ISRE 2007

General Meeting:
Sunshine Coast, Queensland, July 11-14

Hosted by
The University of Queensland

Conference Chair
Prof. Neal M. Ashkanasy
(The University of Queensland)

Program Chair
Prof. Paul E. Griffiths
(The University of Queensland)

In Association with
The University of the Sunshine Coast

Local Organiser
Prof. Andy Hede
(The University of the Sunshine Coast)

Book of Abstracts
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Pierre Philippot
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Lori Grantham
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Welcome from ISRE President:
Agneta Fischer

Dear Participants,

I want to welcome you at this year's ISRE conference in Australia. I know most of you have been traveling very far this time, and I really appreciate your time and effort to attend this conference. It will be worth it! I am very confident that you will enjoy the talks, posters and presentations. Please have fun and get inspiration! For those of you who are not yet a member of ISRE, please become one! It gives you reduction at conference fees, you will receive its newsletter and the new journal Emotion Review (from 2009 onwards) and lots of information about emotion research. You can fill out a form at the registration desk.

Warm regards,
Agneta Fischer
(ISRE President)

Welcome from ISRE 2007 Program Chair:
Paul E. Griffiths

Dear Participants,

Welcome to Coolum, and thanks to all those who have contributed papers and posters to what promises to be a very stimulating program. Particular thanks are due to our Symposium organisers, and to the members of the program committee, Agneta Fischer, Pierre Philippot, Mike Power, and Neal Ashkanasy. ISRE is a unique opportunity to make connections between the many and diverse fields that engage with the topic of emotions, and I look forward to doing so once again this year.

Paul E. Griffiths
(Program Chair)
Welcome from ISRE 2007 Conference Chair:

Neal M. Ashkanasy, PhD

Dear ISRE Delegates

Welcome to the first ISRE conference to be conducted “down under”. We hope you enjoy your stay on Queensland’s famous Sunshine Coast, and the world-class facilities at the Hyatt Coolum Resort. The staff of the Resort have been extremely helpful and friendly to us during the organising phase of the conference. I have no doubt they will make your time at the Resort as pleasant as possible, both for those of you staying at the Resort, and those of you who have chosen to stay at another venue.

Many people have assisted in organising this conference. We are especially indebted to Program Chair Prof. Paul Griffiths and his committee, who have worked so hard to put together a great program for you. Other members of the Organising Committee include Local Organisers Prof. Andy Hede and Dr. John Whiteoak from the University of the Sunshine Coast, Stefan Linquist of the Biohumanities Project at the University of Queensland, and Ms. Kaylene Ascough, my Senior Research Assistant.

Local organisers Andy Hede and John Whiteoak deserve special mention, including responsibility for arranging for a unique welcome to conference delegates from the traditional owners of the land, and some uniquely Australian entertainment at the conference dinner. Thanks also to Andy and John’s assistant Trish Alcorn for her wonderful administrative support.

Stefan Linquist and Kaylene Ascough, assisted by Lori Grantham and Polly Ambermoon of the Biohumanities Project and Andrea Martin and Jason Yu in the Faculty of BEL at the University of Queensland have done all the hard work for the conference, including negotiating with the Resort and production of the printed material for the conference, and also deserve special thanks.

I would also like to thank our generous Conference Sponsors: Bond University (Faculty of Business, Technology, and Sustainable Development); Cognition and Emotion (Psychology Press); E. A. & S. Plaster Pty. Ltd.; eContent Management Pty. Ltd.; John Benjamins Publishing Company; Juniper Development Group Pty. Ltd.; Lifeline Sunshine Coast, Queensland University of Technology (Faculty of Business); InterScience (Wiley Publishing Group); The University of Queensland (Biohumanities Project; Faculty of Business, Economics, and Law; Office of the DVC Research; The UQ Business School); The University of the Sunshine Coast (Coop Bookshop; Faculty of Business).

And finally, I would like to thank you, the conference delegates, for supporting the 16th ISRE Conference, and especially those of you who are presenting your work at the conference. I am sure you will find that all the time and money you have invested in this conference will not have been wasted.

Best wishes
Neal M. Ashkanasy, PhD
(ISRE 2007 Conference Chair)
PRESIDENTIAL SYMPOSIUM

IN MEMORIAM: ROBERT SOLOMON’S CONTRIBUTION TO THE STUDY OF THE EMOTIONS

Convenor: Agneta Fischer

Speakers:
Lisa Feldman Barrett
Nico Frijda
Ronald de Sousa
Batja Mesquita

KEYNOTE ADDRESSES

PASSION: A HALF CENTURY IN EMOTION RESEARCH
Nico H. Frijda

LANGUAGE: A KEY ISSUE IN UNDERSTANDING HUMAN EMOTIONS
Anna Wierzbicka

AFFECT AT WORK: FROM ATTITUDES TO TRAITS TO EXPERIENCES
Cynthia D. Fisher
THE EFFECT OF EMOTIONS ON AN INDIVIDUAL’S DECISION TO ACCEPT ORGANIZATIONAL CHANGE FOLLOWING A MERGER

Marie H. Kavanagh (University of Queensland) and Carolyn A. Windsor (Monash University)

Research has increasingly shown that emotions are influential in organisational life particularly during organisational change. The merger of organisations is one of the most common catalysts for organisational change and the role that emotions play in employee acceptance of the change initiative is critical. The purpose of this study we describe in this presentation was to examine the relationship between employee emotions and employee perceptions about the outcomes of a merger instigated by senior management in a large university. Both quantitative and qualitative methods were used with a survey questionnaire and a series of interviews eliciting responses from employees involved in the merger. Results indicate that, regardless of whether employees experience positive emotions such as happiness, enthusiasm, or optimism; or negative emotions such as fear, anxiety, or disappointment, they still do not accept the change brought about by the merger. Even when employees are receptive to the merger, they remain guarded in terms of their acceptance of the merger based on personal outcomes with implications for the manner in which the change is managed. We conclude our presentation with a discussion of the limitations and theoretical and practical implications of our findings.