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Summer

Office of Undergraduate Research
at Mizzou

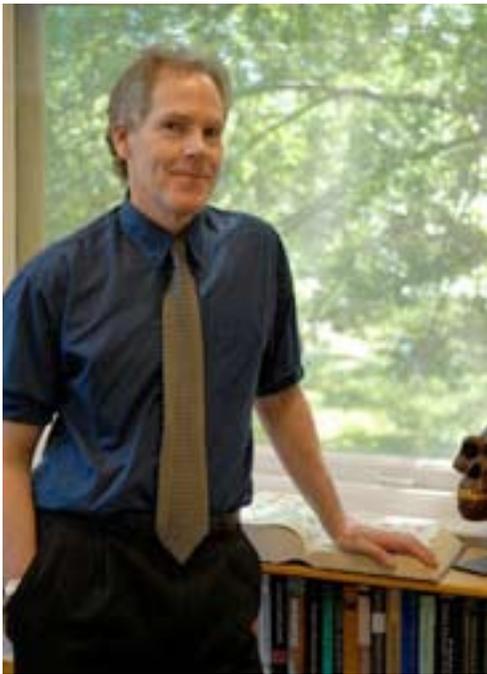
2009

Newsletter

Issue No: 7

July 16th, 2009

GEARING UP WITH GEARY: THE ORIGIN OF MIND



competition was the number one driving force in the evolution of our increased brain size. They measured the brain sizes of 175 hominids dating from 1.9 million to 10 thousand years ago from a variety of locations throughout the world. Then they compared that data with population densities and climatic information.

The results reveal that both changes in climate and social conditions correlated with increased brain size, but social competition was the "core selective" force in brain size evolution.

"The human Brain is three times larger than that of our australopithecine ancestors," Dr. David C. Geary and Drew H. Bailey write in their paper "Hominid Brain Evolution." Their question is what evolutionary pressures drove the evolution of such a large and energy intensive organ in our species.

In the January publication, Bailey and Geary report that social

Geary is also the author of "The Origin of Mind: Evolution of Brain, Cognition, and General Intelligence," "Children's Mathematical Devevelopment," and "Male, Female: The Evolution of the Human Sex Difference."

Dr. Geary will be speaking to students at the evening seminar July 21 in the Monsanto Auditorium from 6-7 pm.

HAPPENINGS THIS WEEK

Monday, July 20th
no events

Tuesday, July 21st

Abstracts are due

Evening Seminar
David Geary
Pshychological Sciences
The origin of Mind
6-7 pm, Monsanto Aud

Wednesday, July 22nd

LSUROP Brown Bag Lunch Wrap-up
Rooms 102, 104, 107, 121

Thursday, July 23rd

Evening Seminar
Bill Folk
Biochemistry
Traditional medicinal treatments for HIV/AIDS
6-7 pm, Monsanto Aud

Friday, July 24th

No events

Brain Weight to Body Weight Across Species

Brain weight as a percentage of
body weight
Humans: 2.25
Monkeys: 1.43
Dolphins: 1.06
Frogs: .556
Baboons: .467
Camels: .129

Source: <http://serendip.brynmawr.edu/bb/kinser/Size1.html>

**TRADITIONAL MEDICINE
TO TREAT HIV AND AIDS?**



DR. Bill Folk
LSUROP Seminar
July 23, 6-7 pm

Dr. Folk is currently involved in the following research areas:

- * Understanding activation of BK virus DNA replication in human kidney cells that initiate PVAN.
- * Understanding the use of traditional medicines for HIV/AIDS by the public in Africa.
- * Modifying plant gene expression and translation to alter proteins used for food and feed so as to improve health and food security.

KAT'S MEOOOW:
WHERE TO GO AND WHAT TO DO IN COLUMBIA

At Ragtag Cinema:

Valentino: the Last Emperor

An intimate and engaging exploration of the singular world of one of Italy's richest and most famous designers, as he puts together the dramatic closing fashion show of his celebrated career. In the wake of his exit in 2008 from the company he founded in Rome over 45 years ago, this incisive and frequently funny documentary joins Valentino behind the curtain as he confronts the final act of his reign at the top of the glamorous and fiercely competitive world of fashion. Director Matt Tyrnauer, a special correspondent for Vanity Fair magazine, tells the story of Valentino's extraordinary life and work and examines the larger themes affecting the fashion business today. "Tyrnauer's portrait of the great courtier Valentino is a comic, acerbic, and has more than a touch of Fellini about it." (Geoffrey Macnab, The Independent)

- * Director(s): Matt Tyrnauer
- * Year: 2008
- * Length: 96 min.

