



JPS News April 2024

2024 Annual JPS Meeting — May 31 - June 2 Toronto, Canada www.piaget.org

Dear Colleagues,

We hope that this email finds you well. Here are our April announcements:

- Proposal acceptance letters have been delivered
- Registration is open for the 2024 JPS Annual Meeting, Friday, May 31 - Sunday, June 2, in Toronto
- Awards Announcement!
- Other Celebrations and Input
- Royal Society Publication
- **How Ideas Travel Season 2 is here!** Positioning Developmental Psychology in Latin America

Proposal Acceptance Letters Have Been Delivered!

Emails were distributed in February notifying those who submitted proposals to the refereed committee of their acceptance. If you did not receive an email, please try the following:

- Check your spam folder - sometimes the safeguards on email programs see our emails as spam. If you do find it in the spam folder, be sure to tell your email program that these emails are not spam so that you can easily receive news and notifications from us.
- You can also log in to our [member site](#) to find the submission decision. Under "My History," choose, "My Submissions." This will allow you to see whether or not your submission was accepted. For those of you who need "official documentation" of your proposal's acceptance, this could perhaps suffice in lieu of an email.

If neither of these work, please reach out to us at conference@piaget.org

Register for JPS Toronto 2024 Today

The board has been busy working with the local organizers for our 2024 meeting in Toronto. The conference will take place at the [DoubleTree Hotel](#) in downtown Toronto, **Friday, May 31 - Sunday, June 2**. In addition to providing us with space to meet, the hotel is promising an amazing rate for those who stay there, but space is limited. Our [conference page](#) has a wealth of information, including information about the venue and hotel reservations.

To register for the conference, you must first become a member of the society. The price of membership is very reasonable. In addition to access to Human Development online, members also receive access to the Genetic Epistemologist archives, curriculum to accompany our podcast How Ideas Travel, and access to a membership that is both intellectually stimulating and welcoming. Become a [member and register](#) for the conference today, we would love to see you in Toronto!

The Committee on Awards of the Jean Piaget Society for the Study of Knowledge and Development Board of Directors is proud to announce that the winner of the Jean Piaget Society Dissertation Prize is **Elizabeth Lapidow, Ph.D.** Dr. Lapidow's Dissertation, completed at the University of California-San Diego was titled: *Explaining the Self-Directed Learner as an Intuitive (Causal) Scientist*

The Awards Committee members were very impressed by the theoretical and methodological coherence of 8 experiments presented here, spanning from 4-year-olds to adults. The experiments show that young children can make simple predictions based on results gained by self-directed experience, and that they can analyze logical problems, by for example, testing gears that make a critical difference in what makes a machine go (or not go). Even when it comes to complex problems of excluding variables, both children and adults can detect confounds and make logical choices when they are clearly presented. Children therefore are not little engineers, seeking to "make something happen" or merely to get a desired attractive result but are actually behaving as scientists, choosing to test specific options that will lead to necessary conclusions. Their method of exploration is not simply intuitive, but also conditioned by the constraints of data and deductions. These convincing findings go somewhat against previous work, and therefore advance the field. Dr. Lapidow will present her work at the Society's conference in Toronto in May.

The finalist for this year's prize is Haleh Yazdi, Ph.D.. Her dissertation, completed at the University of California, San Diego is: *The Role of Culture in the Development of Prejudice and Moral Reasoning*

The majority of psychological research is conducted on WEIRD societies (Western, educated industrial, rich and democratic societies). Given that the majority of world cultures are not in this select group of societies, and that most societies have different ethnic and religious groups within them that interact on a constant basis, research on the development of moral reasoning must take this into account. In addition, moral rules are distinct from rules of social convention or politeness and respect, and rules may differ in religious and secular contexts. Dr. Yazdi's work, in several studies, looks at ingroup-outgroup processes, resource sharing, and moral reasoning in the U. S., Canada, Iran, India and Korea. She finds that there are significant differences in how cultures apportion moral rules vs. convention, and that children begin learning these differences as a matter of course from early ages. Dr. Yazdi's work complicates and enriches the work on moral reasoning, and she advocates a two-factor research strategy: cross-cultural comparisons followed by in-depth studies within cultures.

