

WELCOME TO THE ELEVENTH SEMI-ANNUAL SPR STUDENT NEWSLETTER

Spring 2008, Volume 11

This newsletter is created by the SPR Committee to Promote Student Interests and is sent to current and recent student and full SPR members.

IN OUR SPRING '08 EDITION, READ ABOUT:

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I. ANNUAL SPR CONFERENCE: AUSTIN, TX!

This year, SPR will be held in Austin, Texas from October 1-5, 2008 at the [Hilton Austin](#). Registration, travel, and other conference-related information will be mailed out in late May. Don't forget to submit your abstracts by **May 1st, 2008**. Abstracts can be submitted online by clicking [here](#). We look forward to seeing you all there! Please take the time to read through some of the exciting things that we are working on bringing to this year's meeting. Also, don't forget to check out the featured section below on Austin highlights!

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Special Announcements for Students

Be sure to submit your abstracts so you can be eligible for a Tursky Poster Award (to be judged at the conference). What a great opportunity to boost your CV and get the recognition you deserve. Make sure you check the appropriate boxes when submitting your abstract to make sure you are entered into the competition!

The SPR Student Travel Award program will again be in place this year. The intent of the SPR Student Travel Awards is to assist students without other means of travel support to attend and present research at the SPR annual meeting. For the 2008 meeting in Austin, 30 awards of \$500 each will be available for student members presenting at the SPR meeting. Among these 30 awards, 15 will be reserved for non-

North American members (unless there are insufficient applications from non-North American student members). To be included in the lottery for one of these awards, you simply may fill out a brief online application on the SPR website at the time of abstract submission. This application is embedded within abstract submission page.

Any student member who lives further than 500 miles from Austin, and who is the first author on a poster or paper accepted for presentation at the SPR annual meeting is eligible. Current SPR members must be up to date with dues, but prospective members that apply and pay dues by the time of poster or paper submission deadline will be eligible. For full details on eligibility, please see [this page](#) for more details.

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Don't forget that there are plenty of opportunities to meet and mingle with other SPR students and members. Here is just a brief sampling of some of the special interests lunches, dinners, and meetings in the works:

The Student Social - A "can't miss"! Time and location will be finalized as the meeting draws near.

The Open Dinner Meeting with the Committee to Promote Student Interests - The Committee to Promote Student Interests hosts an annual dinner at every SPR meeting. All SPR student members are welcome to attend. Do you have suggestions for improvements in student outreach? Would you like to work with one of our many subcommittees on issues relevant to your research? Please come with your appetite and opinions! Time, date, and location will be announced as we get closer to the meeting.

Early Careers Conversation Hour - An informative meeting with a panel of SPR investigators at different career levels who share advice, tips, and tricks of the trade; followed by an hour of small group discussion tailored for students at different levels of their careers. A must attend for any student approaching the 'real world'! This is one of the most well-attended events. Please read more [here](#).

Special Interest Lunches & Dinners - These events are a wonderful way to connect with others who share your research interests. Typically, the events are organized on an ongoing basis and are announced in various ways (over email, on the website, and posted on the message board at the conference), so keep checking back for topics that pique your special interest. Remember, these are typically no-host meals, which means bring your own funds.

W.I.S.E. - The Committee to Promote Student Interests will be hosting a luncheon focused on Women in Science and Education. If you would like to join the W.I.S.E. listserv, please email John Hofmann (jhofmann@reesgroupinc.com) of SPR's management group with the subject "Subscribe SPR-WISE." Once you've signed up, you can share your ideas regarding how SPR might best serve its female members.

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II. AUSTIN: SIGHTS TO SEE, THINGS TO DO!

During the SPR 2008 meeting, be sure to enjoy your stay in Austin, the capitol of Texas, located on the edge of the beautiful Texas Hill Country :

Lodging:

If you would like to capture the full experience of the "Live Music Capital of the World", then you should book lodging at the preferred SPR hotel, the [Hilton Austin](#). The conference hotel is only a block away from

the famous Sixth Street Entertainment District, and a few blocks away from the Downtown Warehouse District, that are the centers of Austin's music scene and nightlife.

In the event you want to venture outside of Austin, Austin's excellent [Capital Metro Transportation Authority](#) offers inexpensive bus service (including early morning and late night transit) to locations all over the greater Austin area.

