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Program & Abstracts

**11th Australian Conference for
Personality and Individual Differences**

November 29-30 2012
The University of Melbourne



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Preface

This booklet contains the program and abstracts of the 11th Australian Conference for Personality and Individual Differences, held at the University of Melbourne, November 29-30, 2012. ACPID is the premier scientific conference in Australia for personality and individual differences research. The notable contribution of Australian researchers to this area of psychological science (see Allik, 2012, *EJP*) is reflected in this year's program. These contributions – which consist of posters, rapid presentations, regular presentations, themed symposia and keynote lectures – demonstrate the depth and diversity of the personality and individual differences field. It is also gratifying to note the strong contribution to this year's program by student researchers, which is in keeping with ACPID's pedagogical and development role.

ACPID 2012 is an official event of the Personality and Individual Differences Interest Group within the Australian Psychological Society (APS), and proudly hosted by the Personality Processes Laboratory of the Melbourne School of Psychological Sciences.

Sincere thanks must go to Rachel Kabbani, who provided tireless assistance, advice and enthusiasm at all stages of organising this event.

Luke D. Smillie

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Contents

Program.....	1
Program Overview	2
Detailed Program	3
Keynotes.....	7
Invited Keynote 1: Meehl on wheels: Taxometrics and the idea of personality types.....	8
Invited Keynote 2: Paying Attention to Emotion: The Contribution of Attentional Selectivity to Emotional Disposition	9
Symposia	11
Symposium 1: Individual Differences in Adolescent and Pre-Adolescent EI: Assessment and Educational Aspects	12
Symposium 2: Individual differences in health and the role of self- regulatory abilities	17
Symposium 3: Individual differences and substance use	22
Symposium 4: Personality and work.....	28
Regular Presentations	35
Regular Presentations 1: Clinical and psychopathological processes.....	36
Regular Presentations 2: Social and interpersonal processes	44
Regular Presentations 3: Positive psychology, emotion, and related themes	52

Regular Presentations 4: Reinforcement sensitivity theory and related themes	59
Regular Presentations 5: Personality and cognition	66
Regular Presentations 6: Self-regulation and achievement	71
Regular Presentations 7: The darker side of personality	76
Rapid Presentations	81
Rapid Presentations 1: Personality measurement and conceptualisation	82
Rapid Presentations 2: Social, cognitive and developmental processes ...	89
Posters	97
Appendix	115
Directions	116
Area Map.....	117
Things to do in Melbourne.....	118

Thursday 29th November (Cont.)

15:10-17:00	Regular Presentations 3: Positive psychology, emotion, and related themes. Nicola Schutte --- Priming Emotional Intelligence performance Harsha Perera --- Trait EI & University Adjustment Nerina Caltabiano --- Extra-curricula activities and SWB Joseph Ciarrochi --- Psychological assessment and well being Miles Bore --- Personality, mindfulness training and well being Sally Gibson --- Character strengths, persistence & -ve feedback Maren Rawlings --- Self-Deprecating Humour: scale development	Regular Presentations 4: Reinforcement sensitivity theory and related themes. Caroline Fielden --- Personality traits as complex systems Deena Rosalky --- Introducing a state model of r-RST Sharon Dawe --- Personality development, reward & disinhibition Yolanda Gribble --- Personality influences on relapse prevention Yixin Jiang --- Adult attachment and reinforcement sensitivity Paul Harnett --- Personality and attachment style Simon Boag --- r-RST and personality explanation
19:00-22:30	<i>Social event: Cocktail party at Mon Bijou</i>	

Friday 30th November

08:30-09:00	<i>Welcome / Coffee</i>	
09:00-10:40	Symposium 3: Individual Differences and substance use (Kambouropoulos). Natalie Loxton --- Personality-targeted alcohol prevention Matthew Gullo --- Urgency, daily mood and unplanned drinking Nicolas Kambouropoulos --- Impulsivity, mindfulness & substance abuse Nicola Ivory --- Cue reward salience in alcohol cue reactivity Rachel Kabbani --- A test of Incentive Sensitisation Theory	Symposium 4: Personality and Work (O'Conner). Jeromy Anglim --- Effects of warnings on personality faking Chris Jackson --- RST, executive functions and work outcomes Benjamin Walker --- Sensation seeking and creative potential Michael Collins --- Disinhibition and leader effectiveness Peter O'Conner --- Trait EI and emotion-focussed coping
10:40-11:00	<i>Coffee</i>	
11:00-12:20	Rapid Presentations 1: Personality measurement and conceptualisation. Carolyn MacCann --- Social desirability and the GFP Don Munro --- Higher order factors of the big five (but not α & β) Arthur Poropat --- Does Length Matter? BFI versus NEO-PI-R Jodie Valpied --- The Highly Sensitive Person Scale Beatrice Alba --- The construction of a measure of 'Status Anxiety' Rachel Grieve --- The role of experiential thinking in faking Giselle Bill --- Exploring non-traditional sexual interests	Rapid Presentations 2: Personality processes. Patrick Heaven --- Personality change, mental & physical health Richard Hicks --- The PsyCap scale in a cross-cultural study Lisa Abel --- Moral identity, personality and moral action Julie Ji --- Attentional selectivity and dysphoria Kerryn Brack --- Cyberbullying and personality in adults Lee Huuskes --- Religion and adolescence Misia Temler --- Narrative style & unshared personal events
12:20-13:00	<i>Business Meeting</i>	
13:00-14:00	<i>Lunch</i>	
14:00-14:50	Invited Keynote 2: Colin MacLeod --- Paying attention to emotion: The contribution of attentional selectivity to emotional disposition	

Investigating the Psychosocial Mechanisms Underlying the Influence of Trait Emotional Intelligence on University Adjustment: The Mediating Roles of Coping and Social Support

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Heretofore, no studies have investigated the psychosocial mechanisms underlying the effects of trait emotional intelligence (trait EI) on recent school leavers' adjustment to university. This is surprising since trait EI is, theoretically, expected to exert its most beneficial effects on academic and socio-emotional functioning under conditions of potentially high affective arousal, such as adjusting to novel educational environments. The present study specified and tested a short-term longitudinal mediation model in which perceived social support and coping were hypothesised to mediate the relation between trait EI and university adjustment (N = 250). These postulated mediating processes extend the extant literature by elucidating the psychosocial pathways through which distal affective traits may influence university adjustment. Structural equation modeling, with robust maximum likelihood estimation, revealed that trait EI exerted indirect effects on university adjustment via both social support and coping, controlling for the concomitant effects of neuroticism, extraversion and conscientiousness. Students high on trait EI were more likely to perceive greater social support, and more likely to use engagement coping in response to exposure to academic and socio-emotional stressors, which, in turn, positively influenced midterm adjustment. Limitations of this study, future directions and implications for university counselling and student services operations are discussed.

Regular presentations 3: Thursday 15:25