Welcome to Kent 2017!

We are delighted to be hosting the Centre for the Study of Group Processes 25th anniversary conference, here at the School of Psychology, University of Kent. We celebrate not just 25 years of the Centre, but also 20 years of the journal Group Processes & Intergroup Relations, edited by Professor Dominic Abrams and Professor Mike Hogg. The conference is set around the theme of “Future Challenges for Psychological Research on Group Processes and Intergroup Relations: What we know and what we need to know”.

Research in group processes and intergroup relations has been well represented in social psychology - amongst the top impact papers, highest profile conferences, and beyond. However, much of this research has come under increased scrutiny in recent years. Psychological methods and techniques are advancing at one of the fastest rates ever for the field of social psychology. In particular, the emphasis on the discovery of neural pathways and correlates with behavioural outcomes, and the open science agenda have heightened this pace of change and potential scepticism of groups related research.

The future for psychological research in group processes and intergroup relations is at a critical juncture. This conference will provide a constructive and open space, for recognised experts, pioneering scholars, and early career scholars and students, to consider the future agenda for psychological research on group processes and intergroup relations. The conference is focused around the research of the field’s most distinguished academics including many invited international speakers. We also have keynote lectures from Professor Susan Fiske (Princeton University), Professor Mike Hogg (Claremont Graduate University), and Professor John Levine (University of Pittsburgh) as well as from the Centre’s Director: Professor Dominic Abrams.

We hope that the conference will promote the careers and research programmes of professionals in the field, and also those of students. We are providing an opportunity for all to meet, converse and collaborate. Day 1 is based at the School of Psychology on the University’s Canterbury Campus to provide an opportunity for more informal networking and open discussion. Day 2 and 3 have the UNESCO World Heritage Centre - Canterbury Cathedral - as the backdrop, with a programme of talks and activities, and a conference dinner at the Cathedral Lodge.

We hope you enjoy your time here and we thank you all for your contributions.

Georgina Randsley de Moura, Head of School of Psychology, University of Kent on behalf of all Faculty and Student members of the Centre for the Study of Group Processes

Internet Access

All delegates can access to the University Wi-Fi. The network is eduroam – if your home university uses the same, your usual log-in will allow you to connect. Otherwise, please check your delegate pack for the username and password that have been allocated to you. At the Cathedral Lodge, the Wi-Fi network is CathedralLodge and the password event1.

Keep up to date with the conference and share your experience via our twitter handle and conference hashtag.
@Group_Lab
#CSGP25

The Venues

Day 1 will take place at the School of Psychology, Keynes College, University of Kent. The School holds a wide variety of facilities for teaching and research, and the environment facilitates networking and research discussion.

Day 2 and 3 will be held at the Cathedral Lodge, located in the grounds of Canterbury Cathedral, a UNESCO World Heritage Centre and one of the oldest and most famous Christian structures in England. Day 3 will end with a tour to the Cathedral, make sure you don’t miss it!
The Centre for the Study of Group Processes (CSGP) was founded in 1992 by Professor Dominic Abrams, Professor Rupert Brown, Professor Noel Clark, Professor Steve Hinkle, Dr. Lorne Hulbert, and Professor Geoffrey Stephenson (who also established Psychology at Kent 40 years ago, in 1977).

According to Professor Dominic Abrams, one of the main reasons for starting the CSGP was related with the fact that “the UK had been a major centre for a unique brand of “European” social psychology but after Tajfel’s research group in Bristol dispersed it was clear that Kent, which had originally been established as the Social Psychology Research Unit by Professor Geoffrey Stephenson, had the largest concentration of researchers with expertise in group processes and Intergroup relations in the UK and we wanted to continue the legacy” (full interview: http://www.psypag.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2015/12/PsyPag-97-complete.pdf).

Currently, the CSGP includes a wide range of prestigious academics and postgraduate students, also counting numerous amazing visitors and honorary members such as Barbara Masser, Christopher Brait, Craig Parks, Diane Houston, John Dovidio, John Levine, Melanie Vauclair, Norbert Kerr, Peter Grant, Richard Crisp, Scott Tindale and Sonia Roccas, among others. The activity of CSGP was significantly boosted in 2012, when Professor Domininc Abrams, Dr Georgina Randsley de Moura, and

Dr Tim Hopthrow, established GroupLab, a formal research group formed faculty members, students, external speakers and visitors that meets weekly (know more at https://www.kent.ac.uk/psychology/csgp/grouplab.html).

