



Universität Zürich

Psychologisches Institut, Persönlichkeitspsychologie und Diagnostik

## Einladung zum Vortrag von

	<p>Colin Cooper, PhD Senior Lecturer School of Psychology, The Queen's University, Belfast, U.K</p> <p><u>Thema:</u> Speed of reflexes and general intelligence <u>Tag:</u> 16. April, 2003 <u>Zeit:</u> 10-12 h <u>Ort:</u> Treichlerstrasse 10, F14</p>
<p><b>Summary of talk</b> Behaviour-genetic research tells us that general intelligence has a substantial biological component. Several theories (ranging from the crude to speculative) have been proposed to explain which aspects of neural functioning are related to general intelligence. Data from reaction-time and inspection-time (IT) studies are often cited as evidence for the 'speed of neural processing' hypothesis. Attentional cognitive strategies are hard to eliminate from such designs, and there has been far too much focus on a limited number of experimental paradigms for measuring inspection time, with few attempts to discover whether it is reflected in a wide range of different experimental paradigms. I report some studies that (a) look at the overlap between several different IT studies, and link the factor(s) that underlie them to general intelligence, and (b) examine the relationship between general intelligence and 3 measures of reflex latency – a variable that has not previously been linked to general ability but the study of which overcomes several of these methodological problems.</p>	
<p><b>Relevant publications</b> 1. McRorie, M &amp; Cooper, C (in press). Synaptic transmission correlates of general mental ability. <u>Intelligence</u>. 2. Mc Rorie, M &amp; Cooper, C.(in press) Psychomotor speed and IQ. <u>Intelligence</u>. 3. Deary, IJ (2000). Looking Down on Human Intelligence (chap. 7). Oxford: OUP.</p>	
<p><b>Short bio</b> Studied at Exeter University (under Paul Kline) 1972-6. Occupational psychologist (selecting fighter pilots) 1976-9. PhD (with Paul Kline) 1979-82. Research Fellow, University of Exeter, 1982-6. Lecturer, University of Ulster 1986-92. Senior Lecturer, Queen's University 1992 to date. 60+ journal publications in personality, intelligence and psychometrics. Other interests include the development of a novel method of factor analysis. Books include Individual Differences (2<sup>nd</sup> ed. 2002), Intelligence and Abilities (1999). I have popularised IQ testing through televised IQ tests (2002/3) and a new popular book 'Test the Nation' (2003).</p>	