

Life and Mind – Scientific Challenges

10th Biennial European Conference of the Society for Scientific Exploration

Sigtuna, Sweden, October 13 – 15 2016

ANNOUNCEMENT and CALL FOR PAPERS

The 10th Biennial European Conference of the Society for Scientific Exploration will be organized in collaboration with Swedish Society for Psychical Research (SSPR) and the research center Agora for Biosystems at the Sigtuna Foundation between October 13-15 2016 (Thursday morning through Saturday noon). The Sigtuna foundation (website: sigtunastiftelsen.se/) is a private cultural foundation, whose principle aim is to inspire human thought and reflection, and to stimulate and facilitate dialogue, encounters and bridge building. Founded in 1917, it grew out of a student movement that sought to revitalize both the Church of Sweden and society at large by fostering a creative and fruitful exchange between people of faith and secularists, between religion and science, culture, and the arts.

Sigtuna is close to the Uppsala city which houses the Uppsala University which is the oldest University in Scandinavia (founded 1477) and has a numerous track record of Noble Prizes. The Sigtuna city was established around 980 A.C. and has played an important role in Swedish history. Sigtuna is also close to the capital of Sweden, Stockholm and it's major airport Arlanda. Local arrangements are being coordinated by the SSE European Representative Anders Rydberg (anders.rydberg@angstrom.uu.se) or (anders.rydberg@sse-europe-2016.eu) and the President for the SSPR Göran Brusewitz (goran.brusewitz@bredband.net) or (goran.brusewitz@sse-europe-2016.eu).



CALL FOR PAPERS

The overall theme of the conference is "Life and Mind – Scientific Challenges". Papers in these areas such as Quantum biology, Brain and Mind, and Consciousness and other related areas are very welcome. Invited speakers will help define themes to be developed further by your contributions. A poster session is included to encourage young researchers to present their work.

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS:

Stuart Hameroff, anesthesiologist, director of the Center for Consciousness Studies and professor at the University of Arizona, Tucson, USA. Prof. Hameroff is best known for his studies and theories on a quantum basis of consciousness.

Johnjo McFadden, professor of Molecular Genetics at the University of Surrey, United Kingdom. Prof. McFadden is best known for his studies on electromagnetic basis of consciousness.

Rupert Sheldrake, a British biologist and author, and best known for his hypothesis of morphic fields and resonances, which leads to a vision of a living, developing universe with its own inherent memory.

A Panel discussion on **Parapsychology and Consciousness** will be held with the tentative panellists Prof. Dick J. Bierman, Prof. Etzel Cardeña, Prof. Adrian Parker, Prof. William Bengston, Assistant professor Jan Dalkvist and Dr. Rupert Sheldrake.

A Panel discussion on **Quantum biology and Consciousness** will be held with the tentative panellists Prof. Johnjo McFadden, Prof. Stuart Hameroff, Dr. Rupert Sheldrake and Prof. Hans Liljenström.

The panel moderators/organizers and panellists will each give a short 5-10 minute presentation/speech and will then have an open discussion for 30 minutes. The floor will then be open to the audience for an open panel discussion and Q&A.

A social outing is being planned to Uppsala. The Banquet will be on Friday 14th October at the Sigtuna Foundation.

CONTRIBUTED PAPERS

The 10th Biennial European Conference is seeking original, high impact research papers on all original topics related to promoting improved scientific understanding in the area Life and Mind and particularly of those factors that unnecessarily limit the scope of scientific inquiry. Papers related to the theme of the conference will be grouped with relevant invited talks when possible. A poster session will be provided for selected papers or on request. Papers will be selected on the basis of novelty, technical merit and impact of results as it relates to the overall conference theme. The program committee will select the contributions for oral or poster presentation.

Abstracts (non-student abstracts) for contributed papers should be sent to submission@sse-europe-2016.eu. Student abstracts should be sent electronically to the SSE Education Chair, Dr. Chantal Toporow, at

sseaspiringexplorers@gmail.com. Electronic submission is required. The Title should be short and informative. Please include Author name and Affiliation, and contact information. Abstracts should be 300 to 500 words (one page of single spaced text), and should summarize the main points of the paper. Plain text as the body of the e-mail is preferred. If special formatting is required for intelligibility, please submit a Word document. The cut-off date for submissions is June 15th, 2016. Please note in the submission if you prefer oral or poster presentation. Submissions received subsequent June 15th, 2016 may be considered for presentation if the program allows for extra time slots. Authors will be notified of the review result (i.e., acceptance or rejection) and any applicable comments, by July 1st, 2016.

At least one author of the submission must attend and be present at the Conference. Accepted papers will be considered for various SSE publications.

Oral presentations:

If the abstract is selected for an oral presentation, please plan on a 15-minute talk with additional 5 minutes for questions.

Poster Session:

If the abstract is accepted for poster presentation, the poster must be less than the poster board which is 1.5m width and 1.8m height. More information on poster sizes will be send to the selected poster presenters. The posters must be printed beforehand and brought with you and we will supply tape to mount your posters.

