Five APS Fellows Elected to Society of Experimental Psychologists

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A Guggenheim Fellow and a co-founder of a widely influentialpsychological theory are among four APS Fellows newly elected to the Society ofExperimental Psychologists (SEP), the oldest and one of the mostprestigious honorary societies in scientific psychology.

APS Fellows **DianeBeck**, **Charles Brainerd**, **Steve Sloman**, **Joshua Greene**, and **Fei Xu,**along with three other psychological scientists, have been selected as 2020 SEPFellows. In addition, Vanderbilt University researcher **Jennifer Trueblood**, named an APS Rising Star in 2015 and a 2020 APSJanet Taylor Spence Award recipient, is receiving the SEP Early InvestigatorAward.

Beck, a psychology professor and head of the Attention andPerception Lab at the University of Illinois, studies the cognitive processesand neural structures that enable and limit our visual representations of theworld. Her lab uses a variety ofapproaches, including functional magnetic resonance imaging, behavioralmethods, and transcranial magnetic stimulation.

Brainerd, a professor in Cornell University's College ofHuman Ecology, studies human memory and decision-making, statistics andmathematical modeling, cognitive neuroscience, learning, intelligence,cognitive development, false memory, learning disability, and child abuse. Heis best known for developing, with APS Fellow **Valerie F. Reyna**, the fuzzy-trace theory — a general model of how memory influences reasoning and howreasoning influences memory. That theory, which seeks to explain some of themost counterintuitive aspects of memory and reasoning, is now widely used byinvestigators in fields such as forensic psychology, judgment and decision-making,and human memory.

Greene, a professor of psychology at Harvard University,studies the automatic and controlled processes that support moral judgement anddecision-making. His lab uses a combination of behavioral experiments andfunctional neuroimaging to investigate how the role of this dual-processframework in religious belief, cooperation, and conflict resolution, amongnumerous other phenomena.

Sloman, a professor of cognitive, linguistic, andpsychological sciences at Brown University, studies how our habits of thought influence the way wesee the world, and how the way we believe the world works influences ourevaluations of and reactions to events. The focus of his current research iscollective cognition — how we think as a community. Sloman is the author, with psychologicalscientist Philip Fernbach, of the 2017 book *TheKnowledge Illusion, Why We Never Think Alone*.

A psychology professor at the University of California,Berkeley, Xu studies cognitive and language development from infancy to middlechildhood. She uses behavioral experiments and computational models tounderstand how young children learn so fast and so well, and what kind ofdomain-general learning mechanisms explain children's learning. [Xuwas named a Guggenheim Fellow in 2018](#).

Trueblood uses ajoint experimental and computational modeling approach to study human judgment,decision-making, reasoning, and memory. She investigates how people makedecisions when faced with multiple alternatives; how dynamically changinginformation affects decision processes; how people reason about complex causalevents; and how different perspectives, contexts, and frames can interfere withdecision-making and memory.

Other researchers who have been elected 2020 SEP Fellowsinclude Karen Emmorey, Professor of Speech Language at San Diego StateUniversity; and Olaf Sporns, Provost Professor in Psychological and BrainSciences at Indiana University.

Founded in 1904, SEP admits about 6 new members annuallyfrom among the leading experimentalists in North America. Membership is byinvitation only. It has a currentmembership of 220 individuals —about 5 – 10% of the practicingexperimental psychologists.