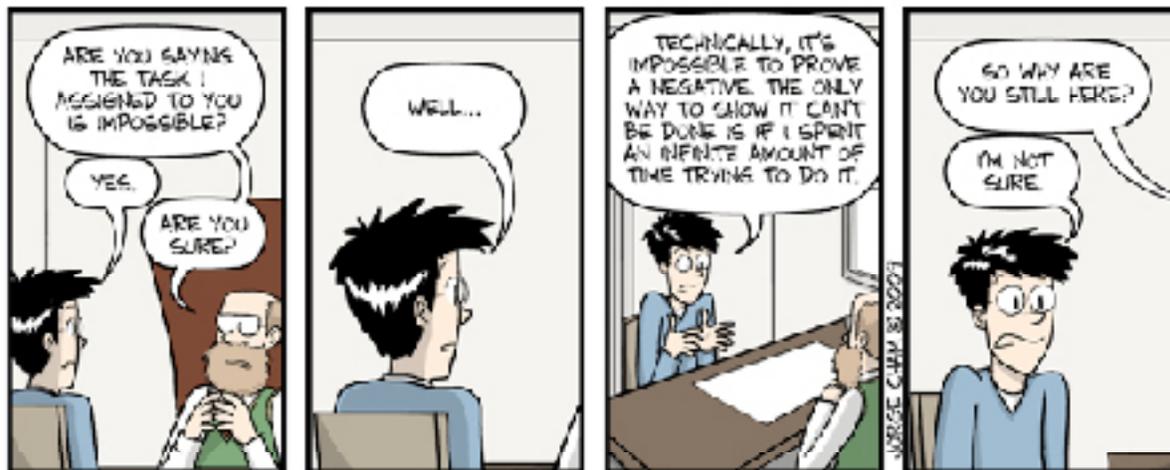


A Local Gem

Check out Stephen's Lake Park for some super awesome fun in the sun. This park, located off of East Broadway, is a walkable distance from campus. They offer a swimming portion of the lake including spray grounds and a lap section, trails, a fire pit, covered picnic areas with BBQ pits and lights, and fishing. My favorite afternoon there involves walking to Eastgate Grocery store across the street, picking up some food for a picnic, and then heading over to Stephen's for food, swimming, and throwing the Frisbee around!

Piled Higher and Deeper by Jorge Cham

www.phdcomics.com



[WWW.PHDCOMICS.COM](http://www.phdcomics.com)

title: "Proving a negative" - originally published 7/3/2009

So you're smart...but are you Missouri smart?
What famous book and movie did religious events in St. Louis inspire.

Last Week's Answer: Iced Tea

THE FORUM IS COMING...

ARE YOU PREPARED? READ ON TO MAKE SURE.

FORUM NUTS AND BOLTS:

Abstract Deadline: Tuesday July 21, 2009

Forum Date: Thursday July 30, 2009

Location: Bond Life Sciences Center

Recognition Ceremony: 1-1:30 Monsanto Aud.
Poster Presentations: 1:30-3:30 McQuinn Atrium

BBQ at 5 pm following presentations for Forum
Presenters and Mentors

Website to Watch

<http://undergradresearch.missouri.edu/forums-conferences/forum/more-info.php>

Check this out for more information on how to submit your abstracts, specifications on how to put together your poster, and information about the Forum on July 30st. Be sure to read through all the information carefully to prevent any friction in the submission process. Those submissions will be filtered into the abstract book immediately after the July 21st deadline, so make sure to get those in on time.

Piled Higher and Deeper by Jorge Cham

Is Your Research **IMPOSSIBLE?**

Take the Quiz!

Does it violate the Laws of Physics?

Yes

No

My research is to figure out the Laws of Physics

Why hasn't anyone done it before?

- a) They were not as smart as me (I am the chosen one!)
- b) No one's bothered to do it (Meh, it's not that useful)
- c) Someone has done it. I just don't know about it. (Do I really want to know??)

Results: Realistically, it can't be done.
Academically, it can still be published!

www.phdcomics.com

AT THE FORUM BAR-B-QUE...

Megan Boyer Band is locally and regionally renowned for everything from blues to contemporary roots music. To listen or learn more go to www.themeganboyerband.com.

Jackson Brothers Catering will be grilling hamburgers, chicken, and hotdogs with classic Missouri sides.

WHO DO I CONTACT?

For questions about mailing lists and attendance:

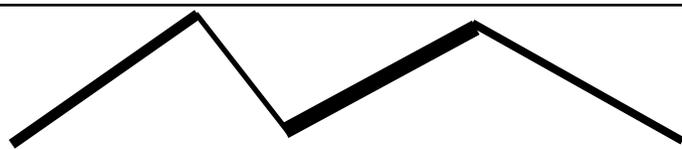
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Dr. Maruniak | 882-5979 | MaruniakJ@missouri.edu



Weekly QuickTip for Posters

Experiment with Layout, continued...

- White space, the area of your poster not covered with text or graphics, provides a frame and makes the other components stand out. Too much white space and your viewer's eyes will wander, too little and the result is confusion.
- When it comes to design, less is more. Limit yourself to three text fonts. You might want to use one font for titles, another for text, and a third for captions. Another option is to use one font but vary its size and boldness for variety.
- All capital letters can be used for titles, but otherwise stick to mixed cases just as you would in a normal sentence. In general, use serif fonts, like Times Roman for the text and sans serif fonts such as Helvetica for titles and to label the figures.
- Color should be used for emphasis, but be aware of the connotations that certain colors and color combinations carry. In most cases, the background of your post should be a solid color rather than a pattern.

Let's Talk UMEB

Words from Aldo Leopold....



“For unnumbered centuries of human history the wilderness has given way. The priority of industry has become dogma. Are we as yet sufficiently enlightened to realize that we must now challenge that dogma, or do without our wilderness? Do we realize that industry, which has been our good servant, might make a poor master? Let no man expect that one lone government bureau is able--eventhough willing--to thrash out this question alone.

“[...] Our remnants of wilderness will yield bigger values to the nations character and health than they will to its pocked book, and to destroy them will be to admit that the latter are the only values that interest us.”

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