

International Society of Ecological Psychology

Preliminary Announcement of Meeting

Saturday, October 23, 1982

9 A.M.-- 5 P.M.

9-17 Seabury Hall

Trinity College

Hartford, Connecticut

Call for papers: There will be time for four to six talks. We (Bill Mace, Robert Hoffman, Bob Shaw) know about some people whose work is ripe for presentation. Michael Turvey has promised to describe the research he has done with Peter Kugler on the regulation of action. Ennio Mingolla will show his striking computer graphics of opaque and transparent spheres and ellipsoids. Themes from past meetings that would be well to pursue might include relevant animal research, speech and language studies, and topics that are typically considered "cognitive." We also intend to encourage presentations in allied areas such as the arts and computer science. Do not hesitate to volunteer or to suggest a likely prospect who could be in Hartford on October 23.

Call for members: The "start up" dues for the Society are \$35 (\$15 for people with reduced incomes). This includes \$20 for the first year's subscription to a quarterly journal that is being planned. The remainder will cover the cost of a newsletter and other expenses that arise. Thusfar we have received generous support from Trinity College, Adelphi University, and the University Research Institute of Connecticut, but we must pay our own bills soon.

Since the journal is more than a year away (the organization of the Society and production of several newsletters must come first), the \$20 for it will not be requested again until several issues have appeared. Therefore the October 1983 dues assessment will be no more than \$15 (\$5 for people with reduced incomes) for those who already paid the journal portion. Checks (or cheques) may be made out to ISEP.

Call for candidates for Board of Directors: Paid up members of the Society who attend the meeting of October 23, and who remain for the business meeting at the end of the day, will elect the first full Board of Directors of the Society. A slate of nominees who have consented to run will be offered, but candidates can also be nominated from the floor at the meeting. Who do you think would be appropriate? Would you accept nomination?

Once there is a Board, we can begin organizing in earnest. For example, a real program committee would be established. Another immediate task would be to determine useful ways to realize the Society's international and interdisciplinary goals. A newsletter is one way to encourage communication among people who cannot attend meetings, but there are surely other important functions the Society can perform.

Description of the Society: For those of you who do not know about the Society, here is a rough description. The Society was started in 1981 primarily by experimental psychologists who judged that the word "ecological" somehow fit the work they were actually doing or something they were curious about. Most had at least a nodding

acquaintance with James Gibson's ideas, which are the primary source of the group's sense of "ecological." The Society is meant to be a forum for discussing the role of environment in understanding psychological functions such as perceiving, acting, remembering, and communicating. What unites participants in our meetings is a willingness to examine relations defined over animal-environment systems rather than confining their professional attention to what's "inside the head." Society membership does not depend on a person's theoretical position or discipline, only the topics of mutual concerns. In addition to experimental psychologists, our past meetings have included philosophers, artists, architects, computer scientists, physicists, and biologists in addition to comparative psychologists, ethologists, developmental psychologists, and social psychologists. We hope our membership will reflect all of these areas.

Past meetings: There have been three meetings where presentations were made. The first, in September 1981, and the second, January of 1982 were held at Trinity College. The third, in May of 1982, was at Adelphi University. The January meeting was a symposium on Ecological psychology and Cognition; papers were delivered at the September and May meetings. Extensive accounts of the January and May meetings have been written and are available upon request from William Mace at the address given below.

Future meetings: There will be a conference on event perception the week of June 12, 1983 at Vanderbilt University. This is not itself a Society conference but the Society will convene on this occasion. An earlier meeting might be organized, but no such plans exist right now.

A NOTICE WILL FOLLOW IN OCTOBER WITH THE FINAL DETAILS, MAPS AND OTHER INFORMATION.
PLEASE TELL US IF YOU WILL COME SO WE CAN PLAN ACCORDINGLY.

Name _____

Address _____

_____ I plan to attend the October 23 ISEP meeting at Trinity College.

_____ I am willing to give a research presentation and am enclosing an abstract.

_____ I am enclosing membership dues of \$35 _____
\$15 _____

I nominate the following people for Board of Directors:

Return this form and send checks to William Mace, Department of Psychology,
Trinity College, Hartford, Connecticut 06106 USA

International Society of Ecological Psychology

Program for Saturday, October 23, 1982
9-17 Seabury Hall
Trinity College
Hartford, Connecticut

(For those likely to attend, directions and maps are enclosed)

- 8:45 - 9:20 a.m. Coffee and Doughnuts
- 9:20 - 9:30 Opening remarks - Bill Mace
- 9:30 - 10:30 "On the 'soft' construction of rhythmic movements: An experimental analysis from the perspective of physical biology." Michael Turvey (University of Connecticut, Haskins Laboratories).
- 10:30 - 10:40 Questions, discussion
- 10:40 - 11:00 Break
- 11:00 - 11:20 "Motion parallax and visual flow: How to determine direction of locomotion." James Cutting (Cornell University)
- 11:20 - 11:50 "Skills, affordances, and mental practice" Ulric Neisser (Cornell University)
- 11:50 - 12:00 Questions, discussion on Neisser paper
- 12:00 - 12:30 Discussion of all morning presentations
- 12:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. Lunch. Sandwiches and light lunches may be purchased in the college snack bar, the "Cave", in the basement of Mather Hall.
- 1:30 - 1:50 "The static depiction of dynamic events" Claudia Carello and Lawrence Rosenblum (SUNY, Binghamton)
- 1:50 - 2:00 Questions, discussion
- 2:00 - 2:20 "Information in shaded visual displays." Ennio Mingolla (University of Connecticut).
- 2:20 - 2:30 Questions, discussion
- 2:30 - 2:50 Break
- 2:50 - 3:45 "The artist's Perception of psychology" Nathan Knobler (Philadelphia College of Art)
- 3:45 - 3:55 Questions, discussion on Knobler paper
- 3:55 - 4:25 Discussion of all afternoon presentations
- 4:30 First Official Business Meeting of the Society

- Agenda: (1) Election of Board of Directors. All paid up members who are present may vote. A slate of nominees who have consented to run will be presented. Any dues paid during the last year are good to October 1983.
- (2) Other business to be brought before the Society.