
From: Lesley Groff <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, September 6, 2013 7:13 PM
To: Karyna Shuliak
Subject: Brockman's original invite

Some background: In 1992, when the physicist George Smoot announced his findings from the COBE satellite regarding cosmic background radiation and the beginning of time, I left a message on the voicemail of the late, great Sidney Coleman of Harvard: "Sidney, I hear there's something new in the Universe. What is it? And what's in it for me?" The message went viral after Sidney posted it on the electronic bulletin board of the physics community.

My question was inspired by an annual event in Italy for leading physicists where Sidney gave the keynote talk. The topic of his lecture was essentially "What's new in the Universe?" Sidney would detail the advances and developments in the last year or two across many areas of physics.

In this case, I would be asking you, and the other guests, to give a half hour talk responding to a similar question:

"What's new in your field of social science in the last year or two, and why should I care? Why do I want or need to know about it and how does it change my view of human nature?"

I would ask you to focus broadly and address the major developments in your entire field (including but not at all limited to our own research agenda). It would have to be new, fresh, and original: an up-to-date field report on your area of social science. This talk should be, to the extent possible, conversational, and not a canned Power-Point or slide-driven conference talk. We would videotape the entire event and present the videos and texts as an EDGE Special event.

For this dry run, on September 6 & 7, we're focusing on one day, replicating the usual Edge Events at Eastover Farm.
see: <http://www.edge.org/events/eastover-farm-meetings>

To date, the following are confirmed. Awaiting word from a number of others:

Nicholas Christakis
http://edge.org/memberbio/nicholas_a_christakis
Daniel Dennett
http://www.edge.org/memberbio/daniel_c_dennett
Jennifer Jacquet
http://www.edge.org/memberbio/jennifer_jacquet
Danny Kahneman
http://www.edge.org/memberbio/daniel_kahneman
Joshua Knobe
http://www.edge.org/memberbio/joshua_knobe
Rob Kurzban
http://www.edge.org/memberbio/rob_kurzban
David Pizarro
http://www.edge.org/memberbio/david_pizarro
Anne Treisman
http://www.edge.org/memberbio/anne_treisman

FRIDAY

4:00-5:00pm arrive at =astover Farm

6:30pm Dinner at Woodward House (2 miles =way)

SATURDAY

Talks - Lunch - and hanging out at farm

5:30 =nds.

6:00 Early casual dinner at Good Enough to Eat, a =estaurant on way to the highway. People can get back to Boston or NY by =0pm.

Please advise if you can attend. EDGE will pick up your =ransportation costs and room charges at a nearby hotel for Friday =ight.

Best,

JB

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John Brockman

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=isit EDGE at: <http://www.edge.org>

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Visit EDGE at: <http://www.edge.org> ("The World's =martest Website" The =uardian)

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