



IAP 7/33

**MECHANISMS OF CONSCIOUS AND
UNCONSCIOUS LEARNING**

Second Meeting

HET PAND, GENT

ROOM « RECTOR BLANCQUAERT »

November 5th, 2013

Belgian Science Policy Office



belspo

9.15 Introduction by Axel Cleeremans

9:30 WP Presentations – Part I

9:30 **WP7 - Cleeremans/Brass/Rossion/Haggard/Dienes**
Mechanisms of awareness

10:00 **WP2- Beckers/DeHouwer/Cleeremans/Peigneux/Kolinsky**
Mechanisms of conditioning and causal learning

10:30 **WP3 - De Houwer/Cleeremans/Brass/Beckers**
Mechanisms of learning via instructions

11:00 Coffee break

11:30 WP Presentations – Part II

11:30 **WP4 - Dienes /Cleeremans/Beckers**
Mechanisms of implicit learning

12:00 **WP5 - Brass/Cleeremans/ Haggard**
Mechanisms of human decision making

12:30 Lunch + Administrative meeting (PIs only ; 12:50-13:30)

13:30 WP Presentations – Part III

13:30 **WP6 – Haggard & Sidarus/Cleeremans/Brass**
Mechanisms of instrumental learning

14:00 **WP1 - Rossion/Peigneux**
Mechanisms and dynamics of learning novel visual patterns

14:30 **WP8 - Kolinsky & Ana Franco/Content/Rossion & Aliette Locy/De Houwer**
Mechanisms of cultural learning

15:00 Coffee break

15:30 Individual Presentations

15:30 **Gaëtan Mertens (UGent ; WP3) : Learning via instructions**

16:00 **Sean Hughes (UGent) : Arbitrary applicable relational responding**

16:30 **Keynote: David Shanks**

17:20 Drink !

Keynote :

Don't Bet on it! Wagering as a Measure of Awareness in Decision Making under Uncertainty

David R. Shanks and Emmanouil Konstantinidis

Can our decisions be guided by unconscious or implicit influences? According to the somatic marker hypothesis, emotion-based signals can guide our decisions in uncertain environments outside awareness. Post-decision wagering, in which participants make wagers on the outcomes of their decisions, has been recently proposed as an objective and sensitive measure of conscious content. We have employed variations of a classic decision-making paradigm, the Iowa Gambling Task, in combination with wagering in order to investigate the role played by unconscious influences. We examined the validity of post-decision wagering by comparing it with alternative measures of conscious knowledge, specifically confidence ratings and quantitative questions. Consistent with a putative role for unconscious influences, we observed a lag between choice accuracy and the onset of advantageous wagering. However, the lag was eliminated by a change in the wagering payoff matrix and by a switch from a binary wager response to either a binary or a 4-point confidence response, and wagering underestimated awareness compared to explicit quantitative questions. Our results demonstrate the insensitivity of post-decision wagering as a direct measure of conscious knowledge and challenge the claim that implicit processes influence decision-making under uncertainty.

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Contact information


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By public transport

- From station Gent St-Pieters:
tram 1 (every 6 minutes) or **tram 24** (every 20 minutes). Exit at **Korenmarkt**.
- From Gent Zuid:
tram 4 (every 6 minutes), **tram 24** (every 20 minutes) or **bus 17** (every 30 minutes). Exit at **Korenmarkt**.

By car

- Follow the parking signage to **parking P7 Sint-Michiels**. The parking is located at 50 meter from Het Pand. Take the exit **Onderbergen** and you come out in the Wilderoosstraat, opposite Het Pand.
- An alternative parking is P8 Ramen. From here it's about 5 minutes on foot to Het Pand.



<http://www.ugent.be/het-pand/en/accessibility>

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