

effect of contact with members of one outgroup on attitudes towards other, uninvolved outgroups, was mediated by attitudes towards the involved outgroup, and not by ingroup reappraisal, in both intergroup contexts. Rita Guerra and Samuel Gaertner continued the session, reporting their efforts to translate research on the „common ingroup“ and „dual identity models“ into an education setting in a Portugese primary school, demonstrating the effectiveness of both models in generalizing the positive effects of intergroup contact over time.

After our last coffee break, Alberto Voci, Miles Hewstone, and Lisa Pagotto presented a complex series of studies on generalization processes in the relation between intergroup contact and prejudice reduction within an Italian context. Using structural equation models, the authors showed that meaningful (rather than superficial) contact with single immigrants reduces prejudice toward the whole category of immigrants through the mediation of empathy (both reactive and parallel), anxiety and trust, especially when group memberships are highly salient.

The closing presentation by Gunnar Lemmer and Ulrich Wagner introduced us to the outcomes of their exhaustive (but not exhausting) meta-analysis dealing with the effectiveness of contact-based prevention programs for ethnic rejection. Their research provided an applied examination of Intergroup Contact Theory and ensured that we all left Marburg fully aware of the promise of this area of research, but also of the pitfalls so often associated with attempts to reduce prejudice in applied interventions.

General evaluation of the meeting

Overall, this was an extraordinarily successful meeting. The quality of presentations and the enthusiasm and knowledge of the presenters were uniformly high. Much has been achieved in this area of research since Allport's pioneering work in 1954. The 'contact hypothesis' has been developed theoretically and

methodologically almost beyond recognition; it definitely is no longer a (mere) hypothesis, but a full-blown, sophisticated *intergroup contact theory*. I personally hope that the future will bring a second conference on this exciting topic, which clearly has many proponents in both EASP and SPSSI. I hope that I do not overstep myself in saying, on behalf of all the participants at the EASP-SPSSI Small Group Meeting on „Intergroup contact“ participants, that we all look forward to more and more cooperative contact, across many different settings!

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Medium Size Meeting on Affective Processes in Evaluation

June 5-8, 2008, Berg en Dal (Nijmegen), The Netherlands

Organisers: Pablo Briñol, Geoff Haddock, Greg Maio, Rich Petty, and Rob Holland

Early June 2008 we welcomed 45 researchers from all over the world for the 3rd EAESP Medium Sized Group Meeting on the Psychology of Attitudes. After wonderful meetings in Wales (2000) and in Madrid (2004) the meeting now moved to the east of the Netherlands. The meeting addressed recent research on Affective Processes in Evaluation. The meeting preceded the general EAESP meeting in Opatija. Therefore, for most participants it served as a pre-conference. Our goal was to have an inspiring and interesting meeting on affective processes in attitudes by means of 1) a series of excellent talks and poster presentations, and 2) by organizing various social events in order to facilitate informal conversations between participants. We certainly think we obtained our goal. The

location was good, the weather was great (this is always a risk for organizing a meeting in the Netherlands), and most importantly, the content was excellent.

The role of affective processes is emphasized in much recent research within the attitudes literature, and there have been several recent developments in the theories of emotion. For instance, various studies have focused on the contribution of affect to implicit and explicit measures of attitude. Furthermore, a substantial amount of recent research has focused on the roles of mood and affective orientation in attitude formation and change. At the same time, prototype views of emotion are challenging traditional, dimensional conceptions, and showing how divergent processes can be elicited by seemingly “similar” positive emotions or “similar” negative emotions. In addition, there is increasing knowledge and sophistication in the assessment of emotion over time and at conscious and non-conscious levels (e.g. with implicit measures). Also, there is more knowledge about relevant individual differences in affective and evaluative experience and about relevant biological and sociological factors. All of these developments point to a pressing need to begin focused discussions of how affective processes are integrated within attitudes, attitude change, and relations between attitudes and behavior. The aim of this meeting was to facilitate this integration.

On June 5 late afternoon, the meeting started with an informal reception and dinner on Thursday evening welcomed all participants to the Netherlands. The conference officially started on Friday with talks that were held in three sessions. Rich Petty started the first session with a presentation on the fundamental processes by which incidental emotions influence attitudes and other judgements, and highlighted the importance of examining specific emotions rather than emotional valence. Russ Fazio continued by discussing the mechanism of implicit misattribution underlying evaluative conditioning, and presented a variety of

studies in which greater evaluative conditioning was observed when conditions were conducive to source confusability. Duane Wegener chaired the first session of presentations, and led an interesting discussion round.

In the second session, Madelijn Strick described a series of studies demonstrating that as humour distracts and involves positive affect, it is a useful advertising strategy to overcome consumers' resistance to persuasion. Robert Livingstone raised the question whether racial attitudes have their origin in lower-level affective processes and suggested new strategies for prejudice reduction via affective reconditioning. Harm Veling focused on the behaviour-regulatory consequences of inhibiting impulses elicited by positive objects, and stated that behavioural inhibition can modify attitudes to facilitate future behaviour. Pam Smith addressed individuals' subjective sense of power and suggested that approach-avoidance behaviour can affect self-perception in a non-diffuse fashion. Geoff Haddock made some integrative comments and led a stimulating general discussion.

The third session of the day started with a presentation by Michael Häfner, who provided evidence that the information processing style induced by negative mood states yields information representations at higher levels of perceptual fluency and as a consequence elicits positive affect which may spread to subsequent implicit attitudes. Rob Holland drew upon the effects of diffuse affective states on the role of deliberative and intuitive attitudinal processes in behaviour regulation. Duane Wegener presented evidence for the hedonic contingency view of mood and message processing, showing that individuals in a happy mood process information about a negative event to a greater extent when it serves the goal to manage mood in the long term. Ron Dotsch ended the session with the idea that highly prejudiced individuals hold more negatively biased mental representations of ethnic faces than less prejudiced individuals. Joop van der Pligt led the general

discussion following the presentations and introduced a number of interesting discussion points to individual contributions.