Texas Style Eats:

Texas is known for its barbeque and Tex-Mex cuisine, and Austin is no exception. In addition, there are restaurants serving traditional southern fare. Here are some suggested restaurants in Downtown Austin and nearby South Austin that are affordable for a range of budgets:

- [The Iron Works](#) (100 Red River Street): Reasonably priced authentic Texas BBQ.
- [Texas Chili Parlor](#) (1409 Lavaca): Inexpensive Tex-Mex cuisine.
- [Hut's Hamburger](#) (807 W. Sixth): Standard inexpensive sports bar fare.
- [Stubbs Bar-B-Q](#) (801 Red River): Authentic Texas BBQ and live music.
- [Lambert's](#) (401 W. Second St.): Upscale BBQ. Not too cheap but well worth the price. Tables tend to fill up, so get your reservations early.
- [Trudy's](#) (049 W. 30th St.): Good Tex-Mex cuisine. The restaurant location is near the University of Texas at Austin campus, but is easily available by bus.
- [Matt's El Rancho](#) (2613 S. Lamar Blvd.): A South Austin Tex-Mex favorite, easily available by bus.
- [Chuy's](#) (1728 Barton Springs Rd.): Another South Austin Tex-Mex favorite.
- [Threadgill's](#) (301 W. Riverside Dr.): An Austin live music landmark featuring southern-style cooking.

In addition, the Sixth Street District has a diverse array of eateries, including cheap pizza and snack food shops.

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Music & Nightlife

Music: Austin is known as the "Live Music Capital of the World" for good reason, as it is home to a large and diverse music scene, as well as being the host of the famous SXSW music festival and the long running PBS concert series Austin City Limits. The following list is a small taste of what Austin's music & nightlife has to offer:

Sixth Street and Red River District

- [Stubbs Bar-B-Q](#): Authentic Texas BBQ and live music.
- [Emo's](#) (603 Red River St.): Punk and indie rock club.
- [Maggie Mae's](#) (323 E. Sixth St.): One of the Austins legendary live music venues.
- [Elysium](#) (705 Red River St.): Goth, industrial, and 90's dance club.
- [B.D. Riley's](#) (204 E. Sixth St.): Irish Pub featuring live music six nights a week.
- [Casino El Camino](#) (517 E. Sixth St.): Alternative bar with good burgers and a killer jukebox.

Warehouse District

- [Antone's](#) (213 W. Fifth St.): The "Home of the Blues" live music venue, but also features other musical styles; another Austin musical landmark.
- [The Ginger Man](#) (304 W. Fourth St.): Pub/beer garden with an extensive beer selection.
- [219 West](#) (219 W. Fourth St.): Multivenue bar and restaurant with live light jazz music.
- [Cedar Street Courtyard](#) (208 W. Fourth St.): indoor/outdoor martini nightclub featuring jazz, swing, and other cocktail hour tunes.

South Austin

- [Threadgill's](#): Yet another Austin musical landmark and restaurant featuring southern-style cooking.
- [Continental Club](#) (1315 S. Congress Ave.): Rock/blues/country music venue.

Places to go: If you are in town without transportation, Downtown Austin has several nearby places of interest within walking distance. For those interested in the history and government of the Lone Star State, visit the Governor's Mansion or stroll up the steps of the [Texas State Capitol](#) building (Capitol Visitor's Center, 112 E. Eleventh St.).

For those with nature interests, Downtown Austin is bounded on the south by Town Lake/Ladybird Johnson Lake, where there are several walkways upon which one may travel to appreciate the lake's scenic views ([Austin Parks & Recreation Department](#)). The more adventurous of you may consider renting a small kayak to explore the lake ([Zilker Park Canoe Rentals](#), 2201 Barton Springs Rd.) or taking a guided cruise ([Capital Cruises](#), 208 Barton Springs Rd.). If time permits, you may also consider visiting [Zilker Park](#) (2100 Barton Springs Rd.), Austin's most popular park that houses the famous [Barton Springs Pool](#) (2101 Barton Springs Rd.), a spring-fed constant 68-degree swimming hole.

Town Lake separates Downtown Austin from South Austin, traditionally the home of Austin's artistic and bohemian community. Here you will find a large supply of art galleries, coffee shops, vintage and discount stores, plus other offbeat shopping and dining opportunities. Several bridges connect Downtown and South Austin, the most famous of which is the Congress Avenue bridge. The underside of the bridge is home to one of the largest bat colonies in North America. Watching the bats emerge at sunset for their nightly feeding is a popular past time (season and weather permitting; <http://www.batcon.org>).