Five years after the CSGP foundation, Professors Dominic Abrams and Michael Hogg decided to start the Group Processes & Intergroup Relations Journal, with the key aim of creating a bridge between two contrasting traditions in the field: the American Research, more focussed on social cognition, and the European Social Psychology, more focussed on social identity theory.

Below is the timeline of CSGP & GIPR including some milestones:

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Gangs, Conflict and Pro-Criminal Attitudes in Groups

June 26th 2017, 8:30-14:00, University of Kent

This event is hosted by SPSSI-UK and the Centre of Research and Education in Forensic Psychology (CORE-FP) and will explore: The role of group processes on delinquent group behaviour, inter-group aggression, and pro-criminal attitudes.

The event will bring together 45 academics and experts in the area of group behaviour, conflict and crime. Delegates include local Councillors, representatives from the Police, Probation Services, and NGOs, as well as local and UK-based academics.

The event aims to link research with policy and practice in order to inform debate, policy and practice in the UK (and beyond), and will therefore be interactive with group discussions and time for questions.

Speakers at the event are (alphabetically): Dr Elaine Brown (Canterbury Christ Church University); Dr Mark James (University of Kent); Dr Katarina Mozova (Canterbury Christ Church University); Dr Giovanni Travaglini (University of Kent); Dr Eduardo Vasquez (University of Kent); Dr Jane Wood (University of Kent).

SPSSI-UK is a new initiative that ‘The Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues’ (SPSSI) is sponsoring to embrace the significant contributions that UK psychological research is able to make in wider international debates. It is led by Professor Rupert Brown (University of Sussex, Chair of SPSSI-UK), Professor Dominic Abrams (University of Kent), Dr Georgina Randsley de Moura (University of Kent) and other UK-based social psychologists. You can learn more about SPSSI-UK, its events and who is taking part at www.spssiuk.com or by emailing spssiuk@spssi.org.

Natasha Ann Brigham, Executive Officer, SPSSI-UK

CORE-FP (pictured below) at Kent recently celebrated 21 years of the MSc in Forensic Psychology with a conference which featured ground-breaking research from leading experts in the field.
Places to Visit in Canterbury

Canterbury Roman Museum
Visiting the Canterbury Roman Museum provides a captivating and family-friendly understanding of life in Roman Britain and exploration of Canterbury’s history. The collections include: jewellery, mosaics, double sword burial and much more. Opening Times: Monday-Sunday 10.00-17.00.

St Augustine’s Abbey
Located just outside the city walls is the extraordinary St Augustine’s Abbey which was founded shortly after AD 597. You can explore the abbey and its grounds with a free audio tour and enjoy the onsite museum. Opening Times: Monday-Sunday 10.00-18.00.

Canterbury Tales
Five of Chaucer’s intriguing tales are brought to life in this engaging and entertaining experience. During your visit, you will be met with costumed guides and discover the medieval scenes with Chaucer’s pilgrims. Opening Times: Monday-Sunday 10.00-17.00.

The Beaney House of Art and Knowledge
The Beaney is situated in the centre of Canterbury and contains an art gallery, library and visitor information centre. It is a welcoming environment and has plenty to interest everyone. Opening Times: Museum and Galleries Tuesday-Saturday 10.00-17.00, Library and Visitor Information Monday-Friday 9.00-18.00.

River Boat Trips
These trips will take you along The River Stour which flows through the heart of Canterbury. This experience includes parts of the city which are only accessible on these tours and provides visitors with a calm and friendly introduction to the city of Canterbury. Opening Times: Monday-Sunday 10.00-17.00.

The Marlowe Theatre
Canterbury’s Marlowe Theatre holds a wide variety of shows including: plays, major West End musicals, ballet, contemporary dance, opera, stand-up comedy and much more. There is something for everyone but even if you are not interested in going to a show, the theatre is also home to The Green Room restaurant and other bars.

Places to Eat in Canterbury

Kashmir Tandoori – Indian cuisine – 20 Palace Street; 462050
Marlowes – British cuisine – 55 St Peter’s Street; 462194
Pizza Express – Italian food – 4 Best Lane; 766938
Super Noodles – Chinese food – 87 Northgate; 457688
Wagamama – Japanese noodle bar – 7 Longmarket; 454307
Zizzi – Italian food – 53 St Peter’s Street; 764463

If you are looking for a light bite in Canterbury during the day there are a few great spots, Boho Café has a great atmosphere and serves fresh local ingredients in their own unique style (27 High Street) or for traditional French style lunch why not try Café St Pierre (41 St Peter’s Street). Or if you are looking for a pub lunch then The Dolphin is the perfect place (17 St Radigunds Street).