After a very interesting poster session, with 20 posters being presented, some decided to get a better view of ancient Nijmegen by going on an organized city walk whereas others preferred to broaden their mind by learning more about whisky from Ap Dijksterhuis. The day was ended with an informal dinner at 'De schat' in the city centre.

Presentations were given in two sessions on the second day. Gerald Clore started off with a talk on the accessibility model, suggesting that attitudes may be alternatives to behaviour rather than causes of behaviour. Pablo Briñol described studies supporting the idea that confidence in emotion-related thoughts can be influenced by meta-cognitive experiences (e.g. ease). These presentations were followed by a general discussion overseen by Roger Giner Sorolla, who led a stimulating question and answer round.

In the second session, Geoff Haddock addressed the importance of individual differences in need for affect and need for cognition in the attention individuals devote to affect- and cognition-based appeals. Helma van den Berg discussed differences between an affective and a cognitive focus in terms of attitude formation, and suggested that an affective focus results in structurally different attitudes. Frenk van Harreveld argued that the relation between attitudinal ambivalence and feelings of discomfort is mediated by uncertainty about outcomes. Marc Kiviniemi introduced his behavioural affective associations model, which describes the interplay of affective and cognitive influences on behavioural decision making, and suggested that the affective component of attitudes mediates the effects cognitive components have on behaviour. To complete the session, Ap Dijksterhuis introduced some common themes across contributions and chaired a discussion session in which a number of interesting issues were raised.

The remaining time of the day was spent at the Kröller Müller Museum in park de Hoge Veluwe near Arnhem, exchanging thoughts on affective reactions towards Van Gogh paintings and cycling in the Netherlands on "white bikes". Upon return to the hotel, participants were welcomed back with a barbecue.

The final day of the meeting was opened with a talk by Ap Dijksterhuis on the competence of consciously and unconsciously weighting the importance of alternatives' attributes in the decision-making process. Piotr Winkielman drew attention to the useful, causal, and contextual nature of the embodiment of emotions, and also presented evidence for non-embodied processing of emotions. This session of presentations were chaired by Rich Petty, who made some integrative comments and led a lively discussion.

The second session of the day included contributions from four speakers. Kirsten Ruys described studies on the evaluative-matching hypothesis, suggesting that automatic evaluations induced by a stimulus' features facilitate access to evaluatively congruent category dimensions of this stimulus. Adriaan Spruyt argued that affective and non-affective processing of task-irrelevant stimuli can proceed in an equally 'automatic' fashion, given that feature-specific attention allocation is being considered. Roger Giner-Sorolla presented arguments for the idea that specific types of emotional associations have different processing implications. The last speaker of the day was Joop van der Pligt, discussing the moralization of attitudes and the role of emotions, showing that attitudes were stronger when they were primarily based on moral concerns, and that emotions fully mediate their impact on behaviour. Rob Holland ended the final session of the conference with a fruitful discussion on issues raised in the preceding talks. Geoff Haddock closed the meeting by addressing key issues which manifested themselves during the conference, expressing positive thoughts about the meeting's success, the lively discussions and scientific

exchange. The goal to facilitate integration of affective processes in attitudes, attitude change, and relations between attitudes and behavior has definitely been met.

Our thanks go, next to the participants for making this such an interesting meeting, also to the EAESP, Cardiff University, the Universidad Autonoma de Madrid, the Ohio State University, and the Radboud University Nijmegen, and especially the Behavioral Science Institute of the Radboud University Nijmegen, for their essential support. Additionally, we would like to express our special thanks to the local organizing committee: The "Orange Team" (our team of students driving participants from and to Schiphol airport and helping in many other ways), Ron Dotsch, Madelijn Strick, Severine Koch, Marijke Crum, Ap Dijksterhuis, and especially Maarten Bos for making this meeting a stimulating experience.

Also on behalf of the other organizers,

Rob Holland
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**Reports on the EASP Summer School 2008
August 17 – August 31, Cardiff, Wales, UK**

- ❖ Attitudes (Greg Maio & Geoff Haddock)
- ❖ Gender and Sexuality (Peter Hegarty, Thomas Morton & Michelle Ryan)
- ❖ Intergroup Relations (Thomas Kessler & Stéphanie Demoulin)
- ❖ Self and Identity (Aiden Gregg & Claire Hart)
- ❖ Social Cognition (Luigi Castelli & Wilhelm Hofmann)

The Cardiff Summer School: Organizer's report

It is with some nostalgia that I look back to the EASP summer school that we organized in Cardiff at the end of last summer. The "end" of the summer is probably a good way of describing it, as the passage of time since cannot disguise that there was precious little sun and quite a lot of rain during the whole two weeks (although "end" is not entirely accurate either, as summer in Cardiff last year never seem to have got started at all!). Fortunately, Cardiff was brightened up by the arrival of around 60 international students from more than 20 different countries in Europe, of course, but also across the globe, including the US, Canada, and Australia.

This diversity was matched by our excellent line-up of teachers. In no particular order these were Aiden Greg and Claire Hart (Self and Identity), Luigi Castelli and Wilhelm Hofmann (Social Cognition), Peter Hegarty and Thomas Morton (Gender and Sexuality), Stéphanie Demoulin and Thomas Kessler (Intergroup Relations) and our very own local team of Greg Maio and Geoff Haddock (Attitudes). In a very welcome collaboration (and contribution!) the European Social Cognition Network (ESCON) sponsored the social cognition track, also with a commitment to do this in the