Finally, those of you with local transportation and extra time may consider spending a day out in the [Hill Country](#) south-west of Austin. This area boasts rustic towns, excellent restaurants, art galleries, vineyards, hiking and camping, all tucked away within the greenery of rolling limestone hills. The Hill Country is also home to several lakes, including the beautiful [Lake Travis](#).

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III. UPDATE FROM THE INTERVIEW SUBCOMMITTEE

The interview committee presents an interview with Dr. Greg Hajcak. Please check out this very informative [interview](#), and stay tuned for another interview in the Fall!

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IV. UPDATE FROM THE POSTDOCTORAL "STUDENT" SUBCOMMITTEE

Don't miss this year's Early Career Conversation Hour! Thursday evening, 8:15 p.m.-10:15 p.m.

Don't miss this opportunity to discuss early career issues with some of SPR's leading scientists! During the first hour the entire panel will be available for questions. During the second hour we will split into three groups to allow for more specific questions based on career phase. The panel will include faculty from a variety of institutions, including graduate and predominantly undergraduate institutions, as well as both US and non-US institutions. As of now, the panelists are: Bruce Bartholow, Diane Filion, Ursula Hess, Arvid Kappas, Greg Miller, and Nicole Roberts, and Cindy Yee-Bradbury. A casual dinner will be served. Advance registration is requested, so please register when more detailed information about this year's SPR program is sent out. If you have suggestions or questions regarding this event, please contact [Catherine Norris](#) or [Chris Larson](#).

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V. UPDATE FROM THE STUDENT WEB SUBCOMMITTEE

Greetings SPR student members! We are pleased to announce that the SPR Web Committee has been working hard to bring a fresh, clean, modern look to the existing SPR site. Shortly after the big reveal of our parent SPR site, the SPR Student site will be revamped. Also, be on the lookout for several changes in the upcoming months - we plan on adding an Early Careers Resource Page in addition to a W.I.S.E. website. If you have any interest in joining our very busy committee, please feel free to contact us!

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VI. UPDATE FROM INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS SUBCOMMITTEE

Looking to broaden your horizons? Consider SPR's exchange program, where you can swap labs with another PhD student. Check it out [here](#), or add your lab to the list of potential participants.

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VII. UPDATE FROM THE CLINICAL PSYCHOPHYSIOLOGY SUBCOMMITTEE

Are you interested in research that integrates psychophysiology and clinical science? Do you conduct basic psychophysiology or fMRI research that has clinical applications? Do you employ psychophysiology or fMRI methods to study clinical populations? If you answered yes to any of these questions, you should consider joining the Clinical Psychophysiology Subcommittee. The aims of this committee are to create networking opportunities among clinical psychophysiologicalists, to facilitate discussions about clinical applications of psychophysiology and fMRI research, and to stimulate collaborations among clinical psychophysiologicalists across the globe. If you are interested in joining the Clinical Psychophysiology Subcommittee, please join us at the meeting!

This year's special lunch will be "Clinical Psychophysiology and fMRI" featuring Greg Siegle from Pittsburgh. The lunch will be part of the Education and Training Committee Roundtable Discussions on Thursday, from 11:30-1. Seating is limited to 10 participants. Those interested should send [Julie Hall](#) an email (halljl@umich.edu) with the Subject Line "SPR Clinical Lunch RSVP."

VIII. EDUCATION AND TRAINING COMMITTEE

While not officially part of the Committee to Promote Student Interests, the Education and Training Committee is responsible for a number of activities of interest for students and early career members. Each

year at the SPR meeting the committee organizes a number of Education and Training Roundtable Discussion lunches, typically on Thursday of the meeting. This year's topics have yet to be determined, but keep your eye out for more information. Typical topics include How to Set up a Psychophysiology Lab, Clinical Psychophysiology, and Ambulatory Psychophysiology. In addition, the Education and Training Committee also maintains a page on the SPR website which includes resources for teaching and learning about psychophysiology. This page includes currently lectures on psychophysiology methods in videotape and PowerPoint form from a number of SPR members. There are future plans for lists of resources for textbooks, laboratory demonstrations, and methods articles. If you have an interest in helping to assemble these materials please email [Chris Larson](#).

In addition, the Education and Training Committee also maintains a [page on the SPR website](#) which includes resources for teaching and learning about psychophysiology.

IX. MEMBERS OF THE SPR COMMITTEE TO PROMOTE STUDENT INTERESTS

Are your needs being met? Please feel free to contact members of the committee with suggestions, questions, comments, or to bond with a fellow psychophysiologicalist, click below...

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