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Behavioral and Brain Sciences

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To appear in Volume 16, Number 4 (1993)

Offprints of the following forthcoming BBS treatments can be purchased for educational purposes if they are ordered well in advance. For ordering information, please write to Journals Department, Cambridge University Press, 40 West 20th Street,

Species and individual differences in communication based on private states David Lubinski, Iowa State University, and Travis Thompson, Vanderbilt University

Despite Darwinian assumptions of biological continuity, there have been few animal models of human communication for the way people come to report private stimulation from within their own bodies. An animal is described here that is based on concepts and methods derived from the study of discriminative stimulus effects of drugs, and recent research on interanimal communication. We analyze intra- and interspecies differences in neurochemical mechanisms for transducing interoceptive stimuli, enzymatic and other metabolic factors, learning ability, and discrimination learning histories and their relation to

psychiatric and developmental disabilities.

With Commentary from DM Baer; WM Baum; MN Branch; EJ Capaldi & RW Proctor; M Hocutt; LG Humphrys; A Laakso; C Mortensen; IM Pepperberg; K Salzinger; IP Stolerman; NS Thompson; TR Zentall; GE Zuriff; and others.

Coevolution of neocortical size, group size and language in humans R.I.M. Dunbar, University College London

A general relationship between relative and neocortical size and group size in nonhuman primates predicts a group size of 147.8 for modern humans. This turns out to be a common group size in both contemporary hunter-gatherer societies and post-industrial societies. The grooming time required to maintain cohesion of such large groups in the manner typical of nonhuman primates would place impossible demands on human time budgets. It is suggested that language evolved to provide a form of bonding that uses time more efficiently. Data on both conversation group sizes and the content of conversations lend support to this hypothesis.

With Commentary from RJ Andrew; RW Byrne; MC Corballis; TW Deacon; M Donald; RA Foley; RB Graber; RL Holloway;

ME Hyland; CH Janson; R Jarvenpa; HJ Jerison; L McCune; A Whiten; J Wind; and others.

Multiple book review of Origins of the modern mind Merlin McDonald, Queen's University

During the past two million years humans have passed through three major cognitive transitions, each leaving the human mind with a new way of representing reality and a new form of culture. Modern humans consequently have three systems of memory representation that were not available to our closest primate relatives; mimetic skill, language, and external symbols, each supported by new types of "hard" storage devices, two of which (mimetic and linguistic) are biological, one technical. Cognitive evolution is not yet complete: the externalization of memory has altered the actual memory architecture within which humans think, changing the role of biological memory and the way the human brain deploys its resources; it is also changing the form of modern culture.

With Commentary from D Bickertom; CL Brace; PG Chase; V Csányi; LM Gabora; KJ Gilhooly; J Halverson; HJ Jerison; A Laasko; R Lutz; A Marshack; HC Plotkin; M Tomasello; T Wynn; J Zhang; and others.

Among the articles to appear in forthcoming issues of BBS:

J Baron "Nonconsequentialist decisions"

M Farah, "Neuropsychological inference with an interactive brain: a critique of 'locality assumption'
A Wertheim, "Motion perception during self motion: The direct versus inferential controversy revisited"
B Bridgeman, AHC van der Heijden & BM Velichkovsky, "A theory of visual stability across saccadic eye movements"
M Jeannerod, "the representing brain. Neural correlates of motor intention and imagery"
P Killeen, "Mathematical principles of reinforcement"
Multiple book review of M Boden, The creative mind

Multiple book review of A Karmiloff-Smith, Beyond modularity

