



Universität Zürich

Psychologisches Institut, Persönlichkeitspsychologie und Diagnostik

Einladung zum Vortrag von



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Thema: Tradition und gegenwertige Trends in der
Kreativitätsforschung

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Summary of Talk

The research on creativity has a rich tradition. It is an object of interest of numerous branches of science, such as psychology, sociology, anthropology and philosophy. This dimension explains individual differences in relation to psychic processes leading to extraordinary achievements, original inventions and exceptional abilities. Creativity refers to many areas of life and human activity. It should then be taken into consideration in, e.g. science, education, social life, personal life. It is associated with novelty as well as the world of values. Among the substantial approaches to the issue of creativity, one should distinguish the concepts referring to psychopathology, the so-called egalitarian and systemic concepts.

The research on creativity often refers to the psychology of personality and the psychology of individual differences. Contemporary concepts of intelligence also refer to the issue of creativity, and even mention creative intelligence as a substantial component part of intelligence.

The research concerning the relationship between creativity and exceptional abilities is most interesting. In many theories of exceptional abilities creativity holds an important place. There is a universal view which says that there is a link between creative abilities and the sense of humor. More research is needed on that issue with regard to the cultural aspect. At present, it is difficult to start research on intelligence without referring to divergent thinking, the ability to generate new and original ideas. Creative abilities considerably exceed the efficient functioning of cognitive processes, such as memory and attention. There is interesting research on the relationship between the functioning of cognitive processes and creative abilities, as well as the relationship between creative abilities and intelligence as well as wisdom. Recently, although the term creativity has not been frequently used by researchers, the dimensions comprised in it are an object of interest of personality psychologists and psychologists dealing the issue of intelligence.

Relevant publications

- Sekowski, A. (ed.) (2004). *Psychology of abilities. Current trends in research*. Warsaw: PWN Scientific Press
- Sekowski, A. (2001). *Achievements of Gifted Students*. Lublin: Learned Society of Catholic University of Lublin: TN KUL.
- Sekowski, A. (1995). Metacognition and achievements of gifted students. W: F. Mönks, M. Katzko (eds.). *Nurturing Talent. Individual needs and social abilities* (pp. 132 – 140). Assen: Van Gorcum
- Sekowski, A. (1994). The Role of Preferences of Cognitive Styles and Intelligence in Different Kinds of Achievements. W: K.A. Heller, E.A. Hanny (eds.) *Competence and Responsibility* (pp. 35-40). Volume 2. Seattle: Hogrefe & Huber Publishers.
- Sekowski, A. (1994). Self-esteem and Achievements of Gifted Students. *Gifted Education International*, Vol. 10. 17-22.
- Sekowski, A. (1994). Ausgewählte Aspekte der Begabungsförderung in Osteuropäischen Ländern. *Erziehungswissenschaftliche Beiträge, Universität Rostock*, „Begabungsförderung - eine europäische Perspektive". (19). 41-55.
- Urban, K K. & Sekowski, A. (1993). Programs and Practices for Identifying and Nurturing Giftedness and Talent in Europe. In: K. A. Heller, F. J. Mönks, H. A. Passow (eds.), *International Handbook of Research and Development of Giftedness and Talent* (pp. 779-797). Oxford: Pergamon Press.
- Untersuchungen über Ersatzvorstellungen bei Blinden. *Zeitschrift für Heilpädagogik*, 1989, 10, 717-722.

Short bio

Prof. Dr. Andrzej Sekowski, full professor, head of the Chair of Psychology of Individual Differences at the Catholic University of Lublin (Poland). Vicepresident of the Polish Psychological Society, Editor-in-Chief of *Przegled Psychologiczny* (Polish Review of Psychology), Member of the Editorial Board of the periodical *High Ability Study*. In the academic year 2000/2001, he obtained a scholarship of the Fulbright Foundation and conducted research at Yale University at the Center for Psychology of Abilities, Competencies and Expertise, headed by Prof. Dr. Robert J. Sternberg. In the years 1993 – 1995 he stayed at Ludwig Maximilian University in Munich as a Humboldt Foundation scholarship holder and co-operated with Prof. Dr. Kurt, A. Heller and his team. He was a member of the Programme Committee of the 9th World Conference on Gifted and Talented Children – Talent for the Future. Social and Personality Development of Gifted Children, The Hague. For 4 years he was a member of the General Committee of the European Council for High Ability. He is the author of about 100 publications on the psychology of abilities, intelligence and creativity.