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Editorial

Highlights of the first two volumes and the new challenges ahead

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In the summary below, we look back over the first two volumes of the journal and we also consider our future challenges and vision for the journal. Before doing so, we'd like to thank everyone who has committed to the journal so far. We have been fortunate enough to receive submissions from some of the leading researchers in the field, representing a diversity of topics and methodologies. The contents include not only the core topics within the field (memory, attention, language and so on) but also those at the cutting edge—as exemplified by the content of our first two Special Issues relating to Consciousness (volume 1) and Body Representation (volume 2). We'd also like to thank our reviewers and Editorial Board who have ensured that submissions are handled efficiently. We are proud that our average time from submission to first decision has consistently remained within 45 days. We'd also like to formally thank the publishers for their commitment to the journal and their willingness to embrace innovation. When the journal was established we had a commitment to publish online corrected proofs (in pdf format) within 6 weeks. We have not only upheld that (in the vast majority of cases) but have been able to extend that to the AMO system (Advanced Manuscripts Online) which offers online publication within a week of acceptance (in accepted but uncorrected, html format).

NEW CHALLENGES AND A NEW CO-EDITOR

Our approach towards developing the journal's reputation has been to ensure that we publish high quality articles (through our reviewing standards and by soliciting articles such as via Special Issues), on the assumption that quality leads to impact (e.g., via citations), impact enhances reputation, and an enhanced reputation leads—in turn—to more submissions. In addition to quality, we also strive for novelty. Our Discussion Papers are a notable innovation of the journal. These articles distinguish themselves from regular review papers in that commentaries and a reply are published side-by-side. These articles are very valuable to the discipline—enabling those outside of an argument to understand different viewpoints, and enabling those at the heart of a debate to hone their views or find common ground. In the next few years we intend to develop translational aspects of the field with Special Issues planned on “Cognitive Neuroscience of Dementia” and “Cross-Cultural Perspectives in Cognitive Neuroscience”.

The biggest challenge for the journal in the years ahead will be increasing our visibility and effectively managing the expansion of the journal without compromising on our high publishing standards (e.g., fast turnaround times for reviewing and publication) or

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TABLE 1
The most cited articles (as of 21 March 2012)

<i>Title</i>	<i>Reference</i>	<i>Ranking</i>	<i>Article</i>
Do we have independent visual streams for perception and action?	(Schenk & McIntosh, 2010)	1 st	Discussion
Theta-burst transcranial magnetic stimulation to the prefrontal cortex impairs metacognitive visual awareness	(Rounis, Maniscalco, Rothwell, Passingham, & Lau, 2010)	2nd	Empirical
How neuroscience will change our view on consciousness	(Lamme, 2010)	=3rd	Discussion
On the functional nature of the N400: Contrasting effects related to visual word recognition and contextual semantic integration	(Molinaro, Conrad, Barber, & Carreiras, 2010)	=3rd	Empirical
Multiple attentional control settings influence late attentional selection but do not provide an early attentional filter	(Adamo, Pun, & Ferber, 2010)	=4th	Empirical
Enhanced brain connectivity in math-gifted adolescents: An fMRI study using mental rotation	(Prescott, Gavrilescu, Cunnington, O'Boyle, & Egan, 2010)	=4th	Empirical
Experimentally induced social inclusion influences behavior on trust games	(Hillebrandt, Sebastian, & Blakemore, 2011)	=4th	Empirical
Modulation of somatosensory perception by motor intention	(Parkinson et al., 2011)	=5th	Empirical
On the role of episodic future simulation in encoding of prospective memories	(Brewer & Marsh, 2010)	=5th	Empirical
Cortical reactivity and effective connectivity during REM sleep in humans	(Massimini et al., 2010)	=5th	Empirical
Conscious and nonconscious memory effects are temporally dissociable	(Slotnick & Schacter, 2010)	=5th	Empirical
Abstract relational categories, graded persistence, and prefrontal cortical representation	(Speed, 2010)	=5th	Discussion
Preschoolers' mental rotation of letters: Sex differences in hemispheric asymmetry	(Hahn, Jansen, & Heil, 2010)	=5th	Empirical
Corticospinal excitability modulation to hand muscles during the observation of appropriate versus inappropriate actions	(Cavallo, Sartori, & Castiello, 2011)	=5th	Empirical
The role of occipitotemporal body-selective regions in person perception	(Downing & Peelen, 2011)	=5th	Discussion
Combined effects of attention and inversion on event-related potentials to human bodies and faces	(Mohamed, Neumann, & Schweinberger, 2011)	=5th	Empirical

Note: = implies a tied rank.

the quality of the articles. Sharon Thompson-Schill, University of Pennsylvania, has been appointed as a co-editor, with effect from January 2012, to assist with this process. As the journal grows in reputation it will inevitably have to grow in size. Having editors on different continents also ensures that the journal has an effective worldwide presence. Our vision for the journal is for it to be a leading outlet for researchers in the field with the highest publishing and editorial standards.

WHICH ARTICLES ARE CITED MOST?

As of the present time (21 March 2012), the Web-of-Knowledge database records 72 citations to articles (Short Reports, Discussion Papers) and an additional four citations to Commentaries (considering only publications in 2010 and 2011). The Discussion Papers ($N = 6$) generated 28 citations, i.e., 4.67 cites per article. The Short Reports ($N = 40$) generated 44 citations, i.e., 1.10 cites per article. Needless to say that citation statistics are not necessarily the only (or the best) measure of quality but it does provide preliminary evidence that the journal has influence within the field.

Table 1 shows our most cited articles. As noted before, Discussion Papers tend to be better cited than other papers and there is an inevitable bias for 2010

publications to be more cited than 2011 publications (i.e., because they have been in the public domain for longer).

WHERE ARE OUR ARTICLES BEING CITED?

The 2010–2011 papers have, to date, been cited in 42 different journals listed on Web-of-Knowledge. These include some of the traditionally highest ranking journals in the field such as *Science*, *Neuron* and *PNAS*. It also includes journals with an applied/translational focus such as *Current Opinion in Critical Care* and *Food Quality and Preference*. The journals most likely to cite our papers (each citing at least 4 times) are *Journal of Neuroscience*, *Neuropsychologia*, *Experimental Brain Research*, *Trends in Cognitive Sciences*, *NeuroImage*, and *Consciousness and Cognition*. The latter probably stems from our 2010 Special Issue on “Cognitive Neuroscience of Consciousness”.

If one ranks all the citations ($N = 68$)¹ by the Impact Factor of the citing journal, then the median Impact Factor of journals that cite our articles is 3.74 (the mean

¹ This excludes 8 citations in journals in which there is no currently available Impact Factor.

is 5.39, and is skewed by a few citations in very high impact journals). For comparison, the median Impact Factor of all journals listed in the Neuroscience section of ISI Journal Citation Reports (2010) is currently 2.78, and the equivalent median value for journals listed under Psychology is 2.07. As such, our articles are being cited by the top ranking journals in the field.

In summary, the journal is at an important crossroad. We have succeeded in attracting high quality articles that are being well-cited and by the leading journals in the field. The challenge for the next two years is to ensure that the journal grows in both size and reputation to become a leading outlet in the field.

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