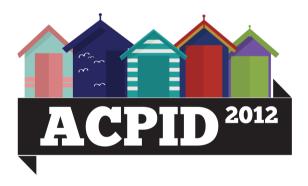


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## **Program & Abstracts**

11<sup>th</sup> 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 11<sup>th</sup> 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

#### **Acknowledgements**

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

### Friday 30<sup>th</sup> November

08:30-09:00	Welcome / Coffee			
09:00-10:40	Symposium 3:	Symposium 4:		
	Individual Differences and substance use (Kambouropoulos).	Personality and Work (O'Conner).		
	Natalie Loxton Personality-targeted alcohol prevention	Jeromy Anglim Effects of warnings on personality faking		
	Matthew Gullo Urgency, daily mood and unplanned drinking	Chris Jackson RST, executive functions and work outcomes		
	Nicolas Kambouropoulos – Impulsivity, mindfulness & substance abuse	Benjamin Walker Sensation seeking and creative potential		
	Nicola Ivory Cue reward salience in alcohol cue reactivity	Michael Collins Disinhibition and leader effectiveness		
	Rachel Kabbani A test of Incentive Sensitisation Theory	Peter O'Conner Trait EI and emotion-focussed coping		
10:40-11:00	0 Coffee			
11:00-12:20	Rapid Presentations 1:	Rapid Presentations 2:		
	Personality measurement and conceptualisation.	Personality processes.		
	Carolyn MacCann Social desirability and the GFP	Patrick Heaven Personality change, mental & physical health		
	Don Munro Higher order factors of the big five (but not $\alpha \& \beta$ )	Richard Hicks The PsyCap scale in a cross-cultural study		
	Arthur Poropat Does Length Matter? BFI versus NEO-PI-R	Lisa Abel Moral identity, personality and moral action		
	Jodie Valpied The Highly Sensitive Person Scale	Julie Ji Attentional selectivity and dysphoria		
	Beatrice Alba The construction of a measure of 'Status Anxiety'	Kerryn Brack Cyberbullying and personality in adults		
	Rachel Grieve The role of experiential thinking in faking	Lee Huuskes Religion and adolescence		
	Giselle Bill Exploring non-traditional sexual interests	Misia Temler Narrative style & unshared personal events		
12:20-13:00	Business Meeting			
13:00-14:00	Lunch			
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