**Press Release**

**For Immediate Release**

**December 20, 2019**

Conference Announcement

Final Call for Abstracts

**The Science of Consciousness Conference -TSC**

**Loews Ventana Canyon Resort**

**Tucson, Arizona - April 13-18, 2020**

**Important Links:**

**TSC 2020 Conference Program Updates**

**The Center for Consciousness Studies**

University of Arizona

[www.consciousness.arizona.edu](https://eagle.sbs.arizona.edu/mail/www.consciousness.arizona.edu)

**Registration**

**Abstract Submission - due January 9, 2020**

**TSC 2020 Conference**

University of Arizona portal

<https://eagle.sbs.arizona.edu/sc/>

**TSC 2020 Conference Payment System**

**$550 Standard**

**$450 Student**

**$65  Optional Thursday Dinner**

[**Via EventBrite**](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/the-science-of-consciousness-tsc-2020-tickets-86741499159)

**Conference Hotel**

**Loews Ventana Canyon Resort**

Room Block "Science of Consciousness" - $140/night

<https://www.loewshotels.com/ventana-canyon/the-science-of-consciousness-2020>

'The Science of Consciousness' ('TSC') is the world's largest and longest-running interdisciplinary conference addressing fundamental questions regarding consciousness, the brain, reality and existence. Does consciousness emerge purely from complex computation among brain neurons, or is it an intrinsic feature of the universe? What can psychedelics tell us about consciousness and reality, and how can they best be used to treat mental and cognitive disorders? How do anesthetics act to selectively block consciousness, sparing non-conscious brain functions? What structures, regions and scale of brain activities best correlate with consciousness, and how do they lead to experiential 'qualia'? Is consciousness computation, or is it more related to resonance and vibrations? Do we have free will, and if so, how? Does consciousness depend on quantum physics, and does it create the flow of time? What *is* time? Can AI machines be conscious? What is life, and is it necessary for consciousness? Could inanimate objects, simple organisms and/or plants be conscious? Can consciousness be enhanced by genetics and/or technology?

Pursuing these and other questions, ~700 scientists, philosophers, educators, academicians, students, meditators, artists, interested public and seekers from 50 countries will gather April 13-18, 2020 at Loews Ventana Canyon Resort, a plush ecolodge in the Catalina Mountains outside Tucson, Arizona. The 6-day program will consist of Plenary talk sessions, Workshops (Monday, April 13), Concurrent talk sessions, Posters, Exhibits, Social events and Entertainment in a fun, rigorous environment.

**CONFERENCE PROGRAM**

**Workshop Program**

**Monday April 13, 2020**

Updated Speakers listed on website [www.consciousness.arizona.edu](http://www.consciousness.arizona.edu/))

**Workshop Session 1**

**9:00am-1:00pm - Morning**

**1. Anesthesia, consciousness and brain activity**

Bruce MacIver, Matthew Banks, Sarah Eagleman, Anthony Hudetz

**2. Plants, medicine and consciousness**

Dan Horner, Rajnish Khanna

**3. Time and consciousness**

Harald Atmanspacher, Carlo Rovelli, Dean Buonomano, Sylvie Droit-Volet

**4. Consciousness/Agency duality**

Jessica Rifkin, Noam Chomsky, Fernando Martinez, Massimo Piatelli-Palmarini

**Workshop Session 2**

**Monday 2 pm - 6 pm**

**5. Education in 'Consciousness Studies'**

Leslie Allan Combs, Maria Kasmirli, Thomas G. Bever

**6. Interconnectedness (IONS)**

Arnaud Delorme, Dean Radin, Helane Wahbeh, Garrett Mindt

**7. Quantum agency and free will**

Paavo Pylkkanen, Robert Prentner

**8. Enhancing states of consciousness with neurotechnology:**

**An introduction and hands-on training**

Jay Sanguinetti, Sanjay Manchanda

**9. AI and Consciousness: Three fighting perspectives**

Riccardo Manzotti, Antonio Chella, Pietro Perconti

**Workshop Session 3**

**Monday 7 pm - 10 pm**

**10. Psychedelics: Experience, Therapy and Science**

Andrew Weil, Luis Eduardo Luna, Paul Stamets, Ede Frecksa, Dennis McKenna, Francisco Moreno, Christopher Timmerman-Slater, Mark Rasenick

