1st CANADIAN CONSCIOUSNESS RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM

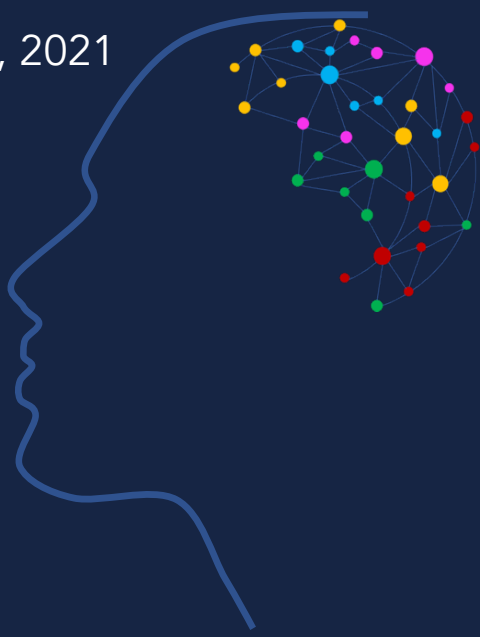
May 19-20, 2021

REGISTER HERE (FREE)
https://forms.gle/QMyPQNWSbPXM6jan6

REGISTRATON DEADLINE: MAY 15th, 2021

SUBMIT AN ABSTRACT FOR A SHORT TALK OR A STUDENT PRESENTATION HERE:
https://forms.gle/84wrXjbpLepWEAKM7

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: MAY 1st, 2021



Organized by the Biosignal Interaction and Personhood Technology (BIAPT) Lab
McGill University, Montréal, Canada

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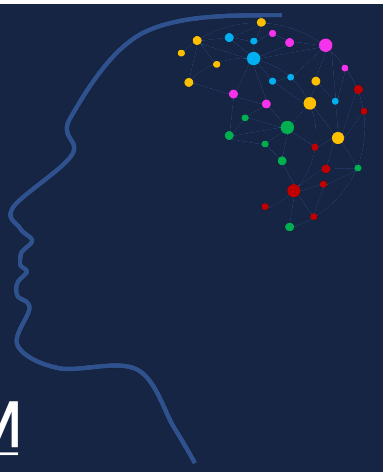

PRELIMINARY PROGRAM

DAY 1 – MAY 19, 2021

10:45-11:00 (EST)
Welcome & Introduction
Catherine Duclos, PhD
& Stefanie Blain-Moraes, PhD

11:00-12:00
Keynote Speaker
Adrian M. Owen, PhD

12:00-12:30
LUNCH BREAK

12:30-1:30
Short Talks - Neural mechanisms of conscious perception

1:30-2:30
Short Talks - Disorders of consciousness and delirium

2:30-3:00
COFFEE BREAK

3:00-4:00
Student presentations

DAY 2 – MAY 20, 2021

11:00-12:00 (EST)
Keynote Speaker
Antonio Zadra, PhD

12:00-12:30
LUNCH BREAK

12:30-1:30
Short Talks - Pharmacologically-induced alterations in consciousness

1:30-2:30
Short Talks - Sleep and dreaming

2:30-3:00
COFFEE BREAK

3:00:4:00
Student presentations

4:00-4:45
Closing Discussion – Future of consciousness research in Canada

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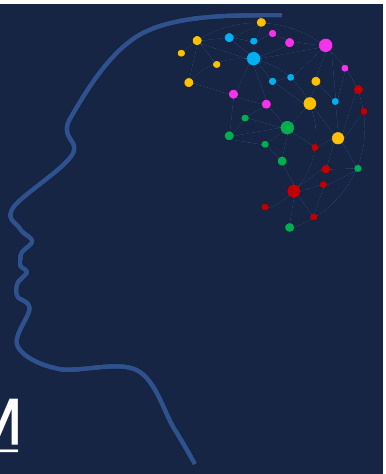

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PRELIMINARY PROGRAM

KEYNOTE SPEAKER - DAY 1 (11-12:00)

Adrian M. Owen, PhD (Western University)

When Thoughts Become Actions: Using Neuroimaging to Detect Residual Cognitive Function after Serious Brain Injury

In recent years, rapid technological developments in the field of neuroimaging have provided new methods for revealing thoughts, actions and intentions based solely on the pattern of activity that is observed in the brain. In specialized centres, these methods are now being employed routinely to detect consciousness and even to communicate with some behaviourally non-responsive patients who clinically appear to be comatose or in a vegetative state. In this talk, I will compare those circumstances in which neuroimaging data can be used to infer consciousness in the absence of a behavioural response with those circumstances in which it cannot. This distinction is fundamental for understanding and interpreting patterns of brain activity in various states of consciousness (including anaesthesia), and has profound implications for clinical care, diagnosis, prognosis and medical-legal decision-making after severe brain injury. It also sheds light on more basic scientific questions about how consciousness is measured and the neural representation of our own thoughts and intentions.

KEYNOTE SPEAKER - DAY 2 (11-12:00)

Antonio Zadra, PhD (Université de Montréal)

From lucid dreaming to sleepwalking: A window into the study of consciousness during sleep

While many people view sleep as a relatively homogenous state devoid of consciousness, several common sleep-related experiences, ranging from hypnagogic images to fully immersive dream experiences, suggest otherwise. Moreover, some sleep-related experiences, such as false awakenings, lucid dreaming and sleepwalking, reveal the existence of fascinating interplays between the states of wakefulness, REM sleep and NREM. This talk explores the science and phenomenology of these and other sleep-related experiences that, taken together, offer a unique window into the workings of the conscious mind within a sleeping brain.