

Western University

From the Selected Works of Greg Moran

2010

The Annual Home County Attachment Workshop

Greg Moran, *University of Western Ontario*

**The 22nd Annual
HOME COUNTY ATTACHMENT WORKSHOP
2010**

Wed., July 7 (10 AM) - Friday, July 9 (12 Noon)

**Westminster Laboratory Preschool
The University of Western Ontario
361 Windermere Road, London, Ontario**

BACKGROUND AND OVERVIEW

The **Home County Attachment Workshop** began as an informal meeting of the Hospital for Sick Children (Sue Goldberg) and the University of Western Ontario (Dave Pederson and Greg Moran) attachment research groups, getting together to review difficult-to-code strange situation tapes. The initial meetings proved to be both valuable – and a great deal of fun – and soon evolved into an annual event. Over the years, we have welcomed as full partners participants from a number of other research groups from universities, hospitals and agencies in Ontario and Québec and, more recently well beyond these two provinces.

This year, having established a wonderful alternation between Ontario and Québec, we return to Western and London following a successful meeting hosted by our friends at York and Ryerson Universities. Respecting the spirit of those early meetings, the intent of the workshop continues to be to provide an opportunity for all participants to encounter the tangible challenges of describing and assessing attachment-related behaviour and mental representations. It's also a chance to explore with other participants the conceptual and theoretical aspects of our work on attachment. Although the themes of our meetings have varied, we have attempted always to stay close to the raw material of our study – video records of interaction and transcripts of our participants' stories – and to create an atmosphere where all workshopers, from the newest student to the silver-backed senior scholars, are able to engage in our discussions.

The workshop was always held in conjunction with the Home County Folk Festival in London. Earlier in July seemed to work best this year, so you will have to make another trip to London for the Festival (July 16-18).

LOCATION & MEETING STRUCTURE

We are excited about our change in venue for this year. We will meet in the University Laboratory School, in the basement of Westminster Hall, next to our new research home, on the University of Western Ontario campus. (A campus map is available at www.geography.uwo.ca/campusmaps/.) We will gather here for the workshop, where we can also enjoy our very pleasant outdoor area, complete with our own academic "Stonehenge" on the banks of Medway Creek.

We will begin our meeting with introductions at 10 AM on Wednesday, July 7th. We will lunch together on Wednesday and Thursday and have our traditional social gathering and dinner on Thursday night. Friday morning's discussion will end around 12 Noon.

ACCOMMODATIONS

We ask that you make your own arrangements for accommodations:

- The closest rooms (a 5-minute walk) are at the Guest House on the Mount (www.guesthouseonthemount.ca/default.php). Accommodations range from single rooms with shared bathrooms (\$45 per night) to private queen rooms with ensuite bathrooms (\$80) and variations in between. There are also 2 family rooms with a queen and 2 single beds (\$135 for the room). Complimentary day care is available Monday to Friday. There is a kitchen to use but no breakfast included.
- Western has residence rooms available on campus at Elgin Hall (15-minute walk) (www.has.uwo.ca/hospitality/bedandbreakfast)
 - The rates are \$60 with breakfast and full service and \$45 without breakfast (you can pay for breakfast separately plus tax).
 - The residence is air conditioned.
 - If you wish to reserve a room, we suggest that you register online. Since there is heavy demand for accommodations in the summer, **we suggest you register by June 1st**.
- There are also two conference centres close to the workshop:
 - Windermere Manor (15-minute walk) offers a special rate of \$109 for queen rooms, breakfast and parking included (www.windermere Manor.com/accommodations.htm). Call 519-858-1414 and mention that you are attending a meeting at Western.
 - Ivey Spencer Leadership Centre (15-minute walk) - <http://tinyurl.com/yhrznn4> - offers a special rate of \$119 for a queen room, breakfast and parking included. Call 519-679-4546 and mention that you are attending a meeting at Western.
- Station Park Inn all-suite hotel (\$119.00 a night) - www.stationparkinn.ca - is at 242 Pall Mall Street (at Richmond St.). The suites have a bedroom with either one king or two double beds and a separate living room with sofa bed. Call 519-642-4444 and tell them you are attending a conference at Western. This hotel is in downtown London, about 3.5 km from the workshop location. This trip can be made by taxi or bus (several routes run from downtown to the university) or is approximately 45 minutes by foot (there's a lovely walking/bike path that runs along the Thames River - approximately 60-minute walk).
- If you prefer bed and breakfast accommodation, check out:
www.londonbbnetwork.com/members.asp
www.bbcanada.com/ontario/southwestern_ontario/london

THIS YEAR'S THEME

Although we never limit presentations to a single topic, we have in the past attempted to identify a theme and to encourage participants to bring forward related contributions for the Workshop. This year, we have identified "Issues in the Continuity of Attachment" as our theme. How do we conceptualize and measure continuity from infancy through the toddler, preschool and school age years. How do we characterize variations in attachment behaviour from one age to the next? We are especially interested in discussions on actual developmental process or the mechanisms underlying the expression of attachment in behaviour, relationships, and mental representations.

SUBMISSION OF PROPOSED PRESENTATIONS FOR WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY SESSIONS

We encourage proposals for presentations of a strange situation or other video, a clinical case study, or other topic. We are looking for submissions that meet the following three, undemanding criteria:

1. The presentation addresses an aspect of your work that is a puzzle, problem, surprise, or mystery;
2. it is likely to generate discussion and commentary from the Workshop participants; and,
3. it involves, as much as possible, the raw material of your study – i.e., description of individual cases, a videotaped Doll Play, Preschool Strange Situation or other behavioural sample, etc.

In sum, those attending the Workshop are more or less allergic to formal, no-loose-ends, entirely data-based presentations; rather, we all like getting our hands dirty on the data.

In your abstract, include the time you think you would need for presentation and the following information:

- a) Preschool Strange situation: Describe the sample (including age) and what issues you wish to highlight (e.g., interpreting behaviour, scoring difficulties).
- b) Other video: Describe the age, context, and scoring procedures and what you want us to learn from your presentation.
- c) Other topic: Describe the issue you wish to present and the implications for attachment theory and research.

Submit your abstract with your registration information (see below) by Friday, June 11th to Kathleen O'Connor, koconno@uwo.ca

The purpose of the abstracts is to allow us to develop a proposed agenda. We do not anticipate difficulties in selecting or organizing the presentations (we have been able to accommodate everyone in the past).

THE FINAL MORNING CONCEPTUAL CHAT

We traditionally have reserved the final morning as a time for all participants to engage in an unstructured discussion of some conceptual issue of general interest that has emerged from the presentations and discussions of the first two days of the meeting. Please bring some ideas with you that might serve as suitable topics and be alert for other ideas that arise during the workshop. We will discuss and agree on the topic for Friday at the end of the day on Thursday.

TO REGISTER:

Please let us know that you are coming even if you are not submitting an abstract so we can plan for meals.

Registration fees: Student \$75; Non-student \$100

Fees may be paid upon arrival at the Workshop. The fee includes lunch on Wednesday and Thursday, the Thursday night dinner party, and a light breakfast on Friday morning.

Please send the following information to Kathleen O'Connor at koconno@uwo.ca by **June 11:**

- Name
- Phone number
- Affiliation
- Email address
- Dietary restriction(s)
- If you wish to make a presentation, please also attach an abstract as described above

OTHER CONTACT INFORMATION:

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