**THE SCIENCE OF CONSCIOUSNESS**

**Plenary Program | TSC 2020**

**Tuesday April 14, 2020**

**Plenary 1**

8:30 am - 10:40 pm

TIME AND CONSCIOUSNESS

Carlo Rovelli, Sylvie Droit-Volet, Dean Buonomano

**Plenary 2**

11:10 am - 12:30 pm

REALITY / ILLUSION

 Don Hoffman, Keith Frankish

**Plenary 3**

2:00 pm - 4:10pm

PSYCHEDELIC SCIENCE

Paul Stamets, Christopher Timmerman-Slater, Mark Rasenick

**Wednesday April 15, 2020**

**Plenary 4**

8:30 am - 10:40 am

VIBRATIONS, RESONANCE AND CONSCIOUSNESS

Lawrence Zbikowski, Selen Atasoy, Jonathan Schooler/Tam Hunt

**Plenary 5**

11:10am - 12:30 pm

ENHANCING CONSCIOUSNESS WITH BRAIN STIMULATION

Alexander Bystritsky, Shinzen Young

**Plenary 6**

2:00pm - 4:10pm

PSYCHEDELIC EXPERIENCE

Dennis McKenna, Luis Eduardo Luna, Ede Frecska

**Thursday April 16, 2020**

**Plenary 7**

8:30am - 10:40am

FREE WILL

Uri Maoz, Walter Sinnott-Armstrong, Aaron Schurger, Eve Isham

**Plenary 8**

11:40am - 1:00pm

**KEYNOTE: Michael Pollan "Self, Consciousness and Psychedelic Experience"**

**Plenary 9**

2:30pm - 4:40 pm

IS THE UNIVERSE CONSCIOUS?

Miri Albahari, Deepak Chopra, Philip Goff

**Friday April 17, 2020**

**Plenary 10**

8:30am - 10:40am

QUANTUM COMPUTING / AI / QUANTUM CONSCIOUSNESS

Hartmut Neven/Peter Read, Anita Goel, Stuart Hameroff

**Plenary 11**

 11:10am - 12:30pm

**KEYNOTE: Edvard Moser (Nobel Laureate)  "Space and Time in the Brain"**

**Plenary 12**

2:00pm - 4:10pm

ORIGIN OF EEG

Paul L. Nunez, Alysson Muotri, Horacio Cantiello

**Saturday April 18, 2020**

**Plenary 13**

9:00am - 10:20am

PREDICTIVE CODING

 Lucia Melloni, Peter Kok

**Plenary 14**

10:40 am - 12:30pm

PLANTS AND CONSCIOUSNESS

Monica Gagliano, Jon Mallatt

**Additional Sessions**

**CONCURRENT TALK SESSIONS** - presenters TBA (C1-C27)

Tuesday        April 14     5:00-7:00 pm

Wednesday   April 15    5:00-7:00 pm

Friday            April 17     5:00-7:00 pm

After the Plenary Program (Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday 5:00-7:00pm)

seven parallel sessions with 5 speakers each (105 speakers total) cover particular focused areas.

Concurrent Talks are 20 minutes each with 5 minutes discussion per speaker.