The Jean Piaget Dissertation Prize, funded by one of the founding mothers of the Society, the late Professor Jeanette McCarthy Gallagher and her late husband Frank Gallagher, has been awarded to scholars from many countries and universities since 2015.

Announcement of the winner of the 2024 Jean Piaget Society Early Career Award in Developmental Science.

The Committee on Awards of the Jean Piaget Society for the Study of Knowledge and Development Board of Directors is proud to announce that the Early Career Award in Developmental Science is **Jan Engelmann, Ph.D.**, Assistant Professor of Psychology and Affiliate Professor of Philosophy of The University of California, Berkeley.

Dr. Engelmann's extensive research over the last decade has concerned the evolutionary underpinnings of the development of helping, fairness, cooperation and sociality in children and chimpanzees. His work at Berkeley and previously at the Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology in Leipzig Germany compares the social cognitive behaviors of young children in several countries with that of chimpanzees. With others, Dr. Engelmann's work has found that 2-year-old children often help without prompting or reward. As they grow older, starting around age 4, they move beyond empathetic helping to strategic helping, sharing more in public than in private. Chimpanzees do not share as a matter of course, or strategically, but they do play favorites. In a new line of

modify their actions in response to the reasons of others. Finally, Dr. Engelmann is conducting research in Kenya and China. This work, together with his research in Germany and the U.S., gives a truly global reach to the developmental science of prosocial behavior. Dr. Engelmann will present at the Society's conference in Toronto in May.

(Summarized from the nomination letter of Professor Fei Xu, UC-Berkeley).

Other Celebrations and Input

Let's celebrate one of our member's awesome work! Iván Moreno-Llanos sent us the citation for one of his recent publications:

- Moreno-Llanos, I., Guevara, I., Palacios, P., & Rodríguez, C. (2024). How to study the early development of executive function? Let's put control back in the hands of children. *New Ideas in Psychology*, 72, 101049. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.newideapsych.2023.101049>

Please make sure to check out his article today!

We would like to hear from more of you! Please send the APA citations for any work you have published in the last three years to communication@piaget.org.

We are also editing a few member celebrations to be released soon. If there is a JPS member you would like to suggest for us to highlight, please email us their name and affiliation at communication@piaget.org.

Royal Society Publication

We thought you all might be interested in the special issue of Royal Society titled **Concepts in interaction: social engagement and inner experiences** compiled and edited by Anna M Borghi, Albertyna Osinska, Andreas Roepstorff and Joanna Raczaszek-Leonardi. It is available online for free, and can be accessed directly at www.bit.ly/PTB-1870.

How Ideas Travel Season 2 is Here!

Check out the newest [JPS How Ideas Travel Podcast: Season 2, Episode 1: Positioning](#)

Developmental Psychology in Latin America

The How Ideas Travel Podcast presents personal intellectual stories of how ideas develop across generations. Highlighting the international mission of JPS, How Ideas Travel (HIT2) is devoted to Positioning Developmental Psychology. HIT2 highlights local values of active human development researchers working in different regions of the world, from different positions within those regions. This decolonial shift considers urgent concerns and priorities of scholars in South America: Alicia Barreiro (Argentina), Maria Loreto Martinez (Chile), Andres Molano (Colombia), Susana Frisancho (Peru), and Alejandro Vasquez (Uruguay).

You can also hear Season One (HIT1) Interviews with former students of Piaget and currently active scholars: Anne-Nelly Perret-Clermont & Cintia Rodriguez. Members have access to the HIT Curriculum Pages.

For more on The Jean Piaget Society, visit our website: www.piaget.org



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