THE SOCIETY FOR SCIENTIFIC EXPLORATION (SSE):

The mission of the SSE is to provide a professional forum for critical discussion of topics that are for various reasons ignored or studied inadequately within mainstream science, and to promote improved understanding of social and intellectual factors that limit the scope of scientific inquiry. Topics of interest cover a wide spectrum, ranging from apparent anomalies in well-established disciplines to paradoxical phenomena that seem to belong to no established discipline, as well as philosophical issues about the connections among disciplines.

IMPORTANT DATES

Paper submission due: June 15, 2016

Notification of paper acceptances: July 1, 2016

Early fee deadline for registration: July 15, 2016

Last day for hotel registration at the special rate at the Sigtuna Foundation: July 15, 2016

Last day for hotel registration at the Sigtuna Hostel and Folk High School: September 15, 2016

Conference: October 13-15 (Thursday morning through Saturday noon), 2016

ACCOMMODATION

The conference venue is the Sigtuna Foundation (in Swedish: Sigtunastiftelsen), Sigtuna. Phone: +46-859258900. Email: info@sigtunastiftelsen.se (website: sigtunastiftelsen.se).

A large block of rooms has been reserved (arrival 12th of October and departure 15th of October) for the conference at a special rate for a single room including breakfast of 1203 Skr (1347 Skr including VAT) and double room per person including breakfast of 821 Skr (919 Skr including VAT). Booking of the rooms can be made until 15th of July using the link: <http://dinkurs.se/37092> After this date please contact directly the Sigtuna Foundation at bokningen@sigtunastiftelsen.se or alternatively through phone: +46-8-592 589 19.

Twenty rooms have been reserved at a regular price at the Sigtuna Hostel and Folk High School, Sigtuna. Phone: +46-859258300. Email: vandrarhem@sigtunafolkhogskola.se. The price is 755 Skr (single room) and 1070 Skr (double room) incl. breakfast. The prices for hotel room the Sigtuna Hostel and Folk High School includes the VAT. Reservation should be made 1 months in advance (15th of September). Please call directly to the hotel or send an email to reserve your rooms. The hostel is nicely situated close to lake Mälaren and close to the Sigtuna foundation (walking distance).

If you are looking for even cheaper accommodation please check website: destinationsigtuna.se/en/. If you are still looking for accommodation please e-mail Anders Rydberg or Göran Brusewitz. We can supply more suggestions.

RECEPTION & OUTING

A welcoming reception will be held at the hotel on Wednesday, October 12, starting at 7 PM. The SSE's traditional recreational excursion is planned to be to Uppsala, the home of the botanist Carl von Linné and houses the oldest University of Scandinavia (founded 1477). The Uppsala cathedral houses the grave of the scientist and mystic Emanuel Swedenborg. Old Uppsala is an area rich in archaeological remains and is famous for the grave field which houses three large royal mounds.

ATTENDANCE

The organising bodies encourage the attendance of students and young investigators, and the conference is open to the public. There is a special, reduced registration fee for students at this event. Please encourage students from your area to come. The Poster session is to encourage students to present their work and start a dialog with the new generation of scientists.

TRANSPORTATION

The venue is very close to the Stockholm/Arlanda airport (15 min. by taxi). There is special taxi price from Arlanda to Sigtuna Foundation of 310 Skr : call Taxi 020, phone: +46-20-202020, homepage website: www.taxi020.se

There are also busses from Arlanda to the Sigtuna Foundation. Buss Number 579 takes you direct to Sigtuna (+ walk cirka 850 m) Other busses 592; 583 goes via Märsta where you have to change bus (570 or 575) for Sigtuna. Detailed information is found on website: sl.se/in-english/.

Contact also the Sigtuna Foundation for more info. website: sigtunastiftelsen.se. Phone: +46-8592589.

REGISTRATION

The registration is open in the website: www.sse-europe-2016.eu.

PARKING

There are parking possibilities at the Sigtuna Foundation. Please contact the foundation for more information.

USEFUL INFORMATION

Shops

Monday to Sunday. 10:00 – 18:00 hours (closing can vary depending if Mon.– Frid., or Sat. or Sun.)

Currency

The national currency is SEK, Swedish Crowns. (Rates in February 100 SEK = about 10,5 Euros or 11,9 USDollars. Credit cards accepted everywhere (with rare exceptions).

Electricity

The main supply is 220 Volts, compatible with the standard European Plug.



Weather

Temperature (average middle of October) during day: 10°C



Airports

- ✘ <http://www.swedavia.com/arlanda/> Stockholm Arlanda Airport. See information above about taxi and busses from Arlanda Airport.
- ✘ <http://www.swedavia.com/bromma/> Bromma Stockholm Airport. The Bromma airport is closer to Stockholm than the Arlanda airport. It is a much smaller airport but has some direct flights with continental Europe. Bromma Airport which is about 40 minutes by car from Sigtuna.
- ✘ <http://www.skavsta.se/en/> If you fly RyanAir you will use Skavsta Airport which is about 1.5 hours by car from Sigtuna.