room + Meals for Two = \$480

*A “couple room” is a room with one large bed for two people. Note that the price shown covers BOTH members of the couple, reflecting a small discount compared to two people in a double room (room with two beds).

You reserve your room directly with the conference center (not through Dave Hamilton) by using the following link: www.regonline.com/personmemory When you register at that site, if you specify a shared room, a later screen will allow you to indicate a preference for a roommate, but **please confirm that arrangement with that person prior to making your reservation online.** If you wish to share a room but do not have a specific person in mind, you will be assigned a same-gender roommate.

The registration deadline is September 1, 2008. This deadline is **firm** because we must provide the conference center a final count of participants. If we do not have your registration information by September 1, there may not be a room for you at PMIG!

Conference Registration Fee. The registration fee this year will be **\$55**. This fee covers the cost of renting space for our meeting room and hospitality room, the costs of supplying the hospitality room for our evening relaxation time, as well as other costs associated with putting on the conference. **Please send your registration fee check, made out to PMIG, to Dave Hamilton no later than September 1.** Non-U.S. residents who do not have easy access to U.S. funds can pay the fee in cash at the conference. Receipts for the registration fee will be available at the conference.

Travel and Arrival. The IONS Center is located in Petaluma, California, north of San Francisco. Directions are available at <http://www.noetic.org/retreat/directions.cfm> . You will need to consider whether you want to fly in and out of San Francisco Airport or Sacramento Airport. Petaluma is closer to San Francisco Airport, but SESP will be in

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Sacramento. Driving distance from Sacramento airport, according to Google Maps, is 90 miles or 1 hour 36 minutes.

The registration form asks you to **indicate your day and time of arrival**, and **which airport** you will be arriving at (if you are arriving by other means, please indicate). As always, we need people to share rides from the airport to the conference site, so please indicate (a) if you are planning to (willing to) rent a car or (b) if you will need a ride. As in the past, we will try to circulate information on arrival days and times so people can coordinate transportation. Note: In the past, many people have not provided their flight arrival information on their registration forms. If you haven't booked flights by the time you mail your registration form, **please** email Dave and/or Eliot once you know your schedule.

Presentations. The registration form asks you to indicate whether you would like to speak at this year's meeting. We typically have more requests to speak than we have time slots on the program. As in the past, the organizers will select speakers according to a sophisticated algorithm that incorporates many complex factors and reflects the organizers' immense combined wisdom and experience. We will let you know whether or not you are selected for this year's program as soon as possible. **Although graduate students are welcome (indeed, encouraged) to attend PMIG, they are not invited to make presentations.** A data projector for computer presentations will be available for speakers; if you need additional equipment, please let us know on the registration form.

Questions? If your questions are not answered in this letter or at the PMIG website <http://www.indiana.edu/~soccog/pmig.html>, email either of us to ask.

We hope to see you at PMIG '08! Remember to (a) **reserve a room** directly with the conference center using the on-line link www.regonline.com/personmemory and (b) complete your **registration form**, along with a **check for \$55** made out to **PMIG**, and to mail them to **Dave** no later than **September 1**.

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Institute of Noetic Sciences, October 20-23, 2008
REGISTRATION FORM

Name _____

Address: _____

Phone number: _____ Email: _____

I will arrive on: _____ Monday, October 20
_____ Tuesday, October 21

If flying:

Airport: _____

Arrival time: _____

Airline & flight number: _____

_____ I will rent a car at the airport and can provide rides for others

_____ I will need a ride from the airport

I would like to give a presentation: Yes _____ No _____ (No presentations by graduate students)

Title of presentation: _____

Please provide a 2-3 sentence summary on an attached page.

HAVE YOU ALSO REGISTERED FOR YOUR ROOM AND MEALS ONLINE AT www.regonline.com/personmemory ? YOU NEED TO DO THAT AS WELL AS SENDING IN THIS FORM WITH YOUR CHECK!

Return this form with a check for \$55 (payable to **PMIG**) by **September 1** to:

Dave Hamilton
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