Antonio Damasio, MD, PhD receives Honda Prize

The Honda Foundation of Japan has announced that its annual Honda Prize, one of the most important international awards for scientific achievement, will go to Antonio Damasio, the David Dornsife Professor of Neuroscience in the Department of Psychology and director of the Brain and Creativity Institute at USC.

Damasio, the sole recipient of this year’s honor, will become the 31st laureate of the Honda prize at an award ceremony to be held Nov. 17 at the Imperial Hotel in Tokyo.

In its citation, the Honda Foundation said Damasio was chosen “for his pioneering efforts and remarkable contributions in the world of neuroscience.”

Dr. Richard Davidson, the department’s first colloquium speaker for 2010-2011, is welcomed by Dr Michael Dawson and Drs Antonio and Hanna Damasio. Dr. Davidson’s colloquium was titled “Order and Disorder in the Emotional Brain.” Students and faculty enjoyed coffee, lunch and informal conversation with Dr. Davidson throughout the day.
**Barbara Cadow**, PhD, a Clinical Associate of the USC Psychology Department and former Director of the USC Student Counseling Services, takes up her new appointment to the California Board of Psychology at its first meeting in November. Amidst efforts to balance the budget, Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger appointed her this past summer. The Board, a subdivision of the California Department of Consumer Affairs, had been slated for elimination last year in order to save about $200,000 a year in expenses, before a professional association campaign lobbied the Governor to retain it. The Board of Psychology establishes the rules according to which psychologists can obtain (or lose) licenses in the state.

**Susan Luczak**, PhD, (Research Associate Professor), is Principal Investigator on a recently funded NIH R01 grant titled “Intergenerational Transmission of Alcohol Involvement.” It is a project continuing the longitudinal study in Mauritius headed by Adrian Raine, PhD. Jo Ann Farver, PhD, Jack McArdle, PhD and Carol Prescott, PhD are all co-PIs on the project.

**Nicholas Scurich** (advisor, Dr. Richard John) will begin a year long fellowship as a mental health law fellow at the new Saks institute for mental health law, ethics and policy. The institute was recently started by Elyn Saks of the law school. Nicholas also recently received a Ruebhausen Travel Grant to attend Yale Law School’s Conference on Empirical Legal Studies where he will present two papers: “Lay Judgments of Legal decisions (w/ Dan Simon); and DNA Database Trawling: Effect on Judgments of Guilt and the Interpretation of Non-Genetic Evidence (w/ Richard John).”

**Jessica Brommelhoff** (advisor, Dr. Margaret Gatz) successfully defended her dissertation “Underlying Neural Mechanisms of Depression and Dementia” and began a postdoctoral fellowship at the Semel Institute for Neuroscience and Human Behavior at UCLA.

**Lauren Spies** (advisor, Drs. Gayla Margolin and Elizabeth Sussman) has received an NSRA fellowship award. The title of her project is “Adolescent Conflict, Physiological stress, and Risky Health Behaviors.”

### Have You Read Anything Good Lately?


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**WEDNESDAY MORNING is COFFEE and PASTRY in ROOM SGM 501**

**PLEASE DROP BY -- 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM**

**SPECIAL GUESTS: OCTOBER 20 - NATHAN FOX**
Announcements & Colloquia

**Wednesday, September 29**
Neurodevelopmental Psychology Interest Group - 3:30 pm - 5:00 pm
HNB 107

**Wednesday, October 20**
Nathan Fox, PhD
*Distinguished University Professor, Department of Human Development*
*University of Maryland, College Park*

9:30 am - 10:00 am - SGM 514 - Coffee Guest

12:00 - 1:00 pm  - HNB 100 - Colloquium
“The effects of severe psychosocial depravation on brain and behavior: Lessons from the Bucharest Early Intervention Project”

3:30 pm - 5:00 pm - HNB 107 - Conversation Hour on temperamental antecedents to anxious behavior/anxiety disorders

**Wednesday, December 1**
Elizabeth Loftus, PhD

9:30 am - 10:00 am - SGM 514 - Coffee Guest
12:00 - 1:00 pm  - HNB 100 - Colloquium

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**GASP NEWS!**

September 30—SGM 514 -1:00 am - 12:00 pm - GASP meeting.

November 3 - SGM 414 -12 pm –1pm- Science and Technology - Jason Goldman (advisor, Dr. Frank Manis) will talk about his experience with blogging and how to make scientific research more accessible to a larger audience.

November 19 - NSF SUBMISSION DUE DATE

If you are interested in being involved in GASP events
you are encouraged to show up and join in the fun!

Have an idea for GASP programming? Email Rachel-rachel.beattie@gmail.com