Also Tiny Tim’s Tearoom is a great spot for traditional afternoon tea and other freshly baked treats (34 St Margaret’s Street) and the Saffron Café serves homemade food in a friendly atmosphere (9 Castle Street). Or the Veg Box Café is a bright informal spot for vegetarian, vegan and organic dishes (17A Burgate, or its sister outlet Fermental in the Goods Shed on Station Road West).

Non-exhaustive list of places to Eat in Canterbury. All telephone numbers use Canterbury code 01227:
The Ancient Raj – Indian food – 25-26 North Lane; 455882
Ask – Italian food – 24 High Street; 767617
Bill’s – open for breakfast, lunch, dinner and everything in between – 5 Rose Lane; 479552
Café des Amis – Mexican food – 95 St Dunstans Street; 464390
Café Mauresque – Moroccan food – 8 Butchery Lane; 464300
Café Rouge – French food – 3-5 Longmarket; 784984
Café du Soleil – Mediterranean cuisine restaurant – 5 Pound Lane; 479999
Deeson’s British Restaurant – British cuisine – 25-26 Sun Street; 767854
Dems Brasserie – French food – 10 St Peter’s Street; 769018
The Goods Shed – Local produce very well cooked – Station Road West; 459153
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CSGP External Collaborations

The CSGP maintains important collaborations with local and national organisations. Some of the of them include: Age UK, a charity that is dedicated to supporting people in later life; People United, an innovative charity that explores the effect of the arts and creativity on prosocial behaviour; and the Anne Frank Trust, an education charity, that empowers young people with the knowledge, skills and confidence to challenge all forms of prejudice and discrimination.

A number of our PhD students currently hold CASE studentships in collaboration with these organisations. These students work alongside members of the team and provide input with things such as intervention design, implementation and evaluation. CSGP also collaborates with the Defence Science and Technology Laboratory, looking at understanding and improving communication and team performance online and in the military. The collaboration includes PhD funding, staff exchanges and funded research.

Transport Info

Buses to the town centre run frequently from outside Keynes College (Uni1 bus and Uni2 bus run approximately every 20 minutes). You can catch the bus back to Keynes College from either the Bus Station (Uni1 and Uni2 bus) or St Dunstan’s; if you want to view the timetable please go to https://bustimes.org.uk/services/set_6-UNI-1-y08. The cost of single bus ticket from Keynes to Canterbury is £1.90 and the cost of a return bus ticket to and from Canterbury is £3.30 which are available to buy on the bus.

Alternatively, several Taxi companies in Canterbury run 24/7: Cabline 6 Canterbury (01227 555555), Longleys Canterbury (01227 710777), Canterbury Taxis (01227 444444), Longport Taxis (01227 458885), Andycabs (01227 767111). The average cost of a journey between the university and the city centre is approximately £8.

Upcoming Events

Bayesian analysis in social science research (6th July 2017, 9:00-16:00) – a workshop for postgraduates in social sciences. An event funded by PsyPAG and the University of Kent Graduate School, free for postgraduate students. Find more: https://www.kent.ac.uk/psychology/workshops/bayesian/index.html

Symposia at the EASP General Meeting (Granada, July 2017):


Blitz presentations from CSGP members at the EASP General Meeting (Granada, July 2017):

‘Walk This Way’: Incorporating social identity into a computer model of crowd behaviour, Anne Templeton, John Drury, & Andy Philippides

‘The smell of death: Frightening or merely disgusting?’, Arnaud Wisman

Social Power and Affective Experiences, Stefan Leach

CSGP members presenting at the ISPP Annual Meeting (Edinburgh, June-July, 2017):

The Motivated Cognitive Basis of Transphobia: The Role of Right-Wing Ideologies and Gender Role Beliefs, Arti Purshottam Makwana & Kristof Dhont

The role of conspiracy theories in the EU referendum 2016, Karen Douglas & Robbie Sutton

Forgotten by victors, but not (yet) for losers: Conspiracy theories in the Brexit referendum and the election of Donald Trump, Aleksandra Cichocka & Robbie Sutton

Personality and politician effectiveness: Big 5 facet level predictors of electoral and in-role political performance, Madeleine Wyatt

Utopias as cognitive alternatives: The work of imagination on perceptions of legitimacy, Orestis Panayiotou, Aleksandra Cichocka, & Robbie Sutton

Coming Soon to Kent

We will be launching The Arts and Prosocial Behaviour Research Group (APRG) in collaboration with People United in Autumn, 2017. The APRG will meet regularly to discuss and disseminate ideas about the impact of the arts on prosocial behaviour. Look out for further updates

Thank You

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