**POSTER SESSIONS** - presenters TBA (P1 and P 2)

Wednesday  April 15 and Friday  April 17  7:00- 9:30 pm

Guidelines -

<http://www.consciousness.arizona.edu/2020PosterSessionGuideines.htm>

**EXHIBITORS -** Health, Technology, Art Demos and Installations

Daily and Evening Sessions

Wednesday  April 15 and Friday April 17  7:00-9:30 pm

Additional time for Exhibitors:

Monday, April 13 - during Workshop session breaks

Sponsor Information

[center@email.arizona.edu](mailto:center@email.arizona.edu)

**Submissions for Digital, Installation**

**and Performance Art and Exhibitors**

Please submit an abstract via the **online abstract system**

<https://eagle.sbs.arizona.edu/sc/>

and send large files to:  [center@email.arizona.edu](mailto:center@email.arizona.edu)

**DAILY WELLNESS**

**MONDAY-SATURDAY**

**TENNIS-CENTRIC - daily**

7:00 am - 8:00 am

Tennis courts

TennisCentric, Mark Valladares

**MEDITATION**

Deepak Chopra

Thursday, April 16 7:00 am-8:00am

Kiva Ballroom

**MEDITATION**

Shinzen Young

Saturday 2:00-3:00pm

Kiva Plaza

or Ventana Room

**YOGA**

Brianna Arndt

Tuesday-Friday  7:00 am - 8:00am

Ventana Room

**SOCIAL**

Welcome Reception               Tuesday, 6:30PM

Exhibits/Posters Receptions  Wednesday and Friday 7:00-9:30 PM

Optional Dinner                      Thursday 6:30PM  - $65/ticket

Poetry Slam-Talent Show       Friday 9:30 PM

End of Consciousness Party  Saturday (closing dinner) 7:30 PM  - xx

**2020 TSC Program Chairs**

Stuart Hameroff, MD

Director, Center for Consciousness Studies

University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ

Thomas G. Bever, PhD

Regent's Professor

Co-Director, Center for Consciousness Studies

University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ

Conference Manager

Abi Behar Montefiore

[center@email.arizona.edu](mailto:center@email.arizona.edu)

**2020 TSC Conference Sponsors**

Fetzer-Franklin Memorial Trust

Jhong Family Foundation

The Center for Consciousness Studies, The University of Arizona

The Center for Consciousness Science, The University of Michigan

Alvin J. Clark Foundation

Dennis Balson

Ronald Gruber

Anonymous

**2020 TSC Conference Program Committee**

Mary A. Peterson, Jay Sanguinetti, Abi Behar Montefiore, Harald Atmanspacher,

Paavo Pylkkanen, Betsy Bigbee, Alvin J. Clark, Olga Bever

**Fundraising**

Abi Behar-Montefiore

**INCLUDED IN REGISTRATION**

Pre-Plenary Workshops (Monday, April 13)

Tuesday Welcome Reception , All Plenary & Concurrent Sessions

Wednesday and Friday Posters/Demos/ Evening Light Receptions

Friday night Poetry Slam/Talent Show

Saturday Closing Dinner,  Meditation, Yoga

**PRESS REQUESTS**

Please complete an online registration form and send an email request. Prior approval needed; badges required. No filming/podcasting or studio set ups in the Hotel without CCS permission. We will assist you in contacting speakers and exhibitors if needed.  Limited Number of Press Passes.  Additional independent media will require paid registrations and prior set up approval.

All press needs to be properly badged.

No filming or audio of workshops - no exceptions.

The Center for Consciousness Studies will have professional videos of all Plenary Sessions available after the conference.

Every attendee must be badged.

You will be asked for preferred badge information when you register online

**Please email the Center if you need assistance.**

[center@email.arizona.edu](mailto:center@email.arizona.edu)

Since 1994 The Tucson Biennial Conference Series - The Science of Consciousness, has been held in Tucson Arizona with an alternate year international TSC Conference in cooperation with partner organizations and institutions. The 2021 TSC Conference is planned for May 31-June 6, 2021 in Taormina, Sicily, Italy, organized by Riccardo Manzotti and colleagues.

**# # #**

THE SCIENCE OF CONSCIOUSNESS

[www.consciousness.arizona.edu](http://www.consciousness.arizona.edu/)

TUCSON - 2020 - April 13-18, 2020 - ARIZONA

Sincerely,

Abi Behar Montefiore

Assistant Director; Conference Manager Center for CONSCIOUSNESS STUDIES

University of Arizona - School of Social & Behavioral